

January 9, 2013

ECCO board minutes

Attended by: Mary Eisenhart, Roy Maurer, Tom Madsen, Sally Ruggia-Haden, Richard Voeltz, Vicky Wood, Rebecca Carr, Danielle Shea

December minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's report. Roy noted that we've received the reimbursement from the tree grant and are ahead of our budget for the year.

Communications. Mary hasn't had a chance to talk with Scott DeWitt. She's hoping to connect to talk in person.

Yard of the Month.

We still need a new sign. We suspect our past signs were stolen for recycling, and decided we'd be better off to print a few in the less expensive plastic material. Having more signs also allows us to recognize two yards in a month. In the past we've also had a Christmas lights Yard of the Month, and we'd like to bring that back this year. We can send out a blast email asking for nominations in the spring and again in November. We can add some Christmas décor to our YOTM sign for the Christmas lights display.

Rebecca will put together a new design, and work with Danielle to get it printed at Sign Solutions.

Tree grant – no updates

Parking – Mary hasn't heard back from Christine Jackson, likely because of the holiday shutdown at UNL, and will email her again

Discover ECCO – We discussed doing the garden tour as our Discover ECCO event the first Saturday in June (June 7th). We have tentative commitments from four garden sites. We'll get a final answer about their participation in February. We'd like to incorporate the gardens behind Varner Hall. Mary will find out who we should contact (it was suggested Richard Sutton may know). Rebecca suggested a fifth garden around 39th and W; she'll look up the address and Vicky will contact them.

Roy motioned to approve the garden tour; Tom seconds.

The garden tour will serve as our fundraiser. Our goal is \$2000 to use as matching funds for another tree grant.

We'd like to involve some of the older kids in the neighborhood. We could provide sidewalk chalk to decorate the walking route.

Mary suggested adding a raffle. She will contact Guru Honey about the possibility of getting a couple of bags as raffle items during the tour.

Tree care seminar – Rebecca suggested holding the seminar during the garden tour, and incorporating tree selection with tree care. Richard Sutton might be interested in doing this, and involving some of his

students. The seminar could be held twice during the tour, or in twenty minute sessions on the hour, etc. Mary offered her yard as a location for the tree care workshop.

Hartley Flats Project – Project sounds like a positive development for the neighborhood. Cara Bentrup attended the public hearing for the project and reported that the surrounding neighborhoods are supportive of the project.

LES improvements – Lisa Warren sent an email to Mary pointing out that LES lists 33rd street in their planned improvements for 2014. This is an issue ECCO has discussed in the past because of the mature trees that would be affected by burying the lines on 33rd. We need to learn more about it.

MoPac trail light at 33rd – We haven't heard any updates. Mary will check on this when she calls to find out about the Idylwild project.