The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Common Area Committee (CAC) was held on Monday, February 8, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Robert Burns, CAC Chairman, in the Henderson Room of the Cameron Club, Cameron Station.

Members Present: Robert Burns, CAC Chairman           Kathy McColom, CAC Vice Chairman
                Jeanne Brasseur, CAC Secretary          Linda Greenberg, CAC Member
                Ken Jonmaire, CAC Member                 Susan Willis, CAC Member

Members Absent: Mindy Lyle, CAC Member

Others in Attendance: Rodney Gray, CSCA Board Liaison
                       Bette Sanft, Community Manager (CMC)
                       Joel Owen, Lancaster Landscapes
                       Carlos Rios, Lancaster Landscapes
                       Peter Miller, Lancaster Landscapes

OLD BUSINESS:

Move to: Approve Meeting Minutes – January 2016
   Moved by: Willis
   Seconded By: Greenberg
   For: All
   Against: None
   Motion Passed

Updates:

   Tree Planting/Replacement: The last area requiring new trees will be completed by the end of this month.

   Hardscape around the Gazebo: CAC approved proposals (24498, 24499, 24500 & 24501) for new brick walkways around the gazebo will require a permit from the City of Alexandria per Chris Watson, West End Park Manager. Bette will continue to work with the city to acquire the proper city permits.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resident Open Forum:
   No residents in attendance.

Board Update:
   Nothing Significant to Report

Common Area Application: None
Discussion:

Snow Removal
- Lancaster stated they had a pre-approved plan in place to handle the recent historic snow fall. It was adjusted as conditions changed. Wind caused a significant issue in clearing snow as cleared areas were quickly covered again due to the blowing snow.
- Lancaster moved to more evening/night operations on Sunday, January 24th due to the safety issues of trying to use the plow and Bobcat with numerous homeowners and children active in the path of their clearing operations. Shoveling operations continued during the day.
- Turf destruction needs to be evaluated by Lancaster and repaired in the coming months, weather dependent.

Suggestions for Improvement
- Fire hydrants and storm drains need to be identified and flagged so those areas can be cleared during heavy snowfall. Identifying these on a map that is attached to an eBlast may be helpful to both residents and Lancaster.
- The CAC raised the issue of whether CS Blvd. could be designated a snow emergency route; thus, restricting parking and making plowing of that street easier and more effective given the poor performance the city showed in clearing that route. Bette will look into this.
- Identifying places to dump snow within the community may be helpful for future large accumulation snow events. When more than a foot of snow falls it becomes increasing difficult to simply mound the snow. It needs to me removed to an alternate location. Pocket parks and visitor parking are possible locations to place this snow.
- While Lancaster moved to evening/night operations for safety concerns, a larger, more visible contingent of snow removal workers during daylight hours might have helped give residents a better sense that their concerns were being addressed. A notice to residents asking them to stay clear of snow removal operations due to safety concerns might also have helped Lancaster with more daylight operations.
- An addition to the snow removal contract, perhaps in the form of bullet objectives/results, might be useful to address any confusion in what areas are more important or what areas may require more attention.
- Lancaster needed more equipment on premises to keep up with the snow fall rather than waiting for the snow to end and attempting to dig out with over two feet of accumulated snow.

LED Street Lights – CS still has three light poles in storage from the last bulk purchase of light poles. Bette is continuing to work to get an annualized difference in the cost of replacement, maintenance, and cost of use versus the current halogen fixtures. This cost difference will be key in determining if switching to LED fixtures is more cost effective over the long term. Additionally, Kathy suggested tabling this issue for a few years as the price of LED lights is continuing to drop as technology advances. We will discuss this option at the next CAC meeting on March 14th.

Compass Inputs – Articles for the Spring Compass are due by 29 February. A spring clean-up article and an article outlining Pride of Ownership requirements were suggested for the next compass published in May.

Shuttle Schedule – The shuttle timing has not been working well for the past few months. ARM transportation is looking at the timing. The new construction at Cameron Park may be affecting the shuttle timing.

Public Street Lights – Continued persistence with both the City of Alexandria and Dominion is required to get inoperative lights fixed. Also, Robert inquired about the project to paint the light pole bases to combat corrosion caused by pet urine. Bette will look into it to see if the paint made a difference.
The next meeting will be on March 14th, 2016 in the Cameron Club.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.