

PONDS, STORMWATER & IRRIGATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 27, 2025 9:30 AM Sloan Clubhouse Billiard Room

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 AM by Chairman Bruce Sieving.

Attendance:

Linda Kulp, Ray Buckley, Larry Carbonari, Tom Davis (Board Liaison) and Bruce Sieving

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 18, 2024 meeting were previously approved by email vote of Committee members and are posted to the RAP website.

Old Business

1. Pond Activities & Issues

- The Pond 2 shoreline brush as well as trees impacting the pond outfall structure were removed by Pristine-Green at a cost of \$932.
- Early Canada Geese activity resulted in Geese Chasers daily service beginning January 4 (for one month). They were called back in during late April for another month and successfully prevented further visits to our three wet ponds.
- In April Coon Hollow's Ed Osterhuber stocked Pond 2 with 12 largemouth bass to help control the population of goldfish and thereby prevent a costly die-off like the one experienced at Pond 4 in 2023. Due to their small size (8" to 10") it will take some time before they begin taking goldfish.
- The Pond 2 aeration pump failed in September and was replaced by a more robustly designed unit. The failed pump was rebuilt by Ed Osterhuber at a cost of \$250 and will be kept as a spare for Ponds 1 and 2. The spare pump, along with other Committee equipment, is stored in the closet under the Sloan clubhouse stairway.

2. Stormwater Activities & Issues

- Prior to the repaving of Phase I roads, a camera-crawler inspection was made of all the stormwater piping beneath paved areas. The inspection company, Delco Storm and Sewer Services, found 3 defects in the reinforced concrete pipe on the west side of Sloan Road and 1 defect on the east side of Sloan.
- The four defects were repaired by Trinity Subsurface using resin-impregnated fiberglass/felt sleeves that were pulled into place, pressed against the pipe wall with an inflated bladder and then cured to an impervious, durable liner. The cost of the four repairs was \$14,500.
- Two grate hooks and a portable sewer camera were purchased for future use by the Committee.

3. Irrigation Activities & Issues

- Competitive bidding produced a new irrigation contractor for 2024. Fisher Irrigation of Warrington, PA performed very well during their three visits and did so at a lower cost. Approximately ten spray heads were replaced in the five RAP systems as well as a zone solenoid valve near the northeast corner of the tennis courts.
- A remote control for Hunter zone controllers was purchased for future use by the Committee. It will significantly reduce the in-season inspection time for 60% of our 58 irrigation zones.

New Business

1. The 2025 Board-approved pond budget is \$13,200, with contract services provided by Coon Hollow and Geese Chasers. This is an increase of \$1,000 over the amount budgeted for 2024.

2. The 2025 pond utilities budget is \$3,500 to cover the electric usage of aerators and well pumps. This is a \$500 reduction from the 2024 budget.
3. The stormwater budget is \$2,000 to provide for a minor amount of inspection/cleaning work; this is the same amount budgeted the previous year.
4. The 2025 approved irrigation budget is \$7,000 which is \$300 less than last year, with contract services provided by Fisher Irrigation.
5. Canada Geese activity on our three wet ponds began early again this year so Geese Chasers service began on January 6th for four weeks. The service was restarted on March 4th and is ongoing until later in the spring.
6. A discussion was held regarding the likelihood of future wet pond algae blooms. Pond 1 is susceptible because it takes no flow from the stormwater system (near zero throughput) and Pond 4 is at risk due to sunlight penetration to its shallower bottom.
7. This will be the last year of service by our pond contractor, due to his semi-retirement. An RFP is being prepared to competitively bid these services for 2026.
8. Inspections of the StormTech infiltration chambers will be conducted this year using the new sewer camera. The inability to easily clean these subsurface chambers was discussed.
9. Periodic in-season checks of irrigation zones will be conducted by the Committee resulting in an approximately \$600 annual savings.
10. Three Sloan clubhouse irrigation spray heads were damaged during snow removal activities but were subsequently repaired by Pristine-Green at their cost.
11. Ray Buckley described the filling of Pond 3 during rainstorms and noted how efficiently it handles, and then slowly discharges, the runoff from the Phase III stormwater system.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.