



**Squire's Grove
Management Association
Meeting Minutes
2/8/2011**

Community Room Elm Grove Village Hall

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

In attendance: Rick Ormsby: SGMA President
Frank Falsetti: SGMA Secretary
Terry Tobin: SGCA Vice-president
Jill Munson: SGMA Treasurer
Kathy Sheeley: SGCA Treasurer
Darrin Victory: SGCA

Establish Quorum: Yes

Public Forum: The purpose of this meeting was to inform all interested parties from the SGC and SGHO about the Tallgrass Native Prairie Restoration project scheduled to begin in May, around the pond. Invited guest speaker was Jordan Rowe Project Manager for Tallgrass Restoration LLC. www.tallgrassrestoration.com

Project Description: Beginning in May of 2011 the 1st of 4 Herbicide applications will be completed around the pond. Two more applications will occur in 2011 and one more in early spring of 2012. All necessary DNR and Village permitting is included in the project cost. In late spring of 2012 the seeding of the native prairie seed and the erosion matt will begin. Notification of Herbicide applications will be posted around the pond. All individuals are advised to stay off area of the herbicide applications for 24 Hours.

Three different seed Native seed mixtures will be planted. 1.) Bird and Butterfly Mix: Contains wildflowers and grasses that are attractive to birds, insects and other wildlife. This mixture is meant to add color, beauty and wildlife to the area. Native grasses are included as a food source for wildlife and to provide cover and support for the weaker stemmed flowers. 2.) Mixed-Height Flood Plain Meadow Mix: Contains species that grow well near a water source, can handle periodic flooding and grows best in full daylight. This is a good mix to help reduce erosion along the shorelines. 3.) Savanna for Medium Soils: Savannas are plant communities that only receive a partial amount of sunlight. This mix will grow well in the areas nearer to supporting lawns.

All project work will be coordinated with Eric's Landscaping to assure proper communication of the project restoration goals, to regular maintenance of the surrounding grounds.

The project will take 4 full years for completion. The first year (2011), is for the elimination of the current weeds and plants. Seeding is completed in spring of next year (2012). It will take 3 full seasons to grow in properly. After the fourth season there will be a prescribed burn to help the area grow in even thicker. Please be patient. Tallgrass will monitor the project progress through the project.

Attendee Questions and Comments:

Is there any warranty for the work? Yes, Tallgrass has a written warranty in their proposal. Details are documented on the proposal. Jordan did highlight the features of the warranty. It was noted that flooding is an “Act of God”. If that occurs warranty conditions do not apply.

Who will water the project? The initial watering at seeding is completed by Tallgrass. It will be up to SGMA to hire a landscaping contractor to regularly water the plants in 2012.

Can the project be insured to make sure we get what we pay for? No, Insurance will not cover flooding which might destroy the seeding.

Will the geese stay away from the pond when this project is completed? No, the growth will limit the access to the open areas from the water. There are no assurances that the geese won't still find their way up to the paved pathways. Individuals are asked to “stake & rope” the areas they want to keep geese away from.

Are more trees being added to the North end of the pond, where the willows were? Yes, SGMA has an estimate of the cost of trees being planted to that area. The 2011 budget will determine what can be added this year. Repair work is also budgeted for the cul du sacs near the SG homes.

Tallgrass Restoration has an annual “Prairie Day” event at the headquarters in Milton WI during the late summer. Jordan invited everyone to regularly view their website www.tallgrassrestoration.com for more information about the event. He encouraged anyone interested to attend. Jordan stated that their offices have examples of completed restoration work and Squires Grove residents will be able to walk through areas representative of our project.

19 residents attended this event. By a simple show of hands 16 people showed support of the project as described in the presentation, 3 were opposed to it.

It was noted by the SGMA that the intention of this project is to have the professionals from Tallgrass complete this work. We will consider the ongoing stewardship of the project after the 4 year plan is completed. **IT IS VITAL FOR THE SUCCESS OF THIS PROJECT** that no individual take matters into their own hands to help with the restoration. Please do not attempt to repair or fix areas that in your opinion need work. Let the project plan develop. Your management team is confident with what we know and have researched that Jordan and his team are deeply committed to improving the look of our pond area.

PLEASE DO NOT DISRUPT the laborers in the field with questions while they are working. The employees of Tallgrass are **NOT THE RESOURCE** for answering your questions during their work. Contact Squires Grove Management Association members for information or to answer any questions. Or check out our website at www.squiresgrove.com for the latest information available.

After answering all the questions the meeting was adjourned. Several individuals did take the time to discuss more details with Jordan. He did provide presentation boards for this event showing the progress of previous projects his firm has completed.

Adjourn 8:30 Pm.