

East Hills Homeowners Association
Landscape Advisory Committee Report

May 31, 2022

The following report describes the Landscape Advisory Committee's activities in East Hills so far this year:

1. **Opening Meeting.** A mowing season beginning meeting with Landscape, Inc. was held by Joe Fogarty and Tony Brankman with Peter Rossi, owner of Landscape, Inc., in order to go over all the activities desired for 2022. Generally, all work done in 2021 will continue.
2. **Cul de Sacs.** Fogarty and Brankman toured the 15 cul de sacs in East Hills in order to inspect needed work. Problems and priorities were discussed. These included cutting ornamental grasses, replacing low growing shrubs that had died, replacing mulch, replacing soil removed by winter snowplowing, trimming bushes. Peter Rossi was advised of needed work and has commenced the work at the most needed areas.
3. **New Trees for 2022.** Designating areas for tree planting. It is noted that several years ago the Board approved planting trees in the area along East Hills Boulevard northeast of the Kromma kill stream crossing. Accordingly, Fogarty and Brankman staked the location for the new trees, placed flags on the stakes, and discussed planting the trees in the spring with Peter Rossi. Mr. Rossi was willing to acquire, transport and plant the trees.

To save transportation cost Joe purchased four scotch pine trees from a nursery in Hoosick, N.Y., picked them up, and is storing and watering them at his house until Landscape, Inc. can plant them. Mr. Rossi will acquire additional white pine trees and plant them in the staked areas. These pine trees are native to the area and some white pines are already growing in common areas of East Hills.

4. **Tree Seedlings.** Tony Brankman acquired six free Norway spruce seedlings from the annual Arbor Day distribution held at the historic Pruyn House in early May. Five additional free Norway Spruce seedlings were also acquired by him. All have now been planted along East Hills Boulevard where spruce seedlings were planted a couple years ago, but were unsuccessful due to

that year's drought conditions. The new seedlings are being watered every other day.

5. **Ornamental shrubs.** Some additional free flowering bush seedlings were also acquired from the Arbor Day Foundation and will be planted soon. Last fall three free hydrangea plants were planted near the new evergreen trees on Conway Circle, near the postal kiosk. They have started to grow and have been flagged so they are not cut down by the mowers.
6. **Kiosk plants.** Most of the ornamental shrubs and evergreens planted around the kiosks have come back this year and look pretty good. The flower planters have yet to be planted by Landscape, Inc. but probably will be soon. The planters on Conway should be replaced.
7. **Entrance to East Hills from Watervliet Shaker Road.** Two new forsythia plants were added this spring to replace two that died. Both the forsythia and the lilacs that were added in the last two years bloomed and looked good. Landscape, Inc. removed the dead tree that fell onto the lawn on the west side of the EH Boulevard. Last fall a homeowner donated five large hosta plants to EHHA, which were planted near the beauty parlor. They have sprouted and are growing, but have been eaten at least once before rabbit and deer repellent was applied.
8. **Brush removal.** Fogarty and Brankman cut and removed several loads of brush from the area worked on last year near the beauty parlor. We expect Landscape, Inc. to continue to bush hog that area as they did last year.
9. **New street pavement.** The newly paved streets look great and enhances the areas where the town added the new pavement.

Of concern is Mr. Rossi's recent statement that he was having a hard time recruiting enough employees for all his company's work. This has delayed some mowing work here. It is noted that our previous landscaping company also had this problem, causing them to discontinue work for last year, the last year they were under contract to perform work. This caused the EHHA to find a new contractor.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Brankman