

Minutes, Eco-Friendly Landscape Committee  
October 28, 2020

*“Protect, maintain and enhance the conservation of the neighborhood’s natural and scenic resources.”*

Prior to the meeting Kat Moran, Bev Wedda, Denise Frizzell, Leslie Fiddler and TR attended an information session given by Jessica Perrin, Watershed Conservationist for the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District.

Ms. Perrin outlined the various erosion control methods being promoted for communities that feed into the Jordan Lake watershed – like Woodcroft, via Third Creek. Expertise and in some cases financial assistance is available through the Community Conservation Assistance Program.

Strategies and methods include the installation of cisterns; rain gardens, bioretention areas, critical area plantings; grass swales, streambank stabilization (3:1 slope), impervious conversation to permeable pavement. The website (linked below) also includes information about native ground covers, ferns, sedges, riparian buffer seed mix and live stakes that when properly chosen slow the flow of water.

<https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-f-z/soil-water-conservation-district/community-conservation-assistance-program>

Scott Carter and Violette Blumenthal joined the zoom for the formal meeting.

Committee business, October 28, 2020

The August 26, 2020 minutes were approved.

Communications. Leslie will write a bimonthly newsletter to be distributed with the committee meeting announcement.

Invasive removal

TR said that the board is funding bamboo removal. Leslie noted that there is much work to be done throughout the HOA.

Erosion control

There was discussion regarding erosion control on the rivulet between Fortune’s Ridge and Homeplace III. While native sedges would do the job, (snake) fear disallowed their use.

Homeplace III has been mulching with arborist’s chips. TR offered to send some their way.

Landscape compliance with community standards. TR said that there is no mechanism to encourage homeowners to comply with community landscaping standards.

Plant Native-

180 native plants were sold to Woodcroft residents in the fall native plant sale for a total of 555 to date (fall 2019; spring 2020, fall 2020).

Frost aster rescue

For the second-year volunteers cleared stiltgrass from a frost aster patch along the Fortune's Ridge/Homeplace III path. Shortly afterwards the asters were weed whipped by Woodcroft's landscapers.