## MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM

TO: GHI Board of Directors
FROM: Eldon Ralph, General Manager
DATE: August 29, 2022
SUBJECT: Addendum for the GHI OPEN Board Meeting on September 1,2022

## GHI Open Meeting

7g. Contract for Repairs to Stairway/Retaining Wall at 2 Court Plateau Place $-1^{\text {st }}$ reading (Attachments \#8a-8b)

A common stairway located between 2 A-F and 2 G-M Plateau Place, constructed in 1940, provides pedestrian access between 54 Court Ridge Road and 2 Court Plateau Place. The stairway is $55^{\prime \prime}$ wide and was constructed between two reinforced concrete retaining walls of equal height. Next to the retaining wall on the 2-G Plateau side of the stairway is a large Dawn Redwood tree that is approximately 60 feet in height. During the past few years, there have been adverse impacts on the retaining wall and stairway due to the roots of the tree. A Dawn Redwood tree has the following characteristics:

- Rapid grower. ${ }^{*}$.
- Lives for 200+ years (this tree is 30-40 years old).
- Will grow to a minimum height of 165 feet (currently 60 feet).
- Trunk diameter at chest height can reach 6 feet (currently $28^{\prime \prime}$ ).

On July 23, 2020, the Board directed the Buildings Committee and Woodlands Committee to jointly consider the impact of the tree on the stairway/retaining wall and recommend what action should be taken. On September 3, 2020, the Board accepted the Woodlands Committee report and directed staff to remove the tree and take steps to repair the stairway/retaining wall.

On March 4, 2021, the Board rescinded its prior motion to remove the tree after a few members objected to its removal, and on April 1, 2021, directed the Manager to hire an engineering consultant to develop plans for rebuilding the stairway and the damaged section of the retaining wall, in a manner to protect them from future damage by the roots of the tree.

On September 2, 2021, the Board approved a contract in the amount of $\$ 7,500$ with Becht Engineering BT, Inc. to develop two sets of construction plans as follows:

- Option 1-Remove the Tree: The work involves reconstructing the concrete stairway and retaining wall in their current location after the tree is removed as shown in attachment \#8a - Drawing Sheet S-101. A permit for this option would not be needed since the work would be considered maintenance and repairs.
- Option 2 - Retain the Tree: This work involves building a new retaining wall in front of the damaged retaining wall, filling in the space above the existing stairway, and building a sidewalk in this location that is approximately level with the parking lot at 2 Court Plateau Place. A new galvanized stairway would be constructed including two landings and two separate sections of stair treads as shown in attachment \#8b - Drawing Sheet S102. The work would necessitate obtaining building permits from Prince George's County and the City of Greenbelt.

Plans and a Request for Proposals were sent to the following ten (10) contractors who were requested to submit bids:
> American Group Contractors
$>$ New Millennium General Contractors
$>$ CG Builders, Inc.
$>$ Lanham Construction
$>$ CA Lindman
$\Rightarrow$ American Exteriors
$>$ Portugal Construction
$>$ Metro Renovation and Builders
> Barlow Concrete
> Masoncrete Construction, Inc.
Bids were received from the following two contractors:

| Contractor | Option 1- Remove the Tree | Option 2 - Retain the Tree |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| CG Builders | $\$ 215,860$ | $\$ 266,644$ |
| Lanham Construction | $\$ 193,790$ | $\$ 258,345$ |

An amount of $\$ 105,500$ was included in the 2022 replacement reserve budget for this project. Lanham Construction has performed concrete repairs at GHI in the past with satisfactory results.

This item is on the agenda for discussion and action.
Either
Suggested motion \#1: I move that the Board of Directors authorize the Manager for first reading, to enter into a contract with Lanham Construction to reconstruct the damaged retaining wall and stairway at 2 Court Plateau Place, in accordance with Drawing sheet $S$ 101 as presented, at the contractor's bid price of $\$ 193,790$ with an amount of 10 percent for unforeseen contingencies, for a total cost not exceeding $\$ 213,169$.

Or
Suggested motion \#2: I move that the Board of Directors authorize the Manager for first reading, to enter into a contract with Lanham Construction to install a new sidewalk and stairway at 2 Court Plateau Place in accordance with Drawing sheet S-102 as presented, at the contractor's bid price of $\$ 258,345$ with an amount of $\mathbf{1 0}$ percent for unforeseen contingencies, for a total cost not exceeding $\$ \mathbf{2 8 4}, \mathbf{1 8 0}$.



