

DELAWARE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

Memorial Garden Report

June 20, 2018

Annual Spring Visit to Discuss Yearly Maintenance:

The Memorial Garden Committee selected ProGreen Landscapes as our contractor for garden maintenance in 2018. After a major staff turnover at AFMAO and much correspondence, we were able to set up our annual meeting on April 30 with the Base Representatives.

The Committee and current and former DFGC presidents, along with the principals from ProGreen Landscapes met with the new liaison for the Center for the Families of the Fallen, TSgt. Darick Alexander. It is apparent that TSgt. Alexander has taken a great interest in garden operations. The group toured the CFF building and TSgt. Alexander noted that many groups and individuals who have also been invited to visit have praised the garden.

New Plantings. The sweetbay magnolia and hollies planted last year are doing well. Overall, the garden plants came through the winter as expected. With all the rain in May, the garden should enter the summer in excellent condition. After the formal meeting, we planted purchased succulents in the large planters and honeysuckle vines on one of the three empty trellises. We realized considerable savings in purchasing the plants rather than being supplied through the landscaper.

Maintenance Proposal. Changes had been proposed in the submitted contract. Mr. Patterson agreed to the changes and the contract was signed at the meeting. ProGreen employees were finally approved for base access and spring cleanup was completed in early June.

Estimated Expenses for the Garden - 2018

Spring Cleanup	\$ 2,220
12 Maintenance visits	\$ 2,784
Total Annual Proposed Maintenance Contract	\$5,004
Succulents and Honeysuckle "Major Wheeler" (2)	\$ 166.67
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES	\$5,170.67

To keep costs down, several formerly itemized expenses were removed from the contract, to be funded on an "if needed" basis. These include any visits in the event of a dignified transfer which will require extra cleanup outside of the planned maintenance schedule; any replacement plants needed; and possible repairs to the irrigation system. To fulfill the contract and allow for unforeseen expenses, the Board approved \$8,000 for the 2018 Gift of Maintenance to DAFB.

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DAFB Memorial Garden Committee