

## **OPEN MEETING**

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRD LAGUNA HILLS MUTUAL - LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 5, 2019 – 9:30 a.m. Laguna Woods Village Community Center Board Room 24351 El Toro Road

# **REPORT**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair- Lynn Jarrett, Jon Pearlstone, Anne McCary, Reza Karimi, Cush Bhada

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

OTHERS PRESENT: John Frankel, Cindy Baker from GVA

**ADVISORS PRESENT: James Tung** 

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kurt Wiemann, Eve Morton

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

# 2. Acknowledgement of Media

No media was present.

# 3. Approval of the Agenda

Director McCary made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Karimi seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

# 4. Approval of August 1, 2019 Report

Director McCary moved to approve the Report. Director Pearlstone seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

# 5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair Jarrett reported that the Directors have been getting good feedback on landscaping. This is the season for berry droppings. If you would like to have your clippings picked up, call Resident Services before 5 p.m. on Thursday and the clippings will be picked up on Friday.

## 6. Member Comments - (Items Not on the Agenda)

Fox (2335-B): She has lived here since 2010 and she has lost six trees. Is there an arborist to make sure trees don't get mismanaged and have to be taken down? We must care for the trees that we have.

Clemmons (2396-1H): She has been here four years taking care of her mother who has been here for 20 years. She had pictures to show of dead patches in her yard. Carlos said it would be taken care of. Nothing has been done.

Kusnick (2356-C): Her yard looks very barren. She showed photos to the committee.

McGill (2390-2C): He gave photos to the committee. He stated that the ground between his building and the next had Wandering Jew on it which took over everything. A crew came by last month and started to rip that out. Now, there are just stems from the Wandering Jew. Could we put in something there that will grow?

Boaz (3241-3D): She recently purchased here. She can see that the landscaping is being cleaned up. The double doors at her building have pots with old trees in them and the pots are too large and unattractive. She had submitted a Landscape Request Form for this work. They don't have a building captain.

She has trees that need to be trimmed. Can she trim them at their expense?

Lazar (5220): There is a weed that starts out as grass and it looks awful on the hill and by her home.

#### 7. Response to Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann responded:

- Fox (2355-B): The topping of trees was banned in 2017. The Star Pines are delicate trees. Star Pines tend to lean and some have to be taken out at a certain point for safety. He will find out why those trees were taken out and will let her know.
- Clemmons (2396-1H): We don't replant in the summertime because it takes too much water to get it going. That's when turf areas can get dry. We are keeping track of areas and turf that need replanting to address in the cooler months. We are gearing up for turf renovation and aeration. We have over 3 inches of thatch in some places. After this process, it will look better than ever...by December or January.
- Boaz (3241-3D): We will order different pots and replant them when time allows.
- Kusnick (2356-C): He will look into the irrigation at her manor.
- Landscaping will get caught up on the weeding and trimming once turf is being renovated.

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• We discourage people from hiring their own tree trimmers for numerous reasons. It is only allowed on rare occasions.

# 8. Department Head Update

We make our own mulch here. It's a 45-day process. Our tub grinder has been tagged by the Air Quality Management District so it may get shut down at any time. We have purchased a new one but it will take several weeks to arrive.

#### Consent Calendar:

None.

### Reports:

# 9. Project Log

Mr. Wiemann reviewed the items on the Project Log with the committee.

# 10. Tree Work Status Report

Mr. Wiemann reviewed the tree work status report with the committee.

# Items for Discussion and Consideration:

# 11. Tree Removal Request: 3317-C Via Carrizo (Conrad) – One Flaxleaf Paperbark

Ms. Conrad stated the problems she is having with her manor.

Director Pearlstone stated he wished some of the information she was verbalizing was on her request form.

Director Pearlstone made a motion to accept staff's recommendation and deny this request. Director McCary seconded. All were in favor.

Director Karimi said the photos do not show any root problems.

Mr. Wiemann stated that Staff should be allowed to fix the drainage issue, as was indicated in the Staff Report. The tree may not be the problem.

# 12. Tree Removal Request: 3511-A Bahia Blanca (Miles) - One Indian Laurel Fig

Ms. Miles was present and said bees and coyotes have been going after the berries that fall from the tree.

She stated that her sprinklers start at 11 p.m. and are on all night long.

Director Karimi said the dropping of berries is a seasonal issue that we all face.

Director McCary made motion to accept staff's recommendation and deny this request. Director Karimi seconded. All were in favor.

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# 13. Tree Removal Request: 4024-A Calle Sonora Este (Newman) – One Carrotwood

Director Pearlstone made a motion to accept staff's recommendation and approve this request. Director Bhada seconded. All were in favor.

Items for Future Agendas:

None.

# Concluding Business

## 14. Committee Member Comments

Director Karimi said we live in a wilderness area and there are a lot of trees. We can't just cut down trees for seasonal berry dropping.

Director McCary appreciates the process of requests for tree removal. She requested that Members bring photos and indicate all information that should be considered on the request form.

Director Pearlstone appreciates that Members attend these meeting and let us know what is going on. He stated that the Chair of this committee and Mr. Wiemann are very committed to landscaping and they are trying to get things right. Your Landscape Request Forms needs to say exactly what you are asking for and all the details the committee should consider in their decision.

Advisor Tung stated that perhaps the committee should visit some of these requests.

Mr. Wiemann stated that now the trimming of trees will be at 25% of the tree which should eventually help with the berry droppings.

- 15. Date of Next Meeting October 3, 2019
- 16. Adjournment at 10:45 a.m.

Lynn Jarrett, Chair Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer

Eve Morton, Landscape Operations Coordinator – 268-2565