



OPEN MEETING

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRD LAGUNA HILLS MUTUAL
LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, February 3, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.
VIRTUAL MEETING**

Laguna Woods Village Community Center 24351 El Toro Road

REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair - Lynn Jarrett, Annie McCary, Ralph Engdahl, Ira Lewis, Donna Rane-Szostak

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT:

ADVISORS PRESENT:

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

The agenda was approved by consensus.

4. Approval of the January 6, 2022 Report

The report was approved by consensus.

5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair Jarrett stated this will probably be a short meeting because we had many tree requests last month but not many this month.

With the windy weather, it makes the Village very messy. Mr. Wiemann reported that only two Bottle Brush trees were lost in the latest wind event. He said we have a storm response where most all Landscape staff spends the first day after a wind event cleaning up.

Some people plant gardens in common area and they should not do so. They can cause our water bills to go up when people water those gardens with hoses that are hooked up to hose bibs. All such hoses are hooked up to buildings and utilize potable water only. This is a very big expense.

The Aliso Creek is so beautiful and she urges Members to take a walk down there to see it if you haven't yet been there.

In the Gate 14 area, the grass in one large area was made into a drought-tolerant small park and she would like to see additional areas converted as well.

Discussion ensued regarding rebates that are available from El Toro Water District (ETWD) for putting in drought tolerant plants in common area or when residents would like to do it on their own. Rebates are not available in recycled water areas.

6. Department Head Update

6a. Project Log

Mr. Wiemann reviewed the Project Log information with the committee and answered some questions.

6b. Tree Work Status Report

Mr. Wiemann reviewed this report with the committee.

6c. Key Performance Index Slides

Mr. Wiemann presented FY2021 Landscape Key Performance Index Report via a PowerPoint to the committee and answered some questions.

7. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)

A Member stated that Landscaping should be doing more to hide water heaters with landscaping.

8. Response to Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann responded that the Water Heater Standard #32 was revised in 2019 to say that water heater enclosures must match the building. Director McCary and Director Lewis stated that it would be great if staff could work on landscaping around water heaters which are eyesores.

Consent:

None

Unfinished Business

9. Tree Removal Request: 5473-A Paseo Del Lago E. – One Sugar Gum Eucalyptus tree

Director McCary made a motion to accept staff recommendation and deny this request. Director Lewis seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

Future Agenda Items

10. Tree Replacement Program

Mr. Wiemann stated that staff currently plants new trees when appropriate. They are never planted where a tree was removed because using the same soil there is not conducive for a new tree. Director Rane-Szostak suggested telling Members the reason why a new tree is not put into place right where a removed tree was growing. Mr. Wiemann stated that he doesn't get many requests for replacement of trees.

11. Members Converting Turf Campaign

This will be on the agenda for next month. Director Rane-Szostak Donna will try to get more information about ETWD rebates in time for that meeting. Also, Director McCary will speak to Eileen Paulin about best ways to get out information to Members.

Mr. Wiemann stated that Metropolitan Water funds the rebates; local water districts administer the programs. It is a complicated process to get a rebate but it is worth it. You must submit a detailed plan which must include a water retention feature of some kind (rock garden, etc.). The plan gets reviewed, commented on, and resubmitted. It then moves into a construction plan phase in which a third party reviews the work.

Concluding Business:

12. Committee Member Comments

Director Lewis is glad that Mr. Wiemann is moving forward with new goals and strategies.

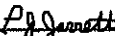
Director McCary wanted to thank the Member for his comment and him caring about this community. It is important residents do get involved in governing this community. We can't always solve every issue but all suggestions are considered.

Mr. Wiemann said resident involvement is key. We are maintaining a large amount of acreage so it is good when we know if residents are seeing something that can be improved.

13. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

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14. Adjournment at 10:33 a.m.


ljjarrett (Feb 8, 2022 12:44 PST)

Lynn Jarrett, Chair
Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer
Eve Morton, Landscape Coordinator – 268-2565

Signature:

Email: lijarrett@yahoo.com