



OPEN MEETING

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

**Thursday, February 6, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.
Laguna Woods Village Community Center Board Room
24351 El Toro Road**

REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair - Lynn Jarrett, Annie McCary, Ralph Engdahl, Jon Pearlstone, John Frankel

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Reza Karimi, Cush Bhada, Advisor Cindy Baker

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

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

4. Approval of the January 2, 2020 Report

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

5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair Jarrett stated that letters are sent to residents who have been using a lot of water. Please call Security if someone is washing down their driveway or patio. Call Resident Services when you have a landscape complaint. A ticket is created so complaint may be addressed and followed up on.

6. Member Comments

Barbara Marsh (3433-B) The landscaping is beautiful in our area. However, the slope at Bahia Blanca has been planted three times. 14 rattlesnakes have been killed on that slope. The slope looks terrible and has for a long time. No one has been working on it for months. A Eucalyptus tree there is leaning toward our houses for years and now the bottom is being eaten away by rot and animals. It needs to be removed. She spoke to Luis about planting ice plant on the slope. Our neighbors are upset.

Doug Gibson (5289) He read a list of issues which are important for Gate 11 residents. He spoke to 30 people who live in that area.

- Keep us on a regular schedule. Come back every two months.
- We all like grass. Filling in brown spots is great. Maintain cutting.
- The weeds are horrible.
- Get rid of old trees and bushes. Also would like a little color.
- Thank you for opening up the dialog.

Robin Meader (3371-1A) She lives in a three-story building. There are four trees on a small lawn. She would like two Cajeput trees to be removed.

Margaret Lemmon (3371-1D) Trees would look better if they had been trimmed more frequently; preventative maintenance. There are some dead evergreens that are touching their building. Over last two years, she has sent letter to Resident Services with no response or was brushed off. She suggests that these two processes be improved upon.

Marcia Plean (5103). The side yard is lovely. Grass between my manor and 5102 must remain intact. It is a lovely area in Gate 11. She had drought resistant plantings put into her second unit and it looks great. Maybe others would want to do this. Some people in Gate 11 use too much water.

Yvonne Horton (5475-B). The lemon tree near her unit is infected with bugs. It needs to be treated. Her orange tree is starting to get the same thing.

Eileen Lazar (5220) Are we still doing volunteers to remove their shrubbery? Are there uniform plans if people wish to put in drought tolerant plantings? More uniformity with the drought tolerant plantings would make it look nicer.

Bill Norman (2278-P) He was a landscape contractor. He has managed crews for over forty years. His unit all the way around is in bad shape. Some areas are bare and haven't been addressed. There doesn't seem like someone is actually managing the crews that are out there. The plants they are using to replace other

plants are creating a bigger maintenance problem. Lantana spreads like a monster and was planted in a little tiny bed.

Ana Shu (5102) She has lived here for about a year. Please replace the lawn between her manor and 5103. Who should we contact with a petition? There is a slope that looks really bad by her manor. She feels there are rats there and she has caught some rats in traps. She has removed ivy on the slopes that is growing onto her patio. She can smell animal urine and dead animals. Rats may be dying in the ivy there. A neighbor who lives behind her was present and she agrees that slope must be addressed.

Carolyn Pardoe (5036) When plants are replaced, they are not taken care of and they die. Even Jim Matson's grass has died.

7. Response to Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann responded to Member Comments:

He agrees that we have a planting problem so starting March 1, there will be a dedicated planting crew to plant new plants, to make sure irrigation is right, and to take care of the new plants. They should come through about once a month. The planting crew will document why a plant died and if same plant should be put back in or something else. We are aware of this issue.

This year, our service levels will improve because all our crews will be fully staffed on March 1.

We are now on our species-based tree trimming schedule so trees will get trimmed regularly.

CalFire has changes their rules for slopes in 2020 and 2021. Mr. Wiemann is meeting them next week for more details. The Fire Department wants us to remove the acacia.

We don't spray for rats. We use rat baits stations. We are testing a new product which sterilizes the female rats.

He will have someone look at that lemon tree and follow up with the Member.

Our goal is to schedule work on a quarterly basis.

We have purchased some trailers to be more efficient with the mulching process.

The aeration of the lawns is continuing through the end of March.

Chair Jarrett stated that the committee is not now planning on removing any grass in Gate 11; no projects are in the works. If a turf reduction project is planned, the committee will bring it up at a future committee meeting to discuss with residents first.

Chair Jarrett will put into the Breeze that Members have an option to go to drought tolerant plantings.

Director Pearlstone asked about bare areas on the slopes. Mr. Wiemann stated that the bare areas should be in the process of being worked on now.

Director Frankel told residents that water conservation is important to us.

8. Department Head Update

None.

Consent Calendar:

None.

Reports:

9. Project Log

Mr. Wiemann reviewed the Project Log with the committee.

Director Pearlstone stated that he would like resident feedback from the Gate 14 landscape modernization project.

10. Tree Work Status Report

Mr. Wiemann reviewed this report with the committee.

Items for Discussion and Consideration:

11. Tree Removal Request: 3330-O Bahia Blanca E. (Levier) – Two Weeping Fig Trees

Director McCary made motion to accept staff's recommendation and approve this request for tree removal. Director Engdahl seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

12. Tree Removal Request: 3371-1D Punta Alta (Lemmon) – One Cajeput Tree

Director Pearlstone made motion to accept staff's recommendation and approve this request for tree removal. Director McCary seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

13. Tree Removal Request: 5277 (Woodruff) – Two Weeping Fig Trees

Director McCary made motion to accept staff's recommendation and approve this request for tree removal. Director Pearlstone seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

14. Landscape Revision Request: 5343-A Bahia Blanca (Irving/Miller)

Director Pearlstone made motion to accept staff's recommendation and approve this request for tree removal. Director McCary seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

15. Tree Removal Request: 5377-A Avenida Sosiega (Wang) – One Fern Pine Tree

Director Pearlstone made motion to accept staff's recommendation and deny this request for tree removal. Director McCary seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

16. Tree Removal Request: 5381-A Avenida Sosiega (Williams) – One Sycamore Tree

Director Engdahl made a motion to accept staff's recommendation and approve the removal of this tree. Director McCary seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

This resident was present and requested a second tree also be removed. She was told she had to make a separate request for that tree.

Items for Future Agendas:
None.

Concluding Business

17. Committee Member Comments

Director McCary stated that it is important to go to Resident Services with your requests.

Director Pearlstone stated that Mr. Wiemann is moving forward on many improvements and it is starting to show in the community.

Chair Jarrett stated that she appreciates Director Pearlstone's comment and she agrees that Mr. Wiemann is doing a great job. She thanked residents for coming out to this meeting.

18. Date of Next Meeting – March 5, 2020

19. Adjournment



Lynn Jarrett, Chair

Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer

Eve Morton, Landscape Operations Coordinator – 268-2565