



OPEN MEETING

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

**Monday, July 8, 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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Cush Bhada

OTHERS PRESENT: John Frankel

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 Pearlstone seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. Approval of June 6, 2019 Report

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

5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair Jarrett reported that the committee has been working on the Landscape Manual with Mr. Wiemann. There will be new additions to the current manual.

Many people are growing vines onto areas where they shouldn't be and that can be a problem when painting needs to be done. There are many pots sitting out on Bahia Blanca, for example.

This Friday at 1 p.m., there will be a presentation in the Board Room about the landscape modernization project at Gate 14. There will be a 63 percent rebate on this project. We need more drought tolerant plants in the community.

Director Pearlstone remarked that next month he will have a lot more information regarding the budget. Hats off to Mr. Wiemann about a challenging budget. Be aware of competing needs for budget money. Landscaping is trying to manage costs yet offer many services. Please give Mr. Wiemann time to see his improvements. Tree trimming is in next year's budget and landscape modernization is also in the budget.

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

McGill (2390-2C) Outside of building are two large pots watered with water lines but one of them has become disconnected. He was told Landscape will repair and will be watering those plants.

Bob Hatch (5064) Gate 11 residents are not happy with the landscaping. He read a statement he wrote. Pat Wilkinson has photos of problems and how it used to look. He would like committee to take a tour of the area. Committee agreed.

Wilkinson (5274) – Expressed some concerns about Gate 11 landscaping.

Lazar (5520) She thanked Mr. Wiemann for work that has been done. Is there a plan to add more people to landscaping crew? Are they going to bring down the height of some of the trees? Shepherds crooks; 5219 is concerned about lack of privacy because they removed three feet of wall height and ivy was removed to put in the shepherds crooks.

Gibson (5289) She has been a Gate 11 Disaster Coordinator for many years. People only want to speak to her about landscaping problems which prevents them from being concerned about being prepared for a disaster.

7. Response to Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann responded:

Staff is down with Gate 10 and Gate 11 crews and he is trying to fill those positions.

Nothing has changed in the GV methodology. Next week, the Landscape Lead men will be in a white shirt or a blue shirt. They are the people to speak to when you have a landscaping question.

The CEO, Jeff Parker, is aware of the Gate 11 issues.

Staff is working with bare areas around the boxes. New edgers have been purchased so we can edge better and faster. Staff is being retrained to only spray edges that need it. They are also working on bare spots. He knows back yards are an issue. Let him know if Staff leaves an area and they haven't done a good job. He is aware of the lost privacy issue.

We are reducing the size of all trees by 25% as we trim them.

Chair Jarrett said the committee will make a tour of Gate 11. The Committee will meet about Bob Hatch's letter.

8. Department Head Update

Mr. Wiemann made a PowerPoint presentation regarding the number of landscaping tickets Staff receives and the new process in place for Staff to more efficiently handle the requests.

Consent Calendar:

None.

Reports:

9. Project Log

Mr. Wiemann reviewed the Project Log with the committee.

10. Tree Work Status Report

Mr. Wiemann reviewed this report with the committee.

Items for Discussion and Consideration:

11. Tree Removal Request: 3100-A-Via Serena – Shamel Ash tree

Director Pearlstone made a motion to accept Staff's recommendation to approve the request for removal. Director McCary seconded. This was approved by consensus.

12. Off Schedule Trimming Request: 3250-O- Six Peppermint trees

Director McCary made a motion to accept Staff's recommendation to deny the request for off schedule trimming. Director Pearlstone seconded. This was approved by consensus.

13. Landscape Revision Request: 5587-A & 5586-B

Mr. Wiemann reported he will apply for a rebate on behalf of these Members.

Ms. Phelps reported there is a tree that may need to be removed before the work is done.

Director Karimi made a motion to accept Staff's recommendation to accept this request for the landscaping revision. Director Pearlstone seconded. This was approved by consensus.

Items for Future Agendas:

Updates on progress of the fire fuel reduction plan.

Concluding Business

14. Committee Member Comments

Director Karimi recommended keeping a database of any landscape modernization plans that are approved and to share this information with the community. He said changing the culture of the landscape staff to quality vs. quantity will change the perception of the department and landscaping will be done right the first time.

Director McCary thanked Director Pearlstone for his budget update.

Director Pearlstone is optimistic about the landscaping budget and what is being done with the money.

Chair Jarrett thanked Mr. Wiemann for doing a good job. She is also frustrated that it is difficult right now to find people to hire for open positions. She thanked everyone for coming.

15. Date of Next Meeting – August 1, 2019

16. Adjournment at 10:34 a.m.



Lynn Jarrett, Chair

Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer

Eve Morton – 268-2565