



OPEN MEETING

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

**Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.
BOARD ROOM/VIRTUAL MEETING
Laguna Woods Village Community Center, 24351 El Toro Road**

REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair- Ira Lewis, Brad Rinehart, Reza Karimi,

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: S.K. Park

OTHERS PRESENT: None

ADVISORS PRESENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Kurt Wiemann, Megan Feliz

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Director Karimi made a motion to approve the agenda. Chair Lewis seconded. The meeting agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

3. Approval of the March 7, 2024 Report

Director Karimi made a motion to approve the meeting report. Director Rinehart seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

4. Remarks of the Chair

Chair Lewis announced the committee and board would be focusing their attention to turf reduction. Their focus would be on Gates 11 and 14, due to AB 1572 and the deadline of 2029.

5. Department Head Update

Mr. Wiemann was directed last meeting to bring information on workers compensation claims. He provided the number of injuries per year, 6 in 2021, 8 in 2022, 8 in 2023 and 4 year to date. Mr. Wiemann updated the committee about the GRF project starting in West Creek next week.

a. Project Log

Mr. Wiemann discussed the provided Project Log. He updated the committee on the Bahia Blanca project, as he received the updated plans late yesterday. Mr. Wiemann will review them and send them out to the committee for comments next week. Chair Lewis let him know he is not in a hurry with this project as turf reduction is Third's focus at this time. Mr. Wiemann let the committee know the status of the habitat project and how they are currently working on the grow kill cycle. Directors made comments and asked questions.

b. Tree Work Status Report

Chair Lewis directed staff to add two columns to this report for the future. He is asking for the tree removals to have an area for what type of tree was planted and when it was planted. If no tree is planted, he would like it noted why.

c. Gate 11 Front Yard Designs

The committee was provided the updated schedule from the architect and recent plans last week. The committee made several comments on the plans. Mr. Wiemann asked the committee to email him their comments on the plan. Chair Lewis expressed his desire for rendering as the plans become finalized down the line. This would help show the residents living within these gates, how beautiful it can look when finished.

d. Update on Slope Renovations Schedule

Mr. Wiemann updated the committee letting them know the contractor is running on schedule currently. There is a slope that has a lot of over grown acacia, and is in a high fire area. He will be bringing a change order to be approved at next meeting for this area. He is working on getting the slope schedule for the contracted slopes and in-house crews updated on the website. It will be added to the three-week projection calendar.

e. Inspector Duty List- 52 Point Inspection

Mr. Wiemann notified the committee he misspoke at the last meeting it is not a 15-point inspection, but a 52-point inspection list. He notified the committee the new quality control supervisor started on Monday. He is currently familiarizing himself with the crews, their routines, and routes. Staff is working on looking for a new app for the position to be able to utilize in the field.

f. Update on Prior to Paint Oversight

Mr. Wiemann notified the committee the bid deadline was reached and we received three good bids. Each bid is missing a small piece, and he will be reaching out to each contractor to finalize their numbers. Once, that is completed Mr. Wiemann will call a special closed to present the contract options to the committee in detail. Mr. Wiemann explained he will be hiring an outside consultant to manage the oversight of this project. Due to the stop and start nature of the project, it may be not be prudent to hire a full-time in-house position to manage the oversight of the project.

g. Update Undesirable Tree Removal

Mr. Wiemann let the committee know the assignment of locating the Ficus trees has been given to Great Scott, the tree contractor. The goal in asking them to located the trees around the village is, they can also price quote cost to remove as they locate. Staff is hoping by there being a larger amount, it would provide a cost break over contract cost in removals.

h. Update on Slope Identification System

Mr. Wiemann let the committee know he is working with a consultant on this project. He is obtaining a quote to have the slopes and turf all digitally mapped. He is hoping to present the cost and contract at the next committee meeting.

6. Member Comments

One comment was made, regarding a suggestion on how to help Gate 11 and 14 better understand turf reduction.

7. Response to Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann and the committee responded to the comments. The committee directed staff to work with the GM's office in adding advisors, two from each gate, to the committee.

8. Items for Discussion and Consideration

Chair Lewis asked for all future tree requests to be placed on a consent calendar.

a. 3133-A Tree Trimming Request

The committee made one motion for all tree removals and trimming request. Chair Lewis made a motion to accept staff recommendations on all three requests. Director Rinehart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. 4006-3E Tree Removal Request

The committee made one motion for all tree removal and trimming request. Chair Lewis made a motion to accept staff recommendations on all three requests. Director Rinehart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c. 3133-D Tree Removal Request

The committee made one motion for all tree removal and trimming request. Chair Lewis made a motion to accept staff recommendations on all three requests. Director Rinehart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Slope Renovations Discussion

This topic was covered in previous discussions.

e. AB 1575- Recreational Dog Area

Mr. Wiemann explained that AB 1572 states an “informal dog recreation area” if noted on the map can be kept and turf does not have to be removed. With the mapping contract we can designate these zones. Mr. Wiemann cautioned the committee there currently are no formal guidelines at present as to what makes an area “informal dog area”, so it is best to be judicious about the areas they designate.

f. AB 1572- Compliance Program Gate 11& 14

Chair Lewis let Staff know he would like to focus on Gate 14 first, replacing turf with either “carpet of stars” or “kurapia.” He would like to get half of Gate 14 done this year, and other half next year. He is aware the budget would not allow for this amount and staff would have to request a supplemental to fund the project.

9. Items for Future Agendas

- Slope and Turf Map Contract
- Quality Control App
- Slope Change Order
- Ficus Tree Removal Cost

10. Committee Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann asked for direction from the committee on the landscape budget. The committee expressed their interest to add a cycle to shrub bed maintenance and slope maintenance. The committee asked for contracted mowing cost to be included in next year budget.

11. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

12. Adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Ira Lewis

Ira Lewis (Apr 9, 2024 10:11 PM)

Ira Lewis, Chair

Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer

Megan Feliz, Landscape Administrative Assistant

949-268-2565