



OPEN MEETING

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

**Thursday, November 4, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.
BOARD ROOM AND VIRTUAL MEETING
Laguna Woods Village Community Center 24351 El Toro Road**

REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair - Annie McCary, Lynn Jarrett, 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 McCary called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Media

No media was present.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Chair McCary requested that the Member Comments be moved in the agenda to be heard after the Committee Chair remarks. The modified agenda was approved by consensus.

4. Approval of the September 29, 2021 Report

The report was approved by consensus.

5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair McCary welcomed Director Lewis to the committee.

6. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)

Member comment that weeds get very high before being cut. He heard that they only weed four times a year. Four times a year is not enough.

When he calls for weeding, they come and zip through everything. They take out flowering areas and now there are dead spaces. Nothing was replanted. He always has to call.

Concrete blocks around flower beds by elevator are askew. And they are full of algae.

Planters were taken out in Clubhouse 6 and now water flows out of beds and onto the driveway...a lot of runoff.

A member commented about the Village Breeze article regarding irrigation. He felt that the overlap of sprinklers uses too much water and there is too much water as is being use. He said he sinks into the ground because it is so soggy. Kikuyu grass doesn't need this much water.

Plant material was changed at Clubhouse 6 and he doesn't know why. He doesn't think the new plants are drought tolerant.

Member asked why her request, from a former committee meeting, to remove Rusty Leaf Fig was denied. Mr. Wiemann stated that the arborist will go out and meet with her.

7. Response to Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann stated that weeding is done four times a year. That is budgeted by Board. Staff does over trim to compensate for the fact that they are only there four times a year. Flowers are sometimes cut because they will be dead by the next time weeding is done. In summer, the weeds grow quickly.

He will look into the runoff and changes at Clubhouse 6.

8. Department Head Update

Mr. Wiemann reported that Landscape staff is now mowing every two weeks, instead of every nine days.

When dealing with bees, if staff is able to save the queen and hive, they relocate the hive out at the mulch yard.

6a. Project Log

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

Member stated that there was no label on truck on who was working on the slopes. They were eating lunch for four hours. No one was supervising. Please check on them.

Member stated that an area underneath a Garden Villa building is a breeding ground for rodents. Mulch that was put down had a lot of thistles in it. Mr. Wiemann stated that he will have someone go out today to look at their area.

6b. Tree Work Status Report

Mr. Wiemann reviewed this report with the committee.

Unfinished Business:

7. Landscape Revision Request: 3428-A Bahia Blanca W.

Director Jarrett made a motion to accept staff recommendation and approve this request. Director Rane-Szostak seconded.

Discussion ensued.

Committee requires that the seven feet from end of the patio includes the border Member will be putting in.

Committee requires that mulch be placed around the base of the tree in front of the patio to avoid any gap there with grass that would be difficult to mow.

Committee requires that any potted plants be put into the ground or removed.

The committee was in unanimous support.

Items for Discussion and Consideration

8. Tree Removal Request: 3143-Q Via Vista – One Carrotwood tree

Director Rane-Szostak made a motion to accept staff recommendation and approve this request. Director Jarrett seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

9. Tree Removal Request: 3244-3A San Amadeo – One Canary Island Pine tree

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

10. Tree Removal Request: 5473-C Paseo Del Lago East – One Red Iron Bark tree

This Member was present. She stated there were cracks in the stucco on the entrance to her unit. The drain in her courtyard gets clogged. It was repaired at one point and is working now. She said the litter and branches are year-round. Neighbor is in a wheel chair. The crown of tree is so high, that it sheds into courtyard.

The committee voted unanimous to table this item and to have the arborist go out to look at this tree and the area again to look at the cracks in the wall and the heaving of the sidewalk. Member said Unit O also has a crack inside garage.

Future Agenda Items

11. Tree Replacement Program

12. Members Converting Turf Campaign

Member stated she is working on getting information out to Members about water reduction; she is behind this idea. Mr. Wiemann let her know to fill out a Landscape Request Form if she would like to replace her turf with drought tolerant plantings.

Concluding Business:

13. Committee Member Comments

Director Rane-Szostak encouraged people to attend the Water Conservation Committee meeting.

Director Jarrett told the Member who was on the Concerned Citizens committee that committee could use her help getting out the word about turf reduction.

Director Lewis stated that they are looking for volunteers to serve on the committees.

14. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

15. Adjournment at 11:01 a.m.

Annie McCary

Annie McCary (Nov 9, 2021 09:27 PST)

Annie McCary, Chair
Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer
Eve Morton, Landscape Coordinator – 268-2565