



**OPEN MEETING**

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

**Thursday, March 3, 2022 – 1:30 P.M.  
BOARD ROOM/VIRTUAL MEETING  
Laguna Woods Village Community Center 24351 El Toro Road**

**REPORT**

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

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT** Nathaniel Ira Lewis

**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 February 3, 2022 Report**

The report was approved by consensus.

**5. Committee Chair Remarks**

Chair Jarrett stated that with the drought tolerant landscaping requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

She has noticed that behind some of the three-story buildings in Gate 14, some people have made themselves gardens with brick walls around them. This is using common area which is not allowed. Additionally, hoses are used to water these gardens which heightens potable water use.

The new process for Members to request installing stepping stones is now on the website under the Landscape Activities page.

## **6. Department Head Update**

The stepping stone policy is on the website and does require filling out a Landscape Request Form and then returning that to Resident Services.

If residents would like to request to change plants around their home to drought tolerant plants, please fill out a Landscape Request Form, along with a drawn plan of what you would like to do, and a list of plants you would like to use.

### **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. Water Heater Cabinet Landscaping Update**

In February meeting, a resident stated that water heaters were not hidden with landscaping and policies state that landscaping should be used to improve the aesthetics caused by the alterations. Mr. Wiemann has directed staff to address the issue when they are on their regularly scheduled maintenance cycles.

## **7. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)**

A Member felt her neighbor was doing more with her landscape alteration than what was approved. Mr. Wiemann will have staff follow up and contact the resident if necessary.

## **8. Response to Member Comments**

See above.

### Consent:

None

### Items for Discussion and Consideration

## **9. Tree Removal Request: 3320-B Bahia Blanca W. – One Indian Laurel Fig Tree**

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

**10. Tree Removal Request: 3515-B Bahia Blanca W. – One Weeping Bottlebrush Tree**

The resident making this request was present at the meeting. Discussion ensued.

Director McCary made motion to table this matter and to ask Mr. Wiemann's staff to re-inspect this tree. Director Rane-Szostak seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

Future Agenda Items

Concluding Business:

**11. Committee Member Comments**

Chair Jarrett asked Mr. Wiemann when tree crown reduction is performed. He said it is performed when staff sees a tree is beyond its capacity and has the potential to begin self-shedding. Crown reduction is very expensive.

Director McCary is pleased with quick action taken on starting work to hide unsightly water heaters.

Director Rane-Szostak is pleased that our Members are more involved and sending in questions.

Director Rane-Szostak asked about the contract process. Mr. Wiemann stated that all contracts are put out to bid. Maintenance contracts must be re-bid at least every three years. An annual contract may be renewed twice if the contractor is performing well and agrees to the same pricing.

Director Rane-Szostak asked where people can view the meeting videos. They are on the Village website under archived meeting videos.


Chair Jarrett stated that it was a good meeting and thanked Mr. Wiemann and Ms. Morton for their work.

Mr. Wiemann said he is getting compliments on the Landscape staff and he is glad to see it. Changes are working.

**12. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.**

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13. Adjournment at 2:16 p.m.



Lynn Jarrett (Mar 7, 2022 13:58 PST)

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