



OPEN MEETING

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOLDEN RAIN FOUNDATION
LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 – 1:30 P.M.

**BOARD ROOM/ VIRTUAL MEETING
Laguna Woods Village Community Center
24351 El Toro Road**

REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair – Juanita Skillman, Maggie Blackwell, Diane Casey, Reza Karimi, Lynn Jarrett, Ira Lewis

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Pat English

OTHERS PRESENT: Annie McCary, Yvonne Horton, Bunny Carpenter, Elsie Addington

ADVISORS PRESENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Kurt Wiemann, Eve Morton

1. Call to Order

Chair Skillman called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Media

No press was present.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Director Karimi made a motion to approve the agenda. The committee was in unanimous support.

4. Approval of the Meeting Report for September 8, 2021

Director Karimi made a motion to approve the Meeting Report. Director Lewis abstained as he was not part of the committee at that point. The motion passed.

5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair Skillman stated that she was excited to be the new Chair of this committee.

6. Department Head Update

Mr. Wiemann stated that this committee had budgeted for colored flowers at the gates and the installation was complete. Staff will be cultivating them in the nursery for next year which will save money.

Landscape staff have just finished grading and mulching all of the horse trails within the community.

A million dollars was budgeted to update the master control system. The current system does not have the ability to be controlled remotely and is not easy to use. The proposed new system would be cloud-based. Irrigators will have control from home during evenings and weekends which will save water.

Mission Landscape Architecture was hired to find out options available for upgrading the irrigation system here. We maintain over 600 acres which is a large area.

a. Update on Master Control Irrigation System from Mission Architecture and Water Savings Report

Mission Landscape Architecture made a PowerPoint presentation to the committee regarding the irrigation system options available and answered questions from the committee.

Director Blackwell made a motion to develop bid documents and seek proposals for the WeatherTrak system and bring final pricing and further details to a future meeting. The committee was in unanimous support.

Consent:

None.

Reports

7. Update on the Creek

Mr. Wiemann reported on work being done in the creek.

Crews are working on the creek every three months. This crew consists of eight men. The Department of Wildlife was contacted and we asked if we can change the current agreement. Our request to alter it was declined. We may need to do another agreement.

Five agencies are involved in overseeing the creek. We are trying to clear a 5-8 foot channel down the creek with water herbicides so that the creek may flow freely. We are asking for permission to do that. We are hoping there will be movement on that.

Items for Discussion and Consideration

8. Video of Village Landscape Tour

- Manny Tafoya; Senior Supervisor of Nursery, Small Equipment, and Pest Control

The committee viewed a video, produced by VillageTV, spotlighting the Village Nursery, Mulch Yard, and Landscape Equipment areas. Manny Tafoya was present to meet the committee and to speak about the work he does for the Village in those areas.

9. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)

A member welcomed the new committee members and commented that she would like her view of the creek restored.

Director Horton thanked staff for helping with the rat problem at the stables.

10. Response to Member Comments

Chair Skillman stated that Mr. Wiemann has been working on the creek on many of the items mentioned by the Member in her comment.

Concluding Business:

11. Committee Member Comments

Director Blackwell saw the Landscape Department video last week and she told many to watch it on YouTube.


Director Karimi commented that the Third Landscape committee was taken out to see the areas on the video and that helped pave the way for the video. He thought Manny and Kurt did a great job on the video. It is an impressive operation. He thanked Manny for his service and Kurt for his leadership.

One of the jobs of this committee is to let residents know what it takes to run this Village.

Director Lewis commented that he hopes an upgraded irrigation system is installed sooner rather than later. The remote capabilities of it are wonderful to help save water.

12. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

13. Adjournment at 2:57 p.m.



Juanita Skillman (Dec 20, 2021 14:48 PST)

Juanita Skillman, Chair