



OPEN MEETING

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

**Wednesday, December 4, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.
Laguna Woods Village Community Center Board Room
24351 El Toro Road**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair - Bert Moldow, Annette Sabol Soule for Jim Matson, Lynn Jarrett, Manuel Armendariz, Yvonne Horton, Ralph Engdahl for Reza Karimi, Neda Ardani for Andre Torng

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Andre Torng, Reza Karimi, Jim Matson

OTHERS PRESENT: Bunny Carpenter, Juanita Skillman, John Frankel

ADVISORS PRESENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Kurt Wiemann, Eve Morton

REPORT

1. Call to Order

Chair Moldow called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Media

No press was present.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Director Armendariz made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Jarrett seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

4. Approval of Meeting Report of August 14, 2019

Director Armendariz made a motion to approve the Meeting Report. Director Jarrett seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair Moldow stated that Landscape staff is down 10 people or 11 percent. Mr. Wiemann is doing his best to find people. Mr. Wiemann did a fantastic job on the creek. There must have been 30 ducks enjoying themselves in the water and prior to work there were none.

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

Barbara Mescon(5557-A) The lawns are terrible. Upkeep of our community is terrible. I had people visiting and it looks awful. If we have a fire, it will spread through the whole area. Pine needles haven't been swept up. She has called the CEO and he said they will be trimming the trees in January and February.

Elizabeth Morris (581-O) She wanted to thank Mr. Wiemann for the creek and the park. They look fantastic. Ducks are everywhere and also a great blue heron. He visited twice in one week and she hasn't seen him in three years. A big egret was there too. Dead bushes by Sevilla were finally removed. Thank you.

Sharon O'Neil (581-P) Thanks also for work at the creek. Great to see wildlife.

Roberta Berk (933-B) Tree pruners cut down palm trees and stumps are in an open area and she feels it will be a liability. She feels there is not enough oversight. They mulched whole area but not down below. Routine things are not being handled. Why can't they use the blowers on the rocks; used to be covered with water but now everything falls on them.

Walt Herd (579-B) The creek is stunning compared to what it used to be. Thank you. The weeds/reeds are popping up again. Can someone cut them so they don't get out of control? Would be simple task at this point. Please clean up the pathway. A lot of mud and sand from the rain. A lot of leftover twigs and branches in the grass. Please remove those.

7. Response to Member Comments

Director Armendariz stated people should come to this meetings or put in a service request for any needs. Mr. Wiemann will be using an outside vendor to help with some of the work.

Director Engdahl said thank you for the favorable comments.

Director Jarrett thanked everyone for coming.

Chair Moldow is appreciative of people coming here today to make good comments about the creek. This committee is responsible only for GRF areas.

Response to 5577-A - Staff is currently renovating turf and aerating it all. Staff will fertilize and overseed in the spring. We will be doing this in United in the Spring. Turf will not look good for about six months during this process.

All trees in Third will be trimmed. We are in the process of approving those contracts. Slope contracts for all Mutuals are being worked on also.

Mr. Wiemann let Roberta Berk know that a separate crew removes the stumps and they will be getting to the ones you mentioned.

8. Department Head Update

None.

Consent:

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by the Committee by one motion. In the event that an item is removed from the Consent Calendar by members of the Committee, such item(s) shall be the subject of further discussion and action by the Committee.

None.

Reports:

None

Items for Discussion and Consideration:

9. Discuss the Land Survey of Aliso Creek

Mr. Wiemann reported that the land survey of the creek has been completed. We are calculating what belongs to each Mutual at the Creek. This will effect financials in 2021. A new man in January will be in charge of cattails. We will be clearing them one more time in January.

Director Armendariz stated the main reason the land survey was done was so we can know who is in charge of what. Markers clearly delineate.

10. Update on the Creek

Mr. Wiemann has met with Fish and Wildlife and they are happy with creek. He let them know we want more open area and they are considering our request. Upstream of the bridge, he is proposing to open it up and and free it of cattails. We may may be doing pond turtle habitats and they need open water.

11. Discuss Possibility of Replacing Some Turf Areas with Drought-Tolerant Plantings

Chair Moldow stated rebates are available for removal of turf. Are there any plans for GRF? Mr. Wiemann reported that no money is budgeted for this. Rebates are not available for any reclaimed water areas.

Mr. Wiemann reported that drought tolerant plants are being planted at Gate 14. The turf at the clubhouses is such a prominent feature so he believes gates are the place to start.

Mr. Wiemann said he will put together costs. Director Sabol Soule suggested a plan for a future budget and to prioritize gates to do in what order.

Chair Moldow asked committee members to look at lawns at the clubhouses to see if they want to make any changes.

Items for Future Agendas:

12. Discuss Cost of Upgrading Landscaping at the Renovated Gates

Concluding Business:

13. Committee Member Comments

Chair Moldow thanked Mr. Wiemann for staying on top of things and for the Members who attended this meeting.

14. Date of Next Meeting – February 12, 2020

15. Adjournment at 10:10 a.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bert Moldow", written over a horizontal line.

Bert Moldow, Chair