

Grounds Committee Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2021 @ 3:00 PM
Meeting at the Dunbarton Cabana
ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Steve Huffman, Chair
Kathy Waugh
Diane Durawa
Diane Luttrell
Joan Trotta
Solveig Toft

Liza Tafoya
Kathleen Sadao
Joleen Hecht
Christina George
Robert Foster

Member Absent

Don Landsittel

Also Present

Markus Dascher, Board Liaison

Bettsi Ledesma, General Manager

Homeowners Present

Karen Lowrey
Reed Marquardt
Nina White

Don Ellwanger
Marcy Best

Carson Landscape Industries

Oscar Lopez (portion)

AGENDA ITEMS

Minutes of Committee Meeting September 16

On a motion by **Solveig** and seconded by **Liza**, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Comments from Guests

Reed Marquardt told the group he is concerned about debris on the east side of the Howe Avenue berm falling down the slope and into the street. He observed that is not the case north of the intersection of Howe and American River Drive. **Steve** explained the reason why that area had been converted from turf to mulch, that being out of concern for contractors' employees cutting grass on the slope and its proximity to a heavily trafficked lane. **Bettsi** added that the City has maintenance responsibility for the area close to the curb. Steve promised the area would be visited during the Zone 1 walk scheduled for the next day.

Proposal for Landscape Improvement at 709 Dunbarton

This proposal had been distributed in advance. **Liza** reported that the site had been visited by **Joleen**, **Steve** and her. She suggested that the committee reject the proposal. Steve stated he was concerned about the cost -- \$13,650 for a single residence. After further discussion, the committee decided to table the matter until the November meeting, thus affording all members the opportunity to visit the site in the meantime.

Proposal for Landscape Improvement in Zone 5

This proposal had been distributed in advance. **Steve** told the group the Board had set aside money in the reserves for turf remediation to removed wild grasses, and this was the first such project. The group noted from the photos that the area was extremely unattractive. On a motion from **Christina** and seconded by **Joan**, the committee voted to recommend the expenditure to the Board.

Area Surrounding Water Valve in Zone 5

This matter was not on the agenda. **Christina** noted the valve is very large and dominates the southern end of the Vanderbilt cul-de-sac. She moved that management be directed to get a proposal from Carson to improve the appearance of the area. **Kathleen** seconded, and the committee voted 10 aye and **Steve** voting no.

Report from Oscar

He reported that Carson is generally following their plan. Pre-emergent weed killer will be applied soon. He expected shrub pruning to be complete in the southern end of Zone 3 prior to heavy leaf drop.

Oscar then left the meeting.

Comments from Board Liaison

Markus told the group of negotiations he was involved in with Carson regarding the 2022 operations and reserve budgets.

Sequence of Future Shrub Removal and Remediation Projects

Steve began the discussion by recalling the committee had asked permission from the Board to advise them on this matter, and they had assented to the request in June. The question was, which zones should follow the Zone 6 pilot project? What should the order be? Funding, and therefore timing, of such projects were separate questions. He also noted that stewards for Zones 2, 4, 5 and 7 had identified areas within their zones for such work.

Several ideas were explored. In the end the committee agreed to recommend the following sequence to the Board, upon a motion by **Diane Durawa** and seconded by **Christina**, with 10 in favor and a dissent by **Solveig**:

6 (done), 7, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 etc.

The meeting adjourned at about 4:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Huffman, Chair

Next meeting: November 18 at 3:00 at the Dunbarton cabana

Requests of the Board:

- Approve proposal for landscape improvement (turf remediation) in Zone 5 in the amount of \$4,320.
- Approve sequence of shrub removal and remediation projects by zone: 6 (done), 7, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 etc.