

Landscape meeting Minutes

February 17, 2014

The Landscape Committee meeting was held in the South Building Community Room on Tuesday, February 17, 2014 at 9:30AM.

Those present were Cheryl Thompson (co-chair), Kathy Luce, Ceel Spuhler, Donna Wardanian, Judy, Dee Platt, Sally Hadden and Gina Furdella, our condo Manager.

Absent were Gary Izzo, Diana Blackstone, Frank Thomasino and Jill Jordan.

Cheryl Thompson stated the call to order and proof of meeting.

The meeting started with a photo presentation of before and after fertilization pictures of the failing Bougainvillea in the Courtyard that was planted in April, 2011.

They have improved somewhat and a motion was made by Dee Platt and seconded by Kathy Luce to continue to watch these plants. We will also remove any dying or dead plants as needed. The vote was unanimous.

We then moved to a photo presentation of the Dwarf Bougainvillea before and after fertilization last month at the North and South end of the pool. These were planted sometime between April and June of 2011. It was noted that the South plants (which are mostly in shade) are clearly dead and dying as they have been since they were planted and the fertilizer has not helped. They need to be removed. The North Bougainvillea (which gets more sun to begin with), have fared only slightly better but are still failing. They also need to be removed. Dwarf Bougainvilleas are sadly but clearly not the proper plant for these areas.

Cheryl presented that the Dwarf Bougainvilleas are a \$2,000 replacement cost and we imagine any other substitute plant replacement cost to be similar. The current jasmine ground cover is also worth approx \$3,000 but can be moved to other problem areas on our property as it is fairly hardy and in good shape. Seems that the plants have taken more TLC than the previous lawn.

There was much discussion on solutions to the dying plants and comments on the lack of space for chairs at the pool, along with lack of shade since the Pergolas were destroyed by Hurricane Charlie in 2004 and not replaced. We turned back to the consideration of a surface instead of plants to lower maintenance costs and also relieve congestion at the pool. Many positive points were made for pavers.

Cheryl presented photos and brochures of paving projects. Caper Beach Club has all pavers for their pool which we all agreed look terrific. Cheryl has talked to the maintenance person there and said it requires little more than optional sealing very 2 years. (we paint our pool deck EACH year at Creciente) Cheryl has gotten 2 bids as follows;

- 1) Remove all plants except hedge and palms \$5700/\$6700 each side (preferred plan)
- 2) Move Jasmine back by hedge and put in 16x30 area off pool deck with entrance from both sides for \$3200/\$3770 each side

She is awaiting a third bid for pavers for the North and South end of the pool.

A motion was made by Dee Platt, seconded by Ceel Spuhler and voted unanimously to present to the Board at the meeting on February 25, 2014 the following benefits of paver bricks for the pool area and the Landscape Committee's recommendation;

Benefits:

- *When given a proper foundation, pavers have proven stable and do not have any gaps for weeds or uneven edges (which was our initial concern)
- *A hard surface increases usage of pool by accommodating more people for socialization and number of pool chairs
- *Pavers are now available that remain cool in the sun
- *Pavers will prevent future plant maintenance and replacement
- *Pavers will help eliminate some of the bugs that lived in the underbrush
- *It will provide some much needed shade by allowing chairs to be moved under the palm trees.

Therefore the Landscape Committee recommends to:

- *Remove all the dead and dying Bougainvillea at the Pool
- *Repurpose the Jasmine ground cover by transplanting it to other areas of the property that have poor plant performance
- *Ask the Board to approve funds from either replacement or reserves for total project cost.

Submitted,

Respectfully

Kathy Luce