

9 March 22

GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING

The committee met for an informal gathering at Jan Nelson's on Wednesday March 9. Members present were Kevin Blair, Chet Penta, Linda Roberts, Abel Alday and Jan Nelson

Ray Pena our Landscaper was there to answer and advise

Topics addressed:

1. Gleaning and trimming of Citrus trees which will take place end of March. Forms are out and returning. We now have a hook that enables us to reach the higher branches. It is kept next to the wheelbarrow by Barb Hines.
2. Painting Project: Scheduled to begin in October at corner of Omega and 128th. We will need to possibly assist in helping to clear unused wires from the side of houses and other items. Closer to the start time we will check and see what needs to be done that we can help with.
3. Rocks – The larger rocks on 125th street were redone by a group of us a couple years ago and now we need to do the ones on corner of Omega and Prospect and 128th. Mostly the larger rocks need to be brought up to surface as many are buried. Also, once the painting is done there will need to be small rocks replaced under overhangs for many of our homes. Many of the sages along the sidewalk also need rock.
4. Shrubs – Along the front brick walls the shrubs are mostly original and are starting to look bad. We need to start replacing them. Right now, there are no shrubs in front of Dale and Barb's house. Also, in front of the Cousins they need to be replaced. Plan to do this after finish painting. We discussed instead of the 5 or 6 we only do 3 in front of the wall. This would save on water and look neater. WE will need to plan to replace others perhaps doing a few a year. WE have replaced all the shrubs that were bad along the garages.
5. Bubblers And sprinklers – Sprinklers run every 4th day. Bubblers every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Discussed cutting back more on the Greenbelt over the summer. Last year we went to every 5th day but kept the front every 2nd day so stayed greener. Our Bermuda grass really grew last summer from the heat. Ray told us Bermuda can go every 7 days before it needs water. The trees need water especially new ones and citrus trees. WE will look at this more as the days warm up and make a decision.
6. Trees and removal of large Pine trees were a large part of our discussion. Several who have the large pine trees want them removed. A policy was passed a number of years ago by the board that if the owner wants their tree out because of the potential for damage to sewer system or house that the association will pay a stipend of \$300. Several of our owners do not want those trees out as we have a policy to not remove live trees.

It was pointed out that Pine trees do not add much to the environment as leafy trees do. The owner is required to pay for sewer replacement and a camera to look at the

sewer. Therefore, they should have the right to remove their tree if they want to. Ray pointed out that there have been some large irrigation pipe fixes by the one in front of Sutherlands. Also, he told us to take a look at the front lawns of the two homes on an irrigation timer and see how the pine trees take twice as much water and still the grass does not look nice. The pine tree in front of Sannerud by cul de sac is not a natural pine to Arizona. It looks very straggly and was to have been removed several years ago but the owner stopped it. It needs to come down and a nice shrub planted there.

When all the trees have leafed out, we will assess for dead limbs and get an estimate on removing them. This is our year to do the major trimming but we need to also get an estimate on that and make a decision if we need to wait a year because of our painting. Some of the trees are shading Solar Systems and do need to be trimmed.

7. Bare spots in our lawn especially in Greenbelt. They are mostly caused by roots from the large trees. Those roots take so much water the grass does not have enough to grow. At Ray's suggestion the committee voted to have RAY add some sprinklers to the bare spot behind Spicers and see if that will allow the grass to grow. Another suggestion was to add some islands of shrubs over those areas along with some bubblers. We have no estimate of the cost of this project.
8. We will remove that plastic box by Barb Hines as not doing the irrigation repairs anymore and store what equipment we need with some members. It is cracked in many places and harbors Rats.

Submitted by Jan Nelson