

# LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 8, 2022

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

II. It was confirmed that the meeting had been properly noticed.

III. A quorum was established with the attendance of committee members Becky Kutska, Dona Lasseter, and Angela Potter. Angela moved with unanimous approval that Mike Jacobs be permitted to attend remotely, but his cell connection was unstable, and he was only able to participate sporadically. Also, in attendance were Rizzetta Field Services Manager, John Toborg; ArtisTree Account Executive, Tim Drumgool; General Manager, Steve Dietz; and Executive Assistant, Mary Paige Huisman.

IV. The draft of the minutes from the 6/3/2022 meeting was reviewed. Following discussion, Becky Kutska moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Angela Potter, and unanimously approved.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS: No members of the public were present, but resident comments received by committee members since the last meeting were discussed. These were primarily related to areas that ArtisTree seemed to have overlooked (e.g., tall weeds on retention pond banks and overgrown hedges in some cul-de-sacs). Tim was reminded that the cul-de-sac hedges should be of uniform shape and kept at 5 feet in height, except for Portside Terrace and Restoration Terrace, which are to be maintained at a height of 3 feet.

## VI. CDD BOARD REPORT

- A. The Board is still in favor of the first stage of the Bird Island project (removing the dead tree and removing most of the epiphytes from the living Live Oak tree).

VII. JOHN TOBORG REPORT: Please see the Landscape Inspection Report dated 6/29/2022 for complete details. In addition to comments elsewhere, specifically discussed at this meeting were:

- A. The areas outside the Mossy Branch gate are again very overgrown and need to be addressed at every ArtisTree site visit.
- B. Turf health continues to be a concern in several areas.
- C. Many areas are becoming very weedy and appear not be receiving attention at regular intervals (outer perimeter of roundabout, tree rings, berms, retaining walls, edging, etc.).
- D. Cul-de-sacs are not uniform, and some are not pruned according to residents' specifications. (See Section V.)
- E. ArtisTree crews are not always removing debris such as fallen fronds. There seems to be a "not my job" mentality by some, which Tim will address.
- F. Bitter Melon and other vines are evident in many locations and need to be removed regularly.
- G. Palms at small "T" intersection of Foggy Morn and Portside Terrace need fertilizer.
- H. Natural ("wetland") areas are encroaching public areas and some are being overrun by vines, etc. This should be monitored and addressed regularly to maintain a safe and attractive community.

## IX. ARTISTREE REPORT

- A. Annuals: The newest rotation of annuals has been installed. Steve confirmed that the variety of Heartbreaker was what we requested. We needed about 500 more than ordered, which Tim said he acquired at ArtisTree's expense. As a plant pathologist, Nancy weighed in before the meeting that some annuals are planted too close to the curb and the pattern in some areas is erratic, both potentially causing future problems with plant health and appearance. Dona also

asked that the white plastic tags not be placed in the soil when the annuals are planted, i.e., *throw them away*. It was noted that the last rotation was removed on the day of this this installation rather than allowing a couple of weeks between removal and installation so that AT can spray soil to eradicate weeds. Steve noted that prior to the next rotation, the adjacent curbs and swales will be power washed, and the beds will need to be empty to avoid chemical damage. We also asked that Tim have future annual beds sloped (stadium appearance) at the time of installation which means adding soil at rear of beds. Given how poorly the last Sunpatiens performed and Tim's comments regarding his experience with Sunpatiens at other locations, Dona encouraged Tim's and John's inputs during discussion of future annual selections.

- B. The next detail pass is scheduled for 7/18. Now that the same crew is also working The Villas, Tim may be reversing the order in which each area is scheduled. Tim was also reminded that the public space behind the berm needs to be included.
- C. The Arbicola between Rainbow Court and the back gate are scheduled to be installed on or about 8/17.
- D. Installation of the Plumbago and Alamanda along Upper Manatee River Road (UMRR) will occur on or about 8/3. Killing the jasmine and weeds may take a couple of passes, and Tim will start this process in the next week or so. Steve will oversee this project.
- E. The failing Simpson's Stopper along UMRR will be removed on or about 8/3 and replacements will be installed in conjunction with the Plumbago and Alamanda.
- F. The hedge along the south wall was being pruned at the time of the meeting. John Toborg noted that the west wall needs attention, too.
- G. Tim was asked to remove the weeds growing in the block edging adjacent to the Foxtail Palm at the northernmost monument of the main entrance.
- H. The Paurotis Palm at Big Bass cul-de-sac needs pruning, was missed in the latest pruning pass. Per John Toborg, only remove the dead material and remove nothing between the 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock positions. This will be done in September.
- I. Storm damage cleanup was reviewed. According to the contract, special provisions can be made with ArtisTree only after named storms at a per-hour price. Otherwise, storm debris will be removed at regular visits.

#### X. CHAIRMAN UPDATE

- A. Bird Island: Since the last committee meeting, Steve received a more detailed proposal from Ameri-Tree that is more expensive than the original. John Toborg will speak with Blake to clarify and ask for a revised quote. This project will be coordinated with the golf course closing after Labor Day.
- B. SE Corner: The "golf sign" has been removed, and committee members noted how much better the area already looks.
- C. Winding Stream berm update: See Section IX.C.
- D. Ameri-Tree's proposal for Hong Kong Orchid Tree pruning was reviewed. By their count, there are 11 of these trees, and at a total cost of \$2,085 (\$189.55 per tree). The committee members would be in favor of moving forward. Steve will confirm the count.
- E. Steve will see that residents are sent an email regarding projects adjacent to their properties.

#### XI. GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE

- A. Proposed projects for our two-year plan were ranked as follows:

1. Modify irrigation system to optimize coverage of areas with different needs (e.g., annuals versus turf) (9 points). This may qualify for water conservation grants/funding opportunities for which Steve has already scheduled a meeting with a state representative.
  2. Restore/Restake Bougainvillea in roundabout (18 points).
  3. Visual abatement enhancements for UMRR north and south (32 points).
  4. Phase 2 of Live Oak trimming (32 points).
  5. Renovate Winding Stream berm from Rainbow Court to Winding Stream gate (35 points).
  6. Edging for mulch retention at medians and flower beds (36 points).
  7. Map community irrigation system (40 points).
  8. Up lighting at median endcaps at junction with roundabout (43 points).
  9. Supplement median islands and perennial beds (45 points).
  10. SE corner back gate visual enhancements (47 points)
  11. SE corner monument (49 points).
  12. Enhancement of Discovery "eyebrows" (54 points).
  13. Landscape lighting in Waterlefe Boulevard between UMRR and gatehouse (56 points).
  14. Plant tree on Bird Island, including irrigation ?? (59 points)
  15. Refurbish remaining five cul-de-sacs (60 points).
  16. Enhance fountain on pond #2 (78 points) – second half of second year.
  17. Landscape golf course parking lot (80 points) – after golf course is done.
  18. Add benches throughout the community (82 points).
  19. Welcome sign at Heritage Harbor (86 points). Though this was prioritized last, it is such a small project that will be "such a nice touch" we agreed it should be done without further ado.
- B. 22-23 Budget Discussion: These projects will be researched as to process and cost for discussion and final vote at our next meeting.

**XII. LIASON COMMENTS:** Tom Tosi was not present.

**XIII. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Dona let us know that she will be recommending Vinca as the annual to follow the Petunia we have selected for the winter/holidays.
- B. We are leaning toward establishing and publishing a regular monthly meeting specifically for the purpose of developing a community grounds manual. This will be done in conjunction with the usual posting of the meeting schedules.
- C. Angela presented thoughts on how to increase ArtisTree's crews' attention to detail in our community. We recognize that to them it is just a job to be done as quickly as possible, whereas we have an ownership stake, and showing our appreciation is always appropriate. Discussed were topics, such as offering ArtisTree crewmembers a Gatorade type drink or water when they are in Waterlefe or host an ArtisTree Appreciation Day. Steve suggested we discuss this with Tim.

**XIV.** Committee members were reminded to check CDD e-mail on a regular basis.

**XV.** The Sunshine Law was reiterated to committee members.

**XIV.** The next Landscape Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 12, 2022.

**XVI.** Dona Lasseter moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Angela Potter, and unanimously approved at 4:43 p.m.