

MINUTES from CDD Landscape Committee Meeting, Friday, December 1, 2017

Attending: Dona, Nancy, Karen, Angela, Tom & Mike; Bill Strollo as CDD liaison, John Crawford from Rizzetta, & Maria from ArtisTree

Dona called the meeting to order at 2 P.M. Minutes from November meeting were approved.

Bill reminded Committee about the Florida Sunshine Law.

Maria presented options for next round of annuals for the spring and summer. By making selections now, specific plants can be grown for our needs at a cost savings. Nancy believes current flowers, petunias, will hopefully last through March, so that's the target time for replacement. We have a few petunias left over, so they will be planted to fill in a few gaps and replace outgoing Pentas next week. The cost for this plant rotation of annuals is under the CDD approved \$5500 budget by approximately \$2200.

After much discussion, our committee selected a mix of peach and yellow Purslanes for the beds in front of the Guardhouse, probably 4 1/2" to 6" plants. Front entrance and island end caps will have Sunpatiens. Dona and Maria will look for a color that complements the peach & yellow Purslanes. Committee authorized Dona to make the final color decision.

Elephant Ears in The Circle will be transplanted to a new location next week, with four going in the median along Waterlefe Blvd.

Dona noted that the island at Discovery and Misty Pond is looking bad. The area needs additional Asiatic Jasmine and another row of Arbcolas behind the annuals. Dona and Maria will inspect the site after the meeting and ArtisTree will provide a quote.

People seem to have liked the lighting display that was done at the front entrance and south along Upper Manatee River Road, but general consensus is that more illumination is needed. The display was merely an example of how new lighting would look compared to our existing lighting. We will get a quote from ArtisTree that will take the lighting from UMRR through the main entry to the guardhouse; plus a second quote that will include lighting in the median just past the main entry gates to Sand Crane. At John Crawford's suggestion, we will need to dead head wiring to the area north of the entrance along UMRR, rather than completely wire it now. John indicated that the Board's long term plans (which preceeded the existing committee members) include new landscaping along that stretch, so any lighting we do now would have to be replaced later.

Karen has a quote for power washing and repainting the two monuments at the front entrance. Quote was \$650. She's going to contact the painter again about adding a couple of other areas to the project. The current company has not been very responsive, so we may need to find another company unless that changes.

Junipers along Winding Stream Way between back gate and Rainbow Court look terrible. Committee decided to have them removed altogether and have mulch applied. Eventually, committee hopes to replace all Junipers throughout the community.

Committee also decided to add a few more Bougainvilleas to match existing ones inside and outside back gate.

John updated us on his most recent field inspection. Highlights include: replacement of 18 dead Viburnums along south wall near Mossy Branch. He recommended 15 gallon plants, but Nancy and Bill favored 7 gallon plants. Group decided on 7 gallon, in part because of a \$900 savings. Project will cost \$1,566 for 18 plants, including removal of dead Viburnums. Also, some other Viburnums that are struggling will be cut back to 5 feet and fertilized to help them fill out. Residents in affected area will be notified. Plus a few more plants will be added to the southeast corner of the property to fill in an area where the wall is completely exposed.

John was asked to assess ArtisTree's performance. He said they did a good job initially, but he felt things had slacked off recently. Specifically, he expressed concerns about a lack of attention to detail in areas such as weed control and shrub and tree trimming. He noted that those things should be getting done now since the mowing schedule has been cut back during the fall and winter. John will contact Scott, our account executive (AE) at ArtisTree, to make sure the work is being done properly and according to the contract. Maria was receptive and said she would also discuss those concerns with her managers.

The committee also expressed its frustrations with the designer on the Circle project. Maria apologized for any mix-ups and said we could work with a different ArtisTree designer on future projects. Dona mentioned that she continues to receive unsolicited praise for our committee's work on the roundabout circle.

Mike Jacobs made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom King seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

Next meeting is scheduled for 2 P.M. on January 5, 2018.