

Landscape Committee Minutes

12/12/11

Meeting started at 1:00. Members present were Roz Warner, Ellie Krasow, Joyce Reiff, Ron Curtis, Linda Jesel, and Ishrut Barjer. John Toborg from Rizetta was also present.

The committee was updated regarding the poor condition of Laurel Oaks causing several tree specialists to be consulted. It has previously been determined that the Laurel Oaks planted were not top quality trees and that many of them were diseased. Also after eleven years, much of our landscaping has grown old and needs to be replaced and updated.

Bids were requested from landscape architecture firms. Members of the Landscaping committee toured work done by these architects. We suggested Simply Verde and it was subsequently approved by the CDD Board after doing all of the necessary bidding requirements.

At the last CDD meeting, Simply Verde presented first renderings and addressed her plans. Part of her job is landscaping, irrigation, lighting and demolition. She is in contact with Manatee County to make certain our new plans comply with county regulations.

The committee members reviewed the rendering and input from Simply Verde in depth.

- That plants used will be Florida friendly.
- Phase the laurel oaks to different trees i.e. ranch oak, magnolia.
- Part of Waterlefe Blvd has trees between street and sidewalk. Remove. Replant on far side of sidewalk.
- Put groupings of flowering trees along UMR.
- Use of grasses and different shades of green
- Maintain sign at entrance but change lighting – make it more condensed and concentrated. More interest on lighting i.e. the groups of flowering trees, crepe myrtles, south end of property.

The Committee agreed with the rendering and wanted Simply Verde to consider

- The flowering trees should be ones that bloom early on the year possibly Hong Kong Orchid
- No Canary or Washtonian palms or pines. Consider Royal Palm or Bismarck
- Consideration of large dog population when selecting ground cover
- Use of LED lighting because of lower electricity, maintenance, and replacement costs
- Liked use of magnolias and colors
- Coordination of the plantings, trees

The Committee divided up the areas being considered by Simply Verde and voted on the order in which the areas should be replanted. In order, they are as follows:

1. UMR South From SW end of property to entrance monument.
2. Entrance around the two existing monuments
3. Waterlefe Blvd from entrance through the guardhouse
4. Circle

The remaining areas were tied so it would be at Simply Verde and CDD's discretion

5. Waterlefe Blvd from guardhouse to Discovery
6. Waterlefe Blvd from Discovery to circle
7. UMR North from entrance monument to NW end of property (wooden bridge)

Meeting adjourned at 2:45.

Rosalyn Warner

Supervisor