

Grounds Committee Report, November 2019

The Grounds Committee met on Wednesday, October 30th, at the Clubhouse. Six members met.

- 1) Community Clean-up Day was a success and we would like to recognize and thank everyone who attended. Nine people attended and were busy cleaning up garden beds, weeds, sticks and trash. Thank you to Brandon who was onsite and gathered the full Lawn and Leaf bags and disposed of them properly. A suggestion was made due to the findings of trash (a shoe, napkins, plastic bottle, and bottle caps), in front of the 7412 building, that perhaps the hired building cleaners or onsite-maintenance staff could keep an eyes on all condo entrances, etc., to make sure trash does not accumulate in these high-traffic areas.
- 2) Discussion of the sidewalk areas between the 7318 and 7316 occurred. For several days a lot of leaves littered them. It was the same week that Reliable Lawn Care had a mechanical failure which resulted in delay of picking up leave around the grounds. We discussed, then, and in future scenarios, if the need arrives, to have some maintenance assistance to blow them off.
- 3) Dorothy responded to a concern about one newly planted Hydrangea Trees, on Louisiana. Grounds Committee Member, Vivian, felt it may be tipping. On October 28th, Dorothy did stake the lean and will reassess it next Spring. She also indicated it was planted correctly. Trees planted too deeply develop Stem Girdling Root Syndrome, which makes them prone to early death as their roots strangle the trunk. Primary roots must be planted just below the soil surface, which is what I did when I planted it last year, she said.
- 4) Natures Garden finished the shrub pruning on the afternoon of October 28th. A few really dead shrubs were removed, as well as a Juniper, in front of 7409. She was provided with a map with recommendation and input from the Grounds Committee. Areas that were pruned included walkways, obvious sucker problem on trees, where some shaping was needed or branches had died. Other places included where growth interfered with windows or doors, or brick siding. Areas that were not pruned included those where viburnums, ninebark, hydrangea and lilacs exist as

most of those shrubs have already formed flowers for next year. She did not want to remove our spring-summer flower display. Also, for cost saving measures, limited to no pruning was done in areas where tentative 2019 and 2020 Projects will take place, including the South Side Condominiums and Interior Courtyard between the Townhomes and Condos.

- 5) Condo Courtyard maintenance was discussed. Many members recognized the need for improvement - Spring of 2020. Ideas included cutting down the hydrangeas earlier in the year, the need for new mulch, etc.
- 6) Committee members were in favor of adding a seasonal tree-toppers at eight entrances of the condos, where current pots exist. They were purchased from Costco and placed into pots, by staff. An open invitation for committee members to add additional decorations, to the toppers in front of their own building, was agreed to. Future years may include adding more tree-toppers in other areas of the association. Enjoy!
- 7) Comment boxes have been placed in the condo laundry rooms, along with an invitation to owners to add their opinions, ideas and interests on current and future landscape matters. It's working! We would like to continue this for another month or so.