

Turtle Rock Retention Pond Committee Meeting Minutes June 10, 2020, 10:00 am, Zoom

Members present:

Melody Barackman, Chair (mbarackman@gmail.com)

Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary (mmvanschouwen@gmail.com)

David Bryan, Turtle Rock Board of Governors Liaison (governor1@myturtlerock.com)

Curt Gilroy (curtgilroy@gmail.com)

Douglas Smith (smithdrjm@verizon.net)

Ed Olson, Manager (edward@sunstatemngement.com)

The committee confirmed that the Board of Governors reviewed the Pond Committee Implementation Plan during its June 2 meeting. The Board approved the 2020 portion of the plan.

Ed Olson stated that the pond flyer has been emailed to Turtle Rock homeowners. Turtle Rock's email list includes 758 addresses (some homes have two email addresses on file). Of the 758 emails sent, 462 (61 percent) were opened. The committee is concerned that we may not have reached every pond owner with this actionable information.

To help assure all pondside homeowners see the flyer, the committee is initiating a plan to print pond flyers, plus a brief cover letter (potentially from Board President Russ Gil or Manager Ed Olson, TBD). Michelle van Schouwen will draft the letter. Letter and flyer will be inserted in an envelope to be delivered to each pondside home. The current plan is to place one envelope in each pondside home's mailbox's newspaper box (the box below the actual mailbox). Melody is checking into how many and which homes are adjacent to ponds. Costs and timing will be determined, with Melody taking the lead.

The committee proposes using some/all of the \$4,000 available in the 2020 budget to introduce aquatic plants in a model pond for homeowners to see. We determined that Pond 9, on the corner of Nice Way and Turtle Rock Blvd., is an excellent candidate. It already has the grass buffer behind homes, so the addition of aquatic plants will fulfill much of the long-term objective for a reduced-erosion, sustainable pond environment. David and Ed will request an estimate from Aquagenics, and will determine the best time for installing transplanted aquatic plants into Pond 9.

As follow-up to the June 2 Board meeting, the Committee identified several tasks, including:

-Getting budget estimate for pondside erosion restoration by square foot; estimate from Howell Concrete and Land Service, which was the low bidder and offered best methodology for recent work (David/Ed). We note that erosion restoration will likely be a 6-8 year process, because of the expense; pricing will be a first step in planning the process. To date, money has not been reserved for a shoreline restoration project.

-Checking additional tilapia removal options. The first vendor contacted was a small, slow operation that takes only 500 lbs. of fish per visit. (Ed)

-In addition, David and Ed will solicit pricing from Aquagenics for planting all ponds with designated aquatic plants in accordance with the Pond Committee Report, Charter and Implementation Plan, for 2021 budget planning.

Melody, who is a CPA, mentioned that she may be willing to support the process of planning a reserve budget and working with the Finance Committee.

The committee reviewed Curt's suggestion to add an item to the Implementation Plan describing monitoring and control of aquatic plants, including ongoing review of 1) the proportion of plant material to pond size and 2) need for control of invasive plants. (The committee's intent, stated in its final report, includes emphasizing mechanical removal over chemical control as much as is feasible; however, we agreed that this does not need to be included as detail in the Implementation Plan.) The committee agrees that Melody will add a short item to the 2020 section of the Implementation Plan.

Two individuals had, prior to our last meeting, asked to join the Pond Committee. Melody had requested bios and information on how they wish to contribute. She has not heard back. The committee agrees that one more follow-up with the prospective members may constitute sufficient outreach.

Melody will draft, circulate and submit an article for the Turtle Rock newsletter, and will propose that the flyer also be included in the upcoming issue. Curt and David will provide photos to accompany the newsletter article. Newsletter deadline is June 15.

We will schedule our next meeting shortly. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Action items summary:

- Draft cover letter for pondside owners' under-mailbox flyer: Michelle*
- Investigate flyer printing, envelopes, and addresses of pondside homeowners: Melody/team*
- Get estimates from Aquagenics for 1) planting Pond 9, 2) planting all ponds (2021), and 3) mechanical vs. chemical focus for invasives removal: David/Ed*
- Get budget estimate for pondside erosion restoration by square foot; estimate from Howell Concrete and Land Service: David/Ed*
- Checking additional tilapia removal options: Ed*
- Add item to the Implementation plan describing monitoring aquatic plants: Melody*
- Follow up with two committee applicants: Melody*
- Draft/circulate/submit ponds newsletter article, to be accompanied by photos/flyer: Melody*
- Take shoreline/pond photos for TR newsletter: Curt/David/team*

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary
June 13, 2020