

POINT LOMA ASSOCIATION - Beautification Committee Meeting
August 4, 2009

Members Present: Ron Brooks, Jodie Bruhn, Karen Davis, Cecilia Carrick, Stan Nadel, and Klonie Kunzel.

Chair **Ron Brooks** opened the meeting at 8:10 AM at the San Diego Yacht Club.

Budget: **Jodie** reported that the proposed budget, which was submitted to the PLA Board requesting \$25,790 to cover annual costs, has not been officially approved. A long term maintenance reserve CD in the amount of \$14,000 was also requested as a mechanism to pay for future maintenance requirements. Justification for the reserve for long range needs is as follows:

1. **Trees:** We have 100-150 trees in the Village. They were last trimmed by PLA in 2003 at a cost of \$7000. Since then the City has trimmed them two different times. We are hearing from Drew Potocki that there are no more funds for this service. Consequently, we strongly urge PLA to put aside sufficient funds for this project. Since 2003, the trees have grown much larger and prices have escalated. Therefore we recommend a minimum of: **\$12,000 for tree trimming and maintenance**

2. **Service truck:** Currently the association is using the old Hugh Story truck each week for hauling brush to the dump. This aging truck is invaluable and absolutely necessary for maintaining all PLA projects. We have no idea how long it will last and/or how long Mrs. Story will make it available to us.

Truck replacement cost: unknown (will consider trailer as replacement)

This past month, \$30.64 of the proposed budget was reported as spent.

Discussion Topics:

1. **Community Connections:** **Jim Miller of Mower Unique** has our appreciation and thanks after he offered Mean Green the services of his trailer to remove large hauls of greenery and then made good his offer by doing a same day removal of a chopped up tree on Nimitz West. He is a life long Point Loma resident who is giving back to his community.
2. **Newsracks/Winchell's Corner:** **Ron** reported that there are now only 4 racks, down from 9, adjacent to Winchell's. **Celeste** contacted Robert Vacchi this past week for a progress report and learned that the remaining literature is from the *City Beat*, *LA Times*, *Union-Tribune* and *Déjà vu Showgirls*. It was also learned that the city is working with a recycler who may be willing to remove illegal boxes.
3. **Longs/ CVS Property:** This vacant building, at 3210 Rosecrans, has become an eyesore and health hazard with trash, human waste, graffiti, weeds and even a homeless camp in the back. CB Ellis is the property manager but has been unresponsive to our requests to clean up the area. The police and Code Compliance have been notified of the problem. Robert Vacchi has referred the case to Paul Elias, Senior Inspector for Code Compliance. **Ron** has made contact with Clark Realty, manager of the adjacent military housing and learned that they are aware of the issue. Efforts will be made to make progress on cleanup before Dewey School, also adjacent to the property, opens next month.
4. **Graffiti Strike Force:** **Cecilia** recently met with a new group created to keep Ocean Beach graffiti and litter free. Their POC is Jon, and he can be reached at nomorelitternomoretagging@gmail.com.
5. **Nimitz Onramp Landscaping/\$5000 Donation:** **Jodie** reported that the irrigation is now in and working. According to Moises, the soil was so hard that 2 trench diggers were broken in the process. Mulch delivery and planting are expected this week. 2 Jacarandas and 3 Canary Island Pines were provided through Drew Potocki, and at no cost to PLA, by SDG&E. Dan Bohnett, the SDG&E Area Forester, purchased and delivered the trees on the same day that they were requested.
6. **Shovels to City College – Seeds at City Urban Farm:** After it was learned that there was a need, five of our surplus shovels were cleaned up and donated to the Seeds at City Urban

Farm on July 14 by **Ron, Jodie** and **Karen**. This is a non-profit educational program to encourage sustainable farming. seedsatcity.com

7. Cañon Street: **Jodie** met with Moises about watering the trees along the Cañon Street trail. He stated that watering these trees is no longer necessary. Some of the trees may not survive, but most are well established and should do fine. Additionally, progress has been made by **Burch** to locate the new Weed Abatement Program manager. He is Jim Tarbert (jtarbert@sandiego.gov), and he has been friendly and helpful in our effort to have the weeds removed along Cañon. Our project has been assigned a certification number. Now, we are awaiting funding.
8. Catalina Street Trees: **Klonie** indicated that the recently planted Jacaranda trees on Catalina are still in need of water. **Jodie** will contact Moises to be sure that they are still on his water list.
9. Request for Memorial Tree: It is anticipated that a PLA Board committee will be formed to determine if we want to have a PLA memorial tree program.
10. San Antonio Street Water and Sewer: **Ron** received a call from Kay North about the sewer and water construction underway by Orion. She indicated that the company along with its leader, Dennis, is doing an excellent job of keeping disruption of the neighborhood to a minimum.
11. Tennyson Triangle Water Bill: The water bill for Tennyson is again very high – 142% higher than our last water bill. With some help from Drew Potocki, a water conservation survey has been scheduled for this site. Moises was also contacted, and he will modify the irrigation system to reduce water usage.
12. Nimitz/Poe/Capistrano – Carolyn Kutzka: Moises expressed concern that some of the plants at this site were unrooted cuttings that are unlikely to survive. He is providing water to the site.
13. Signage for the Truck: Two new signs were obtained by **Cecilia** and are now in use on Mean Green work days.
14. Soto Tool Shed and Grounds: Special thanks go to Bill Kettenburg for weed whacking his way through the Soto grounds. The size of the weeds and heat of the day made it a big project.
15. Projects Awaiting Action:
 - Adopt-a-Highway – Nimitz corridor from Tennyson to Pork Chops (Ron)

Reminders:

- PLA Membership Meeting – August 7, First Friday each month, 2:15PM at the PL Community Bank
- PLA Board meeting – August 12 at the Bali Hai -- 7:30AM
- Concert Series – August 7, 14
- Peninsula Community Planning Board – Third Thursday each month, 6:30PM at the PL Library
- Debbie's Ice Cream Social -- September 1, 10AM at Dana School Parking Lot.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM. Please note that our next meeting will be 8AM, September 1, 2009 at the San Diego Yacht Club Board Room. To place items on the agenda, e-mail **Ron** at brooks1@cox.net.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Davis
Secretary

Mean Green Team Calendar

August 7	Dana School
August 14	Nimitz West
August 21	Pork Chops (plus a Jacaranda trim team)
August 28	Dewey School

Check weekly e-mail reminder sent every Wednesday or Thursday – There is a possibility that the location might be changed!!