

SANDESTIN OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Grounds Committee - Meeting Notes

September 28, 2020

Members Present: Bev Norment, Chair, Linda Carter, Susan Bowden*, Terry Cost, Fred Marks
(*present via web conference)

Others Present: Kyle Ray, Tom Cooper, Kylie Wilson,

Vendors: Nick Sears, Adrienne Stutz, & Taylor Thompson, Russell Landscape, Jason Chester, SavATree

August Meeting Notes

Notes were reviewed; no corrections were needed.

PROPERTY SERVICES REPORTS

Rose Removal

Kyle showed photos of declining roses along Sandestin Blvd. S. noting that they were previously transplanted from the North Gate. Tom requests these be removed and replaced with turf for a cleaner look. Nick advised that the decline is due to the salinity and humidity. Tom requested a proposal to replace the declining roses on Sandestin Blvd. N. and S with Zoysia. <ACTION>

Reclaim Water – Update

Kyle advised estimates for the reclaim water project have been received with the new pump costing approximately \$500K, which does not include construction documents, surveying, or incidentals. The design will also include a booster pump to tie into two existing 4” lines to help with current low-pressure issues. With this new pump station being added, it will allow redundancy within our irrigation system. For instance, if the Crystal Lake Pump Station goes down, this would be able to supply water to those areas while repairs are made.

Street Tree Utility Conflict

Kyle showed the members photos of the type of damage the mature street oak roots are causing on the infrastructure such as pipes and utility lines being pinched and sidewalks being lifted and cracked. He stated the ARB Guidelines require each home to have two street oaks, where possible. Tom reminded the members of the damaged irrigation lines and utilities that have been discovered during multiple SOA improvement projects. Bev stated this issue would only continue to worsen as time passes and something needs to be done now to protect the assets of Sandestin. Alternative replacement tree varieties with shallow root systems should be considered so these mature trees can be removed and replaced with less invasive types. Jason suggested root barriers be installed as sidewalks are replaced. Members suggested the irrigation pipes be cut into every 100’ and pressure tested to identify areas that need to be corrected first. Nick advised that although this is an option, it would be expensive. He suggested HydroScout scope the lines to locate pinched areas. Bev noted South Walton utility lines are often in similar locations as irrigation mainlines and that perhaps they have a plan to address this issue. He requested Kyle contact South Walton Utilities to discuss. Kyle will check with Hydroscout to see if they can scope the irrigation lines and speak with South Walton Utilities regarding future plans to correct root damage. <ACTION>

PROJECTS

- Kyle advised he is working on getting pricing for the covered benches.
- Russell Landscape has scheduled sidewalk repairs along Baytowne Ave. to be done by next month.
- Tom showed the members proposed new water features for the Troon traffic circle. He advised these designs were presented to the Board last week and they preferred the bowl style as opposed to the tower style. Members were receptive to the updated look for the fountain.
- Bev requested that Jason provide a quote to remove the underbrush located on the north side of Baytowne Ave between Administration Drive and the Prestwick entrance stating a golf cart parking pad could be added to this area. <ACTION>

VENDOR UPDATES

Nick Sears, Russell Landscape

- Reviewed the September OLM report, noting 90% complete even with storm recovery this month
- Plant material for Turnberry will be installed this week
- Entrances will be rye grassed this winter – no pre-emergent application
- Due to substantial rain received will be an increased amount of weeds popping up soon; additional spray applications to address this issue are scheduled.

Hwy 98 Buffer – Update

Russell Landscape provided two proposals for the Hwy 98 Buffer project. Additional proposals for the phased sections will be provided before the next Board of Directors meeting. <ACTION>

Seasonal Color – Winter Rotation

Adrienne Stutz and Taylor Thompson, Russell Landscape, reviewed the plant selection and designs for the Winter seasonal color rotation.

Tom Cooper requested color be added to the Crystal Lake entrance instead of all white as resented. Terry Cost agreed. Adrienne advised the all white design was chosen to mimic the Island Green entrance design, so it was not the only neighborhood along Baytowne Ave. with an all-white flower design. Adrienne will adjust the design as requested, replacing the white pansies with the Carolina mix pansies. <ACTION>

Members requested seasonal color plant selections and designs for the whole year be provided and approved once instead of quarterly. <ACTION>

Jason Chester, SavATree

- Storm clean up went well with one damaged tree at Lake Howard removed. He added there were trees that he expected to be damaged from the storm that was still intact. The members requested Jason identify ten trees that, in his professional opinion, should be removed and present them at the next meeting. <ACTION>
- Palms will begin to be booted October 1st in preparation for Christmas lights.
- Oak limbs are expected to droop from nut loads; many were already elevated higher to account for this expected additional weight.
- Tom pointed out that the palms on Sandestin Blvd. S was bending during the storm last week and asked Jason if there is a point from a safety perspective that SOA should consider replacement. Jason suggested replacing these palms to maintain a size that would avoid potential storm damage. Presently there are between 50-70 palms that should be considered for replacement due to their excessive heights. Tom stated this should be discussed further in future planning. <ACTION>

Sub-committee - Monarch Butterflies – Garden Locations – Update

Kyle advised that he, Kelly, Nick, and Adrienne met last month to identify potential locations for the butterfly gardens. Two locations to test the concept have been selected; one next to Howard Lake and the other next to the cart path on Club Drive at the Lake at 16. He advised that Adrienne will supply a list of the selected plant material for these testbeds. Bev noted that a comprehensive plan for the project is still needed and should include the cost of maintenance since these types of beds are outside of Russell Landscape's scope of work. <ACTION>

Next Meeting – Tentatively scheduled for October 12, 2020