4 January 2021

**Gardens of the Rio Grande Homeowners Association Board Meeting**

**Board Members Present**: Kim Fusselman, Marilyn Showalter, Gil Clarke, Jerry Simon, Chris Bigge

The Annual Meeting of Gardens on Rio Grande homeowners shall be postponed until after state restrictions are lifted due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. There is a proposal to increase penalties for late dues to $100; an increase requires approval by the Gardens membership.

Sidewalks in front of residences should be free from raised sections (trip hazards) that could result in trip and fall. Homeowners are responsible to correct any raised sections to prevent accidental tripping.

The February HOA Board meeting will be on Monday February 1 at 6:30 pm at 505 Cilantro Ln. Tentative Agenda: Treasurer’s Report, Landscape Report, Road Maintenance, Resident Concerns.

**Treasurer’s Report** (Jerry Simon)

 Bank Accounts (1/4/2021)

 Checking $45,826.26

 Landscape Checking 253.05

 **Operating Fund** $46,079.31

 Savings (Road Reserve) $56,870.23

 Road Reserve $56,870.23

 **Total All Accounts $102,949.54**

Upcoming Large Expenditures: Road Crack Filling and Road Sealing: $18,200

 5% Increase for Landscape Maintenance (John/Amado) starting January 2021.

***The Gardens HOA Board unanimously approved the Road Maintenance Proposal. Gaylord Paving will be scheduled for the crack filling and road sealing.***

Attempts to discover city plans for the BioPark that could impact Garden Roads (Laguna Seca/Aloysia) were unsuccessful. The Gardens will move forward with essential road maintenance and will deal with the city when a situation arises.

An amended 2021 Proposed Budget changes Road Maintenance expense to $18,200 and increases the projected 2021 HOA budget deficit ($10,090).

**Landscape Report** (Dave Herstedt)

Amado & John (A &J) performed all regular landscape duties for December. Much of the work consisted of debris cleanup. A great deal of time and effort was spent on dirt placement and completion of the phase 3 guard rail system leading into the SCA. Phase 4, a 16 to 24 foot entrance leading down into the SCA, will be accomplished after Nico’s swimming pool project is completed.

Specific work at the SCA entrance guardrail project included:

* DEC 11 Nico’s contractor used a Bobcat to place dirt where needed behind the railroad cross ties and brick wall at the SCA entranceway project. This eliminated the need for A & J to move a large amount of dirt manually. The contractor kept his promise of moving the dirt for which we are grateful.
* DEC 17 A two man auger was rented from Highland Rental to bore 7 large 16 inch holes for placement of the 6 x 6 inch guardrail posts. A & J picked up the auger, drilled the holes for the vertical posts, and then returned the auger.
* DEC 18 A &J purchased additional lumber for the SCA entranceway project from Lowe’s. They precisely installed (plumb and level) 7 vertical 6” x 6” posts for the guard rail system. It was a time consuming effort that gives a very professional uniform appearance.

The project has increased the width and hardening of the entranceway and ensures a much safer entranceway. All residents or anyone entering and exiting the SCA are encouraged to stay close to the guardrail system. The open ditch must be left unguarded for MRGCD access and a guardrail system cannot be installed. As a community, we have fulfilled our commitment to safeguard the entrance to the SCA.

* DEC 24 A & J installed the top rails (4”X4”) and mid rails (2”x6”) with 6 1/2 “ lag bolts. This guardrail system is very substantial and solidly built.
* DEC 28 Dave purchased one bundle containing 10 - 4” 10’ long brown powder coated edging at Neumark Irrigation for pick up on DEC 31 by A & J.
* DEC 31 A & J installed the remaining 56 feet of edging (guardrail toe board) at the base of the guardrails. The top railroad cross ties required straightening by hand and shovel work. Linseed oil preservative was hand brushed onto the entire 128 feet of the guardrail system (A & J).

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Bigge 505 Cilantro Ln NW