

## TREE, BRUSH, NOXIOUS WEEDS AND VEGETATION COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES JULY, 21 2017

**CALL TO ORDER: 1:01PM**

**PRESENT:** Peggy Olds, Larry Raymer, Annette deLeest, Laura Frazier, Karen Pachman,

Guest: Gil Gonzales

**INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME:** Peggy Olds introduced all members and guests

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **June Minutes:** Draft June Minutes were circulated by e-mail to all committee members last week. Annette deLeest made a motion to adopt the June meeting minutes as corrected. Karen Pachman seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Laura will include in August Board materials.
- **Information/Education Outreach:** To help educate and inform all members of Surfside the committee agreed that a monthly article in the Weekender or other Surfside web locations would be beneficial. Committee members Peggy Olds and Pam Harris will be interviewing local arborists from Astoria to get information about tree care and maintenance. Larry Raymer will provide an article on identifying and treating Yellow Flag Iris, a noxious weed. The committee reviewed the Pacific County pamphlet on vegetation planting around septic drainfields and agreed this would valuable information to publish to start this effort. Karen will develop an introduction paragraph and work with Laura or Kimber to post this information in appropriate Surfside website locations to start the info/ed outreach program.
- **Complaint Process Outline:** Annette deLeest presented the final flow chart for the Committee review. Laura noted that a correction of number of days given after the warning letter to property owner is needed. Peggy will correct this and copies of the flow chart will be available in the business office for members, as well as for staff and trustee use. Laura will make sure that all staff understands this process. Peggy gave a big "thank you" to Annette for her excellent support in preparing this chart and the committee for working so diligently to come to a shared understanding of this complicated process. (See revised chart attached).
- **Member Request Follow-up:** Peggy had a follow-up meeting with Jeanne O'Dell, the member who requested improvements to Surfside website information on accessing building and tree height limitations on member parcels. She shared two options they created for the committee to consider: 1) a one-page handout describing the steps to access this information; and 2) create a single click graphic icon on the Surfside homepage that automatically takes members to the desired GIS overlay site on the Surfside website. Their recommendation to the committee is option "2". Peggy also contacted Mark Scott, a Surfside member who created the color-coded height restriction GIS overlay for Surfside. Mark suggested there might be several ways to approach this issue and was eager to help the committee create more website transparency and information access for Surfside members. Pursuing option 2 was unanimously approved by Laura and the entire committee. Peggy will meet with Mark and develop options for committee review/approval at the August meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS:

- **Tree Report/Discussion:** Laura presented her report for July 2017. Seventeen (17) new tree complaints were added to the twenty-four (24) existing complaints and nine (9) complaints were closed. We currently have thirty-two (32) outstanding tree complaints.
- **Yellow flag Iris:** Since we have an outstanding complaint regarding Yellow Flag Iris, Laura spoke with Jeff Nesbitt, Pacific County weed specialist. Unlike Gorse, which is a Class A noxious weed, Yellow Flag Iris is considered a Class B weed which the County does not respond to unless owner's request and pay for treatment. This is a very fast growing, poisonous plant that can spread quickly into our canals. Larry has a pamphlet about Yellow Flag Iris and will bring it to our August meeting. Laura reviewed the letter she sends to members when a complaint is received. The committee agreed is a very respectful, appropriate letter, giving members needed information to deal with the weed if found on private property. Thanks, Laura!
- **Other:** Complaint # 4862---Gil Gonzales requested further committee review of this complaint because of new information on the property boundary, and his belief that the trees were over height in an area along the south boundary of the property. Peggy, Karen, Larry and Gill returned to this property after the meeting and it was determined that a small clump of trees along the south property line are over height but it is very difficult to determine where the property boundary actually lays. Laura will send a complaint letter to the property owner and Peggy or Laura will discuss the small area of over height trees with the owner as necessary.

Complaint # 4796---The committee discussed the recent processing of this complaint. The owner has delayed action for several months and is now within the fine process. Laura received a request from the property owner to have the committee paint mark all the over height trees on her property. In addition, Peggy received a call from this property owner discussing the owners desire to sell the property. The committee has visited the site several times; the property is densely forested and virtually all trees are large and over height. A small brush pile was noted, but no significant trimming activity was apparent. Peggy and Laura detailed their interaction with this member, and shared with her that the committee members that investigated this week agreed it would not be appropriate for Surfside volunteers to mark tree because most of the trees on-site were over height and would introduce potential liability for Surfside. Peggy also relayed that she told the member that realtors do check with the Surfside office when a sale offer is made to provide information to potential buyers on open complaints on properties. The Member indicated to Peggy that she would take care of the complaint.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:10PM**

***Next meeting will be August 18, 2017, 1PM at the Surfside HOA office***

kp/po 7/22/17

# Tree/Brush Complaint Resolution

