

TREE, BRUSH, VEGETATION AND NOXIOUS WEEDS COMMITTEE

April 2, 2021

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm via conference call.

Present: Peggy Olds (Chair), Valerie Harrison, Ron Brumbaugh, Pam Harris, Diane Mangels, Tracy Lofstrom (Surfside Manager)

Introduction and Welcome: Peggy welcomed all members and staff.

Old Business:

--March, 2021 Minutes: The final March 2021 minutes were submitted and approved by the Board.

--Fire control work with Surfside EMC: Peggy met with EMC last month. The EMC will work to implement their list of actions. Both committees suggested the fire marshal be invited to speak at the Surfside Annual Meeting. The Tree Committee will continue to provide informational/educational materials for Surfside media outlets on fire control and offered to staff an informational booth at the annual meeting. Pam will research assistance available from the fire department for fire control on member properties.

--Compliance Automation: Tracy is reviewing two compliance software packages. She expects to decide on a software purchase by mid-April. She also expects to post the ad for a new compliance investigator by mid-April. Tracy discussed the work needed to populate the database of any software chosen. Committee feedback is to populate software with active cases first, put software to use, then as time allows, populate the historic database. Diane, Pam, Val and Peggy volunteered to help with data entry to avoid using staff time and save Surfside money.

--Moratorium: Tracy reviewed a Board discussion on a moratorium on proactive work only. Given the tremendous staff workload in the absence of a compliance officer, we continue to support a hold on proactive enforcement. Member complaints and escrow checks continue, but Tracy cautioned if large numbers of complaints are submitted, they will be held until staff and software are available to process.

New Business:

--Tree Report/Discussion: See attached summary report.

--Earth Day Activities: The committee will partner with the CRC to host a fall planting and plant exchange event. Tracy is researching plant discounts and pre-order/sales with local nurseries. Peggy previewed an Earth Day insert to be forwarded to Kimber/Mo for Weekender for next few weeks. Selections were made; Peggy will forward to staff for use.

--Member Contacts: Peggy mentioned contact with 3 members completing tree plans. Tracy discussed completion of long-standing Case 5309.

--Press Contacts: The group discussed potential contacts with local media or other outlets. Tracy explained all contacts for official response from Surfside should go through her or Gary Williams, Surfside Board President.

--Conflicts of Interest: Pam led a discussion on conflicts of interest and objectivity in compliance work. Staff or volunteers on the committee should consider recusing themselves if they are working on cases involving family or adjacent neighbors, or if they feel uncomfortable in any way being involved in any committee compliance cases. Peggy expressed an expectation that any committee member filing a complaint related to the Tree Committee work must also recuse themselves. The committee unanimously agreed with both conditions.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM

Next Meeting: Friday, May 7, 2021 at 1:00PM

APRIL 2021 TREE REPORT*

Prepared by: Peggy Olds, TBVN Chairperson

There were 51 New Cases and 17 cases closed February 3 – March 27, 2021.

32 = First Letter = L

0 = Second Letter = W

0 = Fine Letter = F

15 = Tree Plan = TP

0 = Referred to Attorney

2= Proactive

7= Escrow

42= Member Submitted

17 cases were closed during this period:

5773, 5783, 5784, 5794, 5641, 5530, 5528, 5186, 5586, 5646, 5234, 5822, 5811, 5743, 5650, 5782, 5524

14 cases are in fine status

Total (estimated) open cases = 177*

*Note: Amounts are best estimates due to the departure of the compliance inspector last month.