

Landscape Committee

10-08-2014

Walkabout with Warren Tichner, Willamette Landscape

Discussed Willamette tree trimming limitations. They are able to trim up a 15 foot height. High trimming needs to be addressed by an Arborist.

Discussed yellow tags placed around the complex:

- 1: The Board needs to make it clear to residents that the Board, in conference with Willamette Landscaping, will determine issues of pruning trees and shrubs around buildings, fences, walkways, etc.. The placement of 'yellow tags' is no assurance that individual homeowners wishes will be met.
  
2. The Board needs to make it clear to residents that the Board is the only entity authorizing Willamette concerning the work being done. Homeowners should not interrupt Willamette crews with requests or complaints.
  
3. Discussed the issue of removing dead and dying plants around the complex. Warren suggested not acting on that issue at this time. As Fall rains begin, most of the sickly shrubs will recover.
  
4. Discussed the Irrigation System. Considering the age of the existing system, is it in 'good enough' repair? Should it be replaced or continue to be repaired on an annual basis? Warren said he thought at this time, it is in fairly good working order, but would check further with their irrigation team.
  
5. Discussed the advisability of areas that could become 'color spots' plantings. This, in most areas would require additions to the irrigation system. Colorful plantings would greatly enhance our Community. We will continue working toward this plan.
  - a. Seasonal planting at the entrance
  - b. End of carport area at Building #8
  - c. Traffic circle
  - d. Seating area between Building #4 and #5: taking out existing cement pad and planting. Bench/benches, new plantings (roses) could be established if water could be routed to the area. Warren to check this out.
  - e. Placing/repairing metal benches at the West end of the complex, and possibly identifying other areas to place seating. We can all enjoy our outside space.
  
6. Discussed blowers and leaves. Fortunately, we live in beautiful surroundings. Unfortunately, the cost of this beauty is putting up with falling leaves, fir needles and their removal from the premises. This is an longstanding issue with many residents. My personal feeling about the leaves is: yes, they are messy: yes, more fall as soon as they are cleaned up; yes, they fill our gutters and downspouts. I believe that Willamette Landscaping does a decent job trying to keep our areas cleared. This is perhaps an issue that needs to be laid to rest.