

Raintree Lake Common Ground Meeting
February 11, 2014

The meeting was held at the Duck Pond Activity Center from 7:00-8:30pm

Present:

Rick Bird, 717 SW Admiral Byrd, 366-0161

Kathy Goldman, 5005 SW Raintree Circle, 537-0267

Jane Irwin, 5020 SW Raintree Circle, 537-5101

Sharon McCann, 3957 SW Starboard Ct, 623-3352

Sue Rusco, 4221 SW Homestead Ct, 591-3552

Replacement of landscaping plants and trees due to rosette and other reasons was discussed. Rich will contact Don Wood at Colonial Nursery to set up an appointment. Two dates mentioned are Tuesday Feb 17th and Friday Feb 20th. Don, Jane, Kathy, and Rich will tour the problem spots in Raintree. They will meet back at the Raintree office with Sharon, Roberta, Sue, and Rachelle (if available) to discuss plants for replacement.

The vision statement and five year plan was introduced. The finance committee letter of July 29, 2014 and the draft of the Pool Committee plan were used to explain the concept of vision and planning. The committee was tasked with thinking about the look and feel they wish to see when driving into Raintree Lake. A first draft of a vision statement will be made at the March meeting along with some bullet points of an action plan.

It was announced that the placement of the new flag poles was on hold until the office receives input from the city regarding improvements on Ward Road. Another thing to watch is google fiber installation, which has begun.

Rachelle will be invited to the March meeting to discuss a myriad of things the Common Ground committee should consider. Staff and the board are seeking guidance and vision. The more people who can study a problem and offer suggestions for solutions the better we will be. The committee would like Rachelle to explain what common ground is. Why Raintree View and Facilities are involved in common ground design and planting? Should this be a joint effort? Will we be considering Raintree Reserve common ground improvements?

A possible change in the day of the month Common Ground meetings are held was discussed. Rich, Sharon, and Sue shared they had another place they would be if not for the Common Ground committee meeting. Glenda Motely both spoke to Rachelle and dropped a note off at the Duck Pond to say she was interested in becoming a member but had another commitment. Rich will contact Glenda. The committee will ask Rachelle for alternate dates at the March meeting.

Kathy is lead on Yard of the Month. Finding a new nursery to partner with was discussed. Heartland and Creekside in Raymore were mentioned. Sue will contact Neva Mistretta (Bannister Nursery) Sunday to get a contact name for Heartland.

Rachelle might have a contact already. Kathy and Sharon will visit/call the Raintree office and get information from Rachelle and Karen (?) about the advertisement details and partnership that had been in place with Nick's Greenhouse Nursery. Nick should also be contacted. Did Rita ever talk to him about the fact that this arrangement would not be possible anymore because he was no longer open for the entire growing season? Kathy as lead and Sharon as board liaison will work on this together.

Rich is lead on Adopt A Tree program. He is about to contact the people who have applied for a new tree and check placement and commitment. Rich is also lead on benches and trash receptacles. He announced the placement of two new benches and mentioned that four are being stored at the maintenance building. He would like to keep those benches in storage and is looking forward to spring fieldtrips and committee input for placement. With regards to trash containers, it was noted that staff is having problems with residents regularly using some of them for dog waste. The bags are so heavy they are difficult to lift out. Rich has a solution in mind.

Rich is interim chair of the Common Ground with Sharon assisting. Neither Jane or Kathy can make that commitment at this time, so looking for new members is a must.

The committee is looking forward to field trips in the spring; there are many areas they hear about and want to see for themselves including Cheddington, the small ponds, irrigation problem spots that might be right for a rain garden solution and the established rain garden at Raintree View, and open areas that could use some interest and color.

A comment log will be put into the Common Ground notebook. Common Ground committee members will note the Name and comments of residents who compliment, make complaints, or offer suggestions. Any important concerns will be emailed or phoned into the office. Other comments will be logged at the Common Ground meeting and a copy will be sent to the office after the meeting. They would like the board to be copied on this log.

Discussion of the Regatta Islands was limited to acknowledging that the board and the residents want a change. What should be the look and how should it make you feel when you turn off the highway and enter Raintree Lake? We will develop a vision statement, study what is current in entrance design, and keep in mind the cost of maintenance and water. It is understood that Common Ground recommends a project and the Board of Directors approves it. Once approved it is the duty of the board to maintain that project at the original standards. The more it cost to maintain, the fewer new projects we can suggest.