

Raintree Lake Common Ground Meeting  
March 11, 2015

The meeting was held at the Duck Pond Activity Center from 7:00-9:00pm

Present:

Rich Bird, 717 SW Admiral Byrd, 366-0161  
Robert Dye, 5173 SW Raintree Pkwy, 623-9725  
Sharon McCann, 3957 SW Starboard Ct, 623-3352  
Roberta Prudden, 226 SW Raintree Drive, 537-5224  
Sue Rusco, 4221 SW Homestead Ct, 591-3552  
Toni Travalent, 4656 SW Soldier Drive, 806-7036

#### VISION STATEMENT

Work began on a vision statement. The mission statement of the Common Ground Committee was copied from the RLPOA website and the group decided to rewrite the mission statement. They are considering rewriting the second paragraph which calls for volunteers and describes what the Common Ground committee considers its priorities at the present time.

The mission statement was rewritten to read: The mission of the Common Ground Committee is to plan, protect, and execute projects that improve and enhance Raintree Lake Common Grounds in a way that respects and benefits our residents today and in the future.

Note: the vision statement and five year plan will be revisited at a later meeting of the Common Ground committee. Attached is a description of the difference between the mission and the vision statements; the five year plan is how to get from one to the other.

#### PLANTINGS:

A considerable amount of time was used discussing the different plants Don Wood suggested for various areas. It was decided that the priority was to be the 291 Monument. The committee thought a variety of shades of green (dark, light, variegated) evergreens including euonymus plus a dominant color should be included in the plan; the color of choice is red. What is needed is a picture and dimensions of the area and a further conversation with a designer. They also thought these plants could be tied to two soldiers and thought the designer could make suggestions. Sharon McCann is to call Don Wood to discuss this further.

The suggestion for 291 islands included adding a few grasses and taking out the last patches of mowable grass. The garden club is planning the Duck Pond Triangle. They received a gift certificate for landscaping from the city as a prize for winning the LS beautification contest. Roberta also negotiated a consultation on the long bed at the duck pond, which she will report on in the future. It was also suggested that Japanese Blood Grass be planted at Sapelo. (note attached on what will be done before the April Common Ground committee meeting)

### YARD OF THE MONTH

Nick was asked what had been decided last year about him providing gift certificates for Yard of the Month. He said most of the certificates were used in the spring and people saved them from previous years for spring planting. He intends to be open from April to the last day in June. Discussion ensued concerning keeping Nick, finding a different nursery or a supplemental nursery, and/or offering a half day pontoon rental as choices. Since Kathy was absent, a decision will be made at the April meeting to get the program ready to open in May. (note attached regarding conversation with Marsha Hosick)

### ADOPT-A-TREE

Rich handed out the list of trees to be planted this year. He has contact all the residents. There was one tree in the Villas that could only be replaced with a pine and that resident will decide this week. Planting is scheduled to begin in March. There are 21 trees including 2 snow crab, 2 redbud, 3 river birch, 9 sunset maple, 1 sugar maple, 3 red oak, and 1 pin oak. (note: the Villas resident agreed to a pine)

### MANAGER MEETING

Rachelle did not attend this meeting because she was involved with the common ground committee meeting with Don Woods. The committee is looking forward to another daytime meeting with her in the spring. They would like to see the Cheddinton drainage problem, visit the ponds and the point that need to be named, and also discuss how to work with facilities and Raintree View committees toward common goals.

### NAMING AREAS IN RAINTREE

The idea of naming the point where trees have been planted in memory of Raintree residents Serenity Point was introduced. The committee also realizes there are three ponds still to be named. Rich is writing something for the Shorelines to ask the residents to submit names for the ponds.

### NEW DAY FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Changing the day of the month Common Ground Committee meets was discussed. Both Rich and Sharon have other meeting they would rather attend on the second Wednesday of the month. Mondays were considered acceptable. Since Jane and Kathy were not present, a decision will not be made until next month. Toni and Roberta are considering joining the Common Ground Committee; they suggested daytime meetings. It was pointed out daytime meetings are discouraged because it limits the residents that can attend.

## Notes

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The difference between the mission and the vision statements; the five year plan is how to get from one to the other

<http://onstrategyhq.com/resources/topic/vision-statement/>

Mission Statements: What you're here to do

Your mission statement is a declaration of an organization's core purpose. A mission statement answers the question, "why do we exist?" They are essential for your strategic plan. Your mission statement needs to be easy to remember and it needs to provide actual direction. There's nothing worse than a mission statement that is just a jumble of business speak.

Once you have your mission figured out, you have the core that all of your objectives will be drawing their direction from. Your employees will know, "this is what we do." Additionally, your public will know what to expect from you.

Vision Statements: Where you're going

A vision statement is a declaration of where you are headed – your future state. To formulate a picture of what your organization's future makeup will be and where the organization is headed. We always explain your vision as "knowing what mountain you're climbing," and your mission as "how you're going to get there." Your vision is the ambitious future Point B to your current Point A.

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They went on to explain that the mission statement is written first. An example they used was the Susan B Komen Foundation. Their mission is what they are about including education and research. Their vision is a simple powerful statement to eliminate breast cancer; and their plan (for them 10 years) is the steps they are taking to get from the mission to the vision.

## Notes

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### PLANTINGS:

Rich mentioned that Kaleidoscope Abelias and Nandina Firepowers were already ordered prior to the meeting with Don Wood. Don had suggested that some be placed at the 291 monument and the plan when they are delivered is to use eight (8) there. There is a hold on what will go in with them at this time. If more color is needed other plants can be added in the fall or next spring. You might want to put mums in among the nandinas as was done at Regatta last year.

We suggested a few more grasses be added to the 291 islands. We discussed removing the two mowable grass patches at the 291 islands and that should be done. It was suggested that 5 blue stem go in each of those areas. The roses at 291 islands have been severely cut back as was done at the club house and they will be monitored for the time being.

We suggested that Japanese Blood Grass be planted at Sapelo and four have been ordered. They will be planted in their pots because they are an invasive species. I asked Rachelle to put a few Missouri primrose in those rocks, because if they do well they can be added in various places for a pop of color. There will be small patches planted on either end of the Sapelo island and we can watch and see how they do.

After those things are done and the annuals are potted at Regatta, the Clubhouse, and the Pool, we will check the budget and see how much more money is available for spring planting.

### YARD OF THE MONTH

Marsha Hosick is interested in belonging to the Common Ground Committee. She and Rita chose the homes to receive recognition every month. There have been many comments made to Marsha, to the office, and to various board members about some of the choices. Marsha shared how hard it was to find candidates. I have included the suggestions that I have heard over the last few years for the Common Ground Committee discuss.

- Award Yard of the Month one quarter of the year June, July, and August
- Two areas for consideration the North Side and the South Side; where Cobblestone and the Villas be included for consideration in the North Side group and The Fountains be included for consideration in the South Side group.
- The yards should be chosen by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month so they show up in appropriate month's Shoreline. Since it is difficult to choose as the weather gets hot, is it possible to make all of the choices during May and June and just have them ready for the following months?
- Many residents wonder why a particular yard was chosen. A general article should be written at the beginning of the season about what got your attention. Was it a neat and tidy lawn (like the one on Regatta by Westside), and outstanding specimen plant (Judy Euwer has the greatest hydrangea), an interesting hardscape (can you think of an example?), a striking use of pots (check out Jan Willis' backyard).