

# LANDSCAPE & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday, April 8, 2025; 11:00 A.M.

#### Minutes

In attendance: Ronnie Pollard, Steve Becker, Herbert Getzels, and Kenneth Sher. Michael Eustace, Executive Director, and Lawson Turner, Director of Landscape and Maintenance, were also in attendance.

Mrs. Pollard called the meeting to order. Mrs. Pollard made a motion to approve the March 11, 2025 meeting minutes. The committee unanimously agreed, and the motion was passed.

#### Chairman's Overview

Mrs. Pollard welcomed Gary Stein to the committee and introductions were made. Mrs. Pollard advised that the committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every in-season month.

Mrs. Pollard reported that last season, the hedges were planted at East Boca West Dr and on the East side of Yamato. Podocarpus was planted around the pump station at Pinelake.

## Landscape & Maintenance Director's Report

Mr. Turner reported that the landscaping crew landscaped the new office suites and will be painting the curb yellow as a precautionary measure to prevent tripping. They continue to resod the areas where the light poles are being installed and are also trimming and prepping the plant beds as part of ongoing maintenance.

They will start planting the summer annuals in June instead of May this year as the spring annuals are still doing well. The crew looks at the landscaping every day, and if they see something they can remedy it right away.

Mr. Eustace reported on the lighting project. The lawyers are still negotiating the removal of the old poles and he is hoping they will be removed by October.

#### Glades Rd

Mr. Turner reported that the trimming team got delayed so the hedges along Glades going toward the turnpike grew taller and therefore thinned out. Some of them are dead and need to be removed. Ficus used to be one of the most popular plants because nothing hindered them. There are many layers that have been planted along Glades, so the dead Ficus trees will not be missed if they are removed. The beginning of the growing season is just starting and there are options to

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replace them. They can be replaced with Clusias, but there will be open areas until they grow. Clusias grow fast and can grow up to 30 feet. The residents may not want to wait through the growing season and the other concern is funding. They will also require trimming and the longterm effect of something constantly being trimmed to keep it in bounds can be detrimental on the plant. Glades is a state road, and we need to keep the trees off the sidewalk. The other option is Arvicola. Areca palms are messy and cannot be trimmed and they are also very susceptible to gana derma. All options have their pros and cons. Mr. Eustace advised that a sound wall is also being considered around the Boca West perimeter. Over the next five years, there will be construction and more traffic due to the expansion on Glades and the turnpike. Mr. Eustace advised that there are some things we need to consider with FLDOT before investing in new hedges. He is working on pricing to replace Yamato and Glades dead hedges. The tree removal on Yamato will cost \$25,000 which is unbudgeted. A structural engineer has been hired to evaluate the metal building at the Maintenance facility. We have identified rot in the beams. Another project being considered is the hardscape and softscape of the front entrance, cart path repairs, and the replacement of the brick pavers at Yamato and Glades. Mrs. Molina and Dr. Jonas are meeting with Mr. Halpern to discuss funding and prioritizing the projects.

Mr. Eustace reported that he should have the sketches for the front entrance in a couple of weeks and will present them to the committee.

#### **Committee Members' Comments**

The committee discussed converting to electronic landscape equipment. The electronic vehicles will not work as the charge does not carry through the property.

Mr. Eustace reported that he and Mr. Turner are working on next year's budget. This summer the crew will repair the lake banks and coverage for some FPL boxes.

The committee discussed renaming sections of Boca West Dr.

Mr. Becker suggested planting flower beds under the bottle palms at the Jog entrance.

#### Other

Mrs. Pollard advised that for the May meeting the committee will take a tour of the Berthas and the landscape operations. Mr. Eustace advised they can use the club's cart.

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Respectfully submitted,

Ronnie Pollard

BWMA Secretary, Committee Chair