

Point Loma Tennis Club
Independent Arborist Review Meeting
November 6, 2014

The Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm in the Association Club House and Jeremy Rappoport of Rappoport Development Consulting Services was introduced as the independent Arborist that had been retained by the Association to assess and inventory the community trees. A full copy of the report is on the Association's web site for review or is also available in hard copy at the Association Office.

Mr. Rappoport stated that the Association has many mature trees that were planted more than 45 years ago, and the average life span for most of the varieties is 75 years in the proper environment. The trees in the community were densely planted and most are in fairly good condition.

The need for annual maintenance increases as trees mature and defects appear such as limb drop or trunk failure which can be both dangerous and cause damage to structures and/or hardscape. Of the 26 trees with condition issues noted in the report only 5 were recommended for removal at this time due to overcrowding suppressing their growth. Each of the 5 has been individually addressed in the report as to why removal has been recommended and will be discussed with a question and answer period this evening. Crowded trees become either dominant, co-dominant or suppressed fighting for space and sunlight.

39 if the large trees are removed will the health of the suppressed trees improve? (Rappoport) suppressed trees in the report are too mature to show any significant improvement if the other trees were removed and it wouldn't make sense to remove the larger healthier trees.

39 how were the trees selected for removal? (Rappoport) the procedure was very impartial based on the health of the tree and its proximity to other trees or structures. No information was provided by the Manager or the Association.

342 will the Junipers that are removed be replaced? (Stull) they will be replaced with other plant material that is better suited for the location. New trees are also being planted to replace trees that have been removed in better less crowded locations.

Mr. Rappoport referred to the image of a Podocarpus tree pressed up against the fascia of the 4098 building. 40% of the tree would need to be removed to adequately clear the building which would make it unstable, making removal the best option for the structure and the tree. In some cases root pruning can also be used to eliminate hardscape or building damage if there is adequate space to allow the trimming of appropriate roots from the side of the tree closest to the structure or hardscape. Roots cannot be pruned on both sides of the tree or too many roots removed as it will cause the tree to be unstable and fail.

320 will roots grow back after they are root pruned? (Rappoport) roots typically do not grow back as the tree relies on other established roots to take over. If the optional work was done to reduce the Podocarpus proximity to the building would it be more expensive than removal? (Rappoport) the work is far more labor intensive/expensive and there is the chance that the wounds may decay and cause the tree to fail. A good example of a decayed wound is shown in the image of the Chinese Elm Tree adjacent to the 2620 building. Trying to keep a decaying tree alive and safe for the community will be a sizeable financial commitment.

166 is Mr. Rappoport was associated with any tree service or the management company? (Rappoport) is an independent consultant that is not affiliated with any tree service and has never worked with or met the Association Manager until he was contacted for an estimate.

39 a number of trees were removed without root pruning and requested that the Board consider root pruning before removal in the future.

294 how is the tree maintenance funded? (Stull) tree maintenance is part of the operating budget each year.

23 voiced concerns regarding how many trees were removed this year and asked if the landscape budget was doubled to pay for the tree removals? (Stull) the landscape budget was not doubled and the funding for tree maintenance is not part of the landscape budget.

342 expressed concern regarding losing the shade in the community with all the recent removals as shade helps to reduce the need for watering. (Rappoport) the Association has a tree replacement plan in place to keep tree population healthy.

246 what time of year should the removals and trimming be planned to protect nesting birds. (Rappoport) typically November through February although reputable tree companies will check the trees for nests before trimming or removal and it was recommend that a nest inspection clause be included in tree maintenance contracts moving forward. How many more trees are scheduled for removal? (Stull) no additional trees are currently scheduled for removal.

Mr. Rappoport stated that in general, with the exception if the 5 trees discussed in his report the majority of the trees are in good shape. The very large trees have a lot of deadwood that will need to be removed. The 2015 tree maintenance contract is being sent out for bid.

There being no further questions the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.