



**APPROVED**  
by RCSD Board March 9, 2010

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
TREE PROGRAM WORKSHOP**

RUSH PARK  
3021 Blume Drive  
Rossmoor, California

**Tuesday, February 9, 2010**

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**A. ORGANIZATION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER: 6:08 P.M.**

**2. ROLL CALL: Directors Joel Rattner, Jeffrey Rips, Ron Casey, Alfred Coletta,  
President Shannon Hough**

**B. TREE PROGRAM WORKSHOP**

1. District Tree Consultant Randy Reynolds gave a written and oral report and a PowerPoint Presentation on the State of the Urban Forest. Mr. Reynolds then answered questions from the RCSD Board of Directors and the community. Handouts of the report and presentation were provided for note-taking purposes. The presentation was also published in the agenda package on the RCSD website.
- Erwin Anisman: Stated that he was very impressed with Mr. Reynolds presentation and it appeared that the District intended to take a conservative approach with regard to tree removal. He further stated that all trees are imperfect, so in his view, that cannot be the criteria for removal (i.e. termites). He stated that he hoped the District proceeds in a cautious and measured manner. Mr. Anisman discussed the RHA Community Standards Committee's involvement in researching existing hardscape sites and whether or not the County Public Works had a zone modification in order to deal with them. He stated a zone modification isn't needed; a straightforward solution is for the District to pull a permit to remove a portion of the hardscape and plant a tree there. He concluded that the hardscaped sites have been overlooked until present because the District lacked knowledge of any recourse. He suggested that when dealing with the property owner, the District should obtain their name and address and send them a registered letter in a diplomatic tone, containing a copy of the District's Tree Policy and an outline of procedures.

Director A. Coletta had questions relative to the number of hardscape sites in Rossmoor. Mr. Reynolds stated that after inspections he noted ten locations. Director Coletta also had questions relative to whether residents had obtained permits to hardscape the locations. Mr. Anisman replied that the County couldn't produce any; however that wasn't conclusive evidence of whether or not a permit existed; the records may not go back far enough.

- Brian McEvoy: Requested the list of trees that are scheduled for removal. He also asked what the protocol/process was for reporting trees that are dangerous.

The General Manager stated that the list was available for viewing in the agenda package located on the website or a copy could be obtained from the District Tree Consultant. He also replied that tree problems of this nature should be reported to Randy Reynolds who would consequently perform an inspection to determine what, if any, danger is present.

- Julie Bush: Stated she had many concerns about the current trimming cycle. She alleged the trees on her street were not being trimmed every four years as scheduled. She had complaints relative to the alleged need for more sophisticated arborist services, i.e. tree lacing and dead wood removal. Ms. Bush opined that a more proactive and comprehensive plan, encompassing planting, sapling care and dead wood removal was needed in order to address the future health of Rossmoor's urban forest.

Randy Reynolds responded that the District had planted over 100 trees last year and as trees are removed in the future, they automatically go on a list to be replaced. He stated that he had identified 70 vacant sites (from District Arborist WCA's list) which have been scheduled for planting and that tree trimming modifications were currently underway. Finally, the District used to plant 15 gallon saplings but has since increased the sapling size to 24 inch boxes.

- Peter Blankenship: Had statements relative to identifying trees as diseased or damaged as a result of inadequate trimming. He also inquired about the protocol for protesting tree removal decisions.

Randy Reynolds stated that he was always available for questions and would be happy to address any resident questions or concerns in person or via telephone.

### **C. ADJOURNMENT: 6:52 P.M.**

#### **SUBMITTED BY:**

**Henry Taboada**  
**Consulting General Manager**