

# GREEN CIRCLE SERVICE CORPORATION

... *servicing the Taormina community* ...

GCSC Board Minutes

August 31, 2020

Venue: 22 Taormina Lane, Ojai, CA 93023

Attending: Kristen Dodge, Jon Lambert, Leslie Schreiber, Kim Bryson, Robin Gerber, Stephanie O'Neill, Steve Blain

Visitors: Linda Lambert, Grayson Chase

Called to order at 4:32 pm

Minutes of June 15, 2020 board meeting were adopted as distributed.

President's Report- none

Trash Committee Report – Linda Lambert

1. Reports of trash being used by non-Taormina people; give serious consideration to securing trash area gate. The trash area seems inadequate for the current size of the Taormina population without outside people using it.
2. New signs are being prepared for the trash area; they will be secured to the front gates. If successful they will be made into permanent signs.
3. Suggest using a spot in the larger of the two parking bays for a new green waste bin and enclosing it with a fence with security lock on it as well as the main trash area.
4. Information of the appropriate materials for trash and recycling are now on the GCSC website.
5. Suggest painting lines inside the trash area with the words "keep clear" (Leslie suggestion)
6. A new letter is being prepared for distribution to all community residents- sample shown. The committee (Linda Lambert, Trina Grantham, Bruna O'Neill) will review and print/distribute. The board agreed it should be done.

Board discussion:

1. Grayson volunteered to take large items left in the trash area to the dump in Ventura when necessary
2. It was agreed that only signs related to trash/recycling can be posted on the trash area
3. It was decided that the Landfield arrears (currently in excess of \$3,000) be brought to Small Claims Court; Moved/seconded- passed unanimously. Jon and Leslie were empowered to prepare the paperwork and file with the County of Ventura. Kim will speak with Jerome in an effort to get him to agree to at least pay some amount monthly towards his arrears and fee obligation which could put the Small Claims action "on hold."

Treasurer:

1. Bank balance currently: \$102,237
2. Harrison charges now at \$1024/month plus a \$25 service fee whenever we request a change in service
3. No outstanding arrears debts except Landfield
4. Taxes for 2019 filed by bookkeeper
5. Leslie suggested that a fee increase of \$5/month be implemented as of October 1, 2020. The last fee increase was \$5/month in July 2010. Moved/seconded- passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. *Taormina Roads – City of Ojai:*
  - Robin reported that she received an email from the City. Gregg Grant (Public Works Director) walked the Taormina Roads and files a report saying both Taormina Lane and Arundale Road are in "Good" condition. In order for the City to consider accepting the two roads the GCSC would have to bring them up to City standards. The estimated cost would be around \$422,000.

- The roads would become the responsibility of the City of Ojai with maintenance and policing responsibility of the City.
- Bill Weirick suggested that the cost of resurfacing the roads could be paid over 10 years through the creation of a Mello-Roos Facilities District (the Taormina Community). His off-the-cuff estimation was an increase in the property tax of each Taormina property of approximately \$25/month. It was pointed out that amount is less than the current level of fee assessment and the monthly fee could be reduced to offset at least part of the Facilities District assessment. .
- It was suggested that Robin continue to act as liaison with the City and Bill Weirick to explore this concept; Moved/seconded- passed unanimously.

## 2. *Arundale Road*

- A discussion ensued regarding the advisability of allowing Arundale Road to become a two-way road. Each board member spoke regarding her/his position on the matter with arguments centering around: corporation liability, the speed of vehicles on road and at the Taormina-Arundale merge, width of the roadway, its current use by many vehicles as ingress to the Taormina community, walkers who use the road, signage, necessary maintenance that must be undertaken, mechanisms to control traffic. It was pointed out that “de facto” the road is currently being used as a two-way street and that needs to be recognized. Grayson Chase made the case of the danger two-way traffic posed to his driveway and related several incidents of near accidents and the indifference of drivers to posted signs, suggesting that better signage is needed and that traffic into our community appears to increase at night.
- Moved (Robin), seconded (Stephanie)- Arundale Road be opened to two-way traffic on a trial basis. Passed: 4-3 (Stephanie, Steve, Kim, Robin- Aye; Leslie, Jon, Kristen- Nay)
- Kim, Stephanie and Jon were designated as a committee to create recommendations to the board on how to safely effect the change.

New Business- none

The date for the next Board meeting was set for October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020- 4:30 pm at Robin’s home  
Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm

Submitted by Jon Lambert  
Secretary