



Village Voice

Volume 3, Number 1, First Quarter, 2010

On a balmy, warm evening, dead in the heart of winter (we are so lucky to live here!), the Board met at Tim Carey's teepee. We expected a straight forward matter of fact meeting but some of the homeowners decided voice an opinion on the fence/gate color selection. More on this later but it was nothing earth-shattering, however. The meeting flowed in an organized manner, from topic to topic, as summarized next:

CDs

The Board continues to maintain a close watch on the returns for the Village's CDs, their maturity dates and future interest opportunities, etc. In these soft times, it is almost a full time job -- a job which to date has been well done.

Color Blind?

The Board reported the completion of all repairs, reinforcements, welding, priming and painting of the metal fences and gate. Also completed was the replacement, by law, of the entrance/exit lock to the pool area, with a lock having an inside keyless opening handle. The fence/gate paint color was selected by the ACC Committee and accepted by the Board. Their collective aim was to utilize a new, up-to-date color with a fresh but unobtrusive look. Since color is so very personal, the Board was sure there would be some objections by those who would have left the metal green or would have selected a hue more pleasing to their personal preferences. So, not surprised, they sat through and accepted the criticisms, some derogatory some helpful. The next step, if any, is up to the Board. One wonders if it is ever possible to please everyone.

Furniture

Quality commercial grade pool furniture, of the kind needed for our area, is limited in colors available. The desire to match or complement the color of the new pool furniture to the fence/gate color led to the final color selection of both. Maybe, when all the pieces (fence-gate-furniture) come together, surrounded by spring/summer foliage, it will become more acceptable to the vocal few. The furniture chosen has been at pool side for over a month and we have received some positive feed back. The Board reported that the furniture has been ordered and should be in place early next month. Meanwhile, the Board has decided to hold a lottery for the old (but still functional) furniture. Gold Coast will send out a letter to all homeowners with the details for those interested in the tables and chairs.

Dripping idea

The Board is investigating the cost and feasibility of replacing some of the present sprinkler system with a drip system. This was tabled for review at a subsequent meeting. Meanwhile, we will have to put up with the ever recurring broken sprinklers.

Cut it short

It's a given in California -- if it is in the ground it will grow! The overhanging vegetation on the outside perimeter walls is again raising concern. Homeowners involved will be contacted for their cooperative help.

Spring cleaning

Spring is almost upon us and with spring comes the desire to start "anew". The Board would remind you that "repair is in the air," especially when it comes to fences, gates and landscaping. Also, if your home is looking in need of a "new coat" please consider painting. ACC has many approved paint swatches to choose from.

Next Board Meeting will be on May 18, at 611 Turnberry drive. Make it a point to be there.

Did you know: Rats, possums, and coyotes cannot stand on or climb up our new plastic fencing. They slide right off! Just a tidbit from this Board meeting. See what you can miss by not attending!

Be Prepared

A recent LA Times article predicted that the average home owner could be only one disaster away from financial ruin. They wrote "there is no such thing as earthquake season in Southern California, but mid-January is a time that may still rattle those who experienced the 1994 Northridge trembler. The rocking and rolling started before dawn on Jan. 17. That early-morning shocker struck as all quakes do -- without warning. Preparation time? Zero.

"In anticipation of the next shaker, mudslide, fire or other major disaster, FEMA recommends the perfect time to get ready is today. To protect a lifetime of savings, FEMA encourages taking several precautions.

- Update insurance policies. Make sure you have adequate coverage to rebuild your home, including that recent addition, and to cover everything that is in it. Consider earthquake and flood insurance.
- Maintain a written inventory, complete with video or photos, serial numbers when applicable and receipts for major appliances, electronics and luxury items. Include written appraisals for jewelry and artwork. Some items, such as cameras and coin collections may require a rider on your homeowner's policy. Store that inventory and other important documents such as insurance policies, birth and marriage certificates, passports, deeds, wills and stock certificates in a safe-deposit box or other disaster-proof place.
- Keep emergency cash on hand – in small bills – because during a power failure neither debit cards nor credit cards will work.
- Do a safety check of your home. Make sure smoke detectors are working. Anchor bookcases, television sets, refrigerators, china cabinets, hot-water heaters and other larger objects that can tumble during an earthquake, causing injury. Know where the gas and water shut-off valves are and how to shut them. (Actually hang a wrench by each valve for a quicker response). See www.FEMA.gov. and www.iii.org."