2022 LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE
Fall Update, October 2022

The Landscape Committee had another very active year in the Meadows. Thanks to all committee members and volunteers who offered their time and talent to help us accomplish many of these projects.

Park: Volunteers planted annuals, two additional Spirea 'Candy Corn', a replacement Pugster Blues Butterfly Bush, Grey Owl Juniper, Sedum, and additional perennials. Volunteers also took care of watering, fertilizing, spraying non-toxic rabbit repellent, and cut back and deadheaded perennials.

Grub Control: As on ongoing effort to reduce the mole population, Bob LeBoeuf applied two separate treatments of a grub control product to reduce the moles' main food source in both the lawns and beds.

Hemlock Health: Consulted with Carolina Hemlock for an inspection of the hemlocks in our community. No signs of adelgid were noted and the trees were deemed to be in good health. The next Hemlock treatment is on schedule for 2023 as it is done every three to four years.

Leyland Cypress Disease: These plants continue to struggle from passalora needle blight and seiridium canker, particularly after this wet spring and summer. There is no treatment available that is guaranteed to cure the problem, and we previously reduced the number of Leyland cypress in the Meadows to minimize damage and allow for better air and light circulation. Any treatment would be ongoing and not assured to remedy the blight. Quotes to remove the trees & stumps and replace with appropriate trees have been obtained and a plan on how best to proceed from a budgetary standpoint is being developed over the course of the next few years.

Townhome Landscape Renovations and Plant Replacements: A) #2/#4 and #36/#38, Installed soft touch hollies in driveway mulch beds. B) #50/ #52, Removed and replaced overgrown foundation plants and those near utility boxes. C) #2, Removed and replaced overgrown shrubs on side foundation, reduced bed size and installed sod. D) #30, Removed laurels along sidewalk and installed sod, removed unhealthy shrubs at mailbox and replaced with smaller scale plants. E) #46/#48, Removed dead dogwood and replaced with Rising Sun Redbud. F) #36, Replaced dead PJM Rhododendron below rear window and replaced with 3 Mr. Goldstrike Aucuba. G) #46, Replaced dead plant with Native Azalea at lower rear corner. H) #12, Removed failing pachysandra below Arborvitae hedge. I) #4, Volunteers cut down overgrown Hinoki cypress at sidewalk. J) #3, Removal of oversized panicle hydrangea and replace with 3 dwarf 'Bobo" hydrangea. K.) #11 purchased 3 Clethra 'Sixteen Candles' to replace dead rhododendrons in rear of unit. Minor renovations at homeowners expense were done in front beds at #38 and #4.

Developer Responsibilities: Raymond replaced dead dogwood with a new one on the slope behind #8. Developer worked with contractor to resolve drainage issues above wall and in the grass of #8 and#12.

Love Grass Slopes: Worked with TPS on ways to improve the condition and appearance of the bank behind Units #2-12. They ordered lovegrass seed in September and will sow the seed on the bare areas and hand pull weeds.

Pruning: The third and final pruning of the year is on schedule for late November/early December.

Homeowner Requests: Processed 16 homeowners' requests. 13 have been approved, 3 pending.

2023 Projects: Established list of projects to be undertaken in 2023 including tree work, landscape renovations and implement a plan to replace or remove Leyland cypress, reduce size of mulch beds where feasible and continue to update and refresh landscape when a need has been identified and as budget allows. We plan to engage the services of two vendors, TPS and TruGreen, to reduce the projected landscape maintenance expense and try a different approach to turf management.