

Shearwater Grounds and Landscaping Report

April 16, 2007

Spring Inspection of the Property. Two separate inspections of the property were conducted in the past month. The first was with Tyler Balderson, the Certified Arborist from Bartlett Tree Experts. The primary emphasis of this inspection was to review and discuss in more detail the alternatives for coping with the obstruction caused by the large sycamores on the water side of Bldg 15/16. Connie Cadwell and Harold Shaw asked to be included in the discussion with Mr. Balderson and their participation was welcomed. Mr. Balderson felt that he could again get approval from the City to thin out 25% of the top growth. The lower larger stubs were of particular concern and those were subsequently marked with tape by Mr. Shaw. I have asked Mr. Balderson to expedite the City approval process to the extent he can so that the actual tree work can be completed before the trees fully leaf out.

The second inspection was with Jose Andino and addressed the grounds and landscaping. We compiled a list of items requiring action, some within the contract and other outside the contract for which he is to prepare an estimate. The primary item within the contract is to cut and pull away vines and ivy that are strangling a number of our trees. Whoever brought ivy into Shearwater made a terrible mistake. The other item that needs to be accomplished as soon as possible is removal of the tree top that has fallen at the shoreline of Bldg 8 on the soil erosion grasses planted last year. The pathways need work in the form of weed prevention treatment and edging.

Accomplishments. Edging and mulching required a major effort from Andino's crew. The work was completed with minimum disruption of parking and an effective clean up. Chemical treatment for insect control was completed, as was fertilization of the turf. Fallen branch clean up is a continuing requirement, particularly with the heavy wind we have been having. The ice damage of a few weeks ago was relatively minor compared to some other communities. I credit that to staying ahead of the tree trimming power curve.