

Grounds Report

Action proposed for this April meeting:

Little Free Library Common area:

- Engage contractor to remove mistletoe from Cedar Elms (\$200 incl tax).

\$ 200

Playground Common area:

- Remove the two squat, sprawling Juniper bushes. They are a visibility hazard, and many consider them unattractive (\$570 incl tax to remove and grind stumps).
- Planting Bermuda sod in these locations (approx. \$500).
- Raise the canopy of the tall Eastern Red Cedar (a.k.a. "The Angel Tree") about 4.5 to 5 feet from the round (\$200 incl tax). This resolves another safety/visibility issue.
- Plant Bermuda sod around the edge to reduce the exposed tree ring to about 10 feet in diameter (approx. \$150).
- Clear the brush along the Golf Course fence (including branches below ten feet on the larger Hackberry trees). This was quoted at \$290 + tax. This may more than double before done, so let's say approximately \$700 incl tax.
- Lift and balance six trees at the entrance, around the monuments (\$270 incl tax).

\$2390

Primrose Common area:

- Remove dead and hacked up trunks of Willows visible from the road (approx \$1500 incl tax).

\$2000

==== Total Request for April 2015:

\$4700 authorization at this time to allow for cost variance;
will most likely spend about \$2000 at the PG Common Area and \$1500 at Primrose.

See reverse side for:

- Status of work previously approved.
- Further discussion of current request.
- Projected future work.

Action approved at the March HOA Board meeting:

- Plant three trees (\$1250 planted) and modifying irrigation system to support (\$310 incl tax). These to include a 45# Live Oak and a 45# Chinese Pistache at the Little Free Library Common Area at Waterford and Westgate and a 65# crepe myrtle to replace the missing one on the Wyndham median just south of Whitney.

\$1560

The Texas Trees Foundation has been tied up this month with Earth day and other business, and we are at the end of the window for tree planting. We may end up waiting until autumn to plant these, and prices may change.

Action proposed for this April meeting:

As the Playground Committee will report, it looks like we won't need to make any changes to the existing trees and bushes of the Playground Common Area to make room for the playground. Groundskeeper recommends the following changes (which are advisable regardless of the Playground) Grounds conducted a drive-around on Sunday afternoon (12th April); Grace Laster and Brad Wagoner participated. Consensus was that removal/trimming at Playground common area should proceed, as well as maintenance at LFL and Primrose common areas. These are incorporated in funding requests for April Board meeting (previous page).

Grounds request any objections to approving these items for April be conveyed by email. One Director expressed a desire to wait for Playground installation; some wished to discuss the future appearance of the lifted "Angel Tree"; and a question was asked regarding best species of grass to plant in sunlit vs. shaded conditions. Grounds also requested any remaining concerns that the Angel Tree should be lifted more than five feet, and none were presented.

Discussion on removing Junipers and lifting Angel Tree:

Some have suggested that we should lift it further or remove the tree, because it will still obstruct the view of some points of the playground (tops of tall equipment) from some points on the street. Is it truly critical that every (vertical) point on the playground be visible from every vantage point on the street?

Also, we can plant a 10-foot Arizona Cypress to use in future as a more accessible Angel Tree.

Per discussion at last month's meeting, we will wait until the Playground gets further under way before finalizing shade trees and barrier planting. The PG Committee should start considering locations and quantity of shade trees, although we may postpone planting until autumn.

Action proposed for autumn (need not discuss at this time):

- Install informational signs at some trees to identify species and characteristics (cost unknown)

Little Free Library Common area:

- Plant three trees previously authorized for \$1560, as above.

Playground Common area:

- Plant shade trees, new/smaller angel tree and west edge screen with irrigation extensions (\$4645 incl tax).

Primrose Common area:

- Plan grass to cover bare/muddy ground (approx. \$2000)

Wren and Waverly Common area:

- Plant grass in the bare spots and thicken (approx. \$500 + \$180.86)

===== **Total Request for Autumn 2015:**

\$7345