

Portofino at Sun City Center  
Ft. Myers Property Owners Association, Inc.  
A Corporation Not-For-Profit

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

The Board of Directors Meeting was held on February 23, 2021 at the Cul-de-sac at 9925 Bella Vista Court.

Board Members Present: Mike Knepper, President  
Steven Lubinski, Treasurer  
Milt Sick, Director  
William Cornell – Secretary  
Craig Massey – Vice President  
Sandi Foley, Vesta Property Services

Craig Massey took minutes as Sandi Foley had a fractured arm. He did not have them available for the next meeting.

## Portofino Landscape Group February 2021

Lydia Massey-Point of contact person  
Mark Eversman  
Lee Grega

PLG: Stands for Portofino Landscape Group

### **February 03, 2021 Walk Around Findings**

The Portofino Landscape Group mission, as an advisory committee to the HOA Board, is to maintain property values through curb appeal as viewed from the street at the curb. Neighborhood safety issues were also considered as viewed from the street at the curb. Additionally, the monument at the entrance to Portofino and the two Cul de Sacs have been taken in consideration as they occupy space within our neighborhood and help to enhance our safety, Portofino property values and overall neighborhood curb appeal.

The PLG walked the entire neighborhood from the monument, we passed every home and both Cul de Sac's. We made notes of where we thought action and attention would enhance both safety and curb appeal of the location.

#### **The Monument at the entrance:**

**Issue:** On the monument side that faces the Sick's home, there is no plant material in the middle ground area on that side of the monument.

**Recommendation:** The PLG makes the suggestion of New Guinea Impatience or Begonias and some mulch to fill this empty space.

#### **The STOP Sign at Bella Vista Dr & Bella Vista Crt:**

**Issue:** The Guava tree at the intersection of Bella Vista Drive and Bella Vista Court is covering most of the stop sign again.

**Recommendation:** Have Romero tie it back as it was. The tie-backs came undone. If the tie-backs are no longer a viable solution, consider removing the tree so the STOP sign is clearly visible at all times.

## **The Bella Vista Drive Cul De Sac:**

**Issue:**

1. The four Jatropha trees need a trim/shaping
2. The “seasonal flowering planted point” at the front of the street view was substantially out of design alignment and needs modification .
3. Additional sod needs to be placed around the seasonal flowering area and mulch placed in the flowering seasonal section of design.

### **Recommendation :**

- #1. Four Jatropha trees be trimmed back by Romero (possibly Mark). Have Romero furnish this committee the trimming schedule for this committee's review. Committee will research the best time of the year to trim. ( See Jatropha trees at the intersection of Pelican Preserve Blvd & Veneto. They are already trimmed and shaped)
- #2. The original design for this area has been completely lost during the last plant replacement. On 02-22-21 the original design has been brought back to the original design. The bare area now needs sod ( approximately 9 pieces ) to fill in the small barren area.
- #3. Landscape group will purchase sod and mulch and lay both the sod and mulch for the flowering area that was just reshaped. Board will be asked pay for sod and mulch only, no cost for transport or installation.

## **The Cul de Sac on Bella Vista Court:**

### **Issue:**

#1. The committee's view, regarding the oak tree in the center of the Cul de Sac, was from the intersection of Bella Vista Drive and Bella Vista Crt. The oak tree has one limb on its left side that extends way out of proportion.

#2. The split leaf philodendron in the middle next to the oak tree is overgrown and has fallen over and is laying on the Thyrilas bushes that surround it. Mark Eversman went inside the center of the Cul de Sac to examine the condition of the oak tree and the split leaf philodendron. This committee determined there is no functional value or aesthetic appeal to this split leaf and it poses a visibility problem in the Cul de Sac and may be a liability issue.

#3. After a close examination of the entire Cul de Sac from all sides and from the street it was determined the two levels of plant material needs to be trimmed back to a level that all walkers, cyclists of all kinds (including recumbent) and vehicles will be able to see over top or through all plant material. The committee views this as a safety precaution to eliminate the blind spot areas on the Cul de Sac posed by the existing

plant material. (Our newly designed and redone Cul de Sac on Bella Vista Dr. was designed so all walkers, cyclists and drivers can see over and through the plantings. ) All plant material should be maintained at ornamental height.

**Recommendation:**

- #1. Remove the limb that was to have been removed at the last bough trimming, but was never removed. It must have been overlooked?
- #2. Remove the 7'-9' split leaf philodendron from the Cul de Sac as it has fallen over onto the surrounding bushes, The split leaf plant is now trying to grow through the Thrilas (the dark green upper level) and. blocks visibility for vehicles and foot traffic. The PLG determined the split leaf plant no aesthetic value or purpose and has been viewed as a visibility safety concern.
- #3. After walking this entire Bella Vista Crt. Cul de Sac the committee recommends that the shrubbery be trimmed back for the purpose of safety by increasing visibility. The upper level of shrub (Thyrlas) to be cut back by 2 feet while the lower level shrub funds or (schefflera) to be cut back by 1 foot. The proposed trimming and culling would address safety issues and enhance the appearance of the attractive elements of this Cul de Sac.

Regarding this particular Cul de Sac: If there was ever the money to have this Cul de Sac redone, we suggest it be done to match the Cul de Sac on Bella Vista Drive. We already own that professionally designed plan. A re-do for the Bella Vista Crt, Cul de Sac would provide symmetry to the entire neighborhood. However, at this time there are no plans or funds to execute this recommendation.