

del Lago Newsletter

Prepared by the del Lago District Advisory Committee

Vol. 20, No. 2 – February 2022

Quarterly del Lago DAC Meeting February 10, 2022 at 9:45 a.m. via Teleconference Zoom

Chairman's Message

Greetings to all our residents and let's hope this new year is a wonderful year for all of us. Thanks to all who put up and took down the Christmas decorations. It was wonderful to see the trees along the boulevard lit up with Christmas lights. Because we had a good response to the lights over the years, your DAC is looking into installing bright white, solar powered, LED lights on the trees along the boulevard year round (assuming we get permission from the ABOD).

As you can see, a turf reduction (water saving) project is completed along Fairway Drive between the del Lago/Sonata entry and Montgomery Village. Also, our first lake-naming signs have been installed for Lake Bracciano (which is surrounded by the condos whose addresses begin with 32XX). The signs are on the light posts at each end of the walkway going by the lake. The remaining signs should be installed in February.

Our DAC values the opinions of ALL our residents. Please feel free to contact any of your DAC members to give us your ideas and feedback. We look forward to seeing you at our Quarterly DAC Meeting on February 10th at 9:45 AM.

Emil Pisarri
DAC Chairman

Digging Deeper - Turf Reduction in Progress

Perhaps you have seen the new drought resistant plantings on the south side of the entrance to Villages del Lago/Sonata. This project is our DAC's first turf replacement project this year that is intended to reduce water usage and also to save on maintenance costs. The scope of this project is 3,700 square feet, costing \$12,624. Indications are that Valley Water District will

reimburse for half the cost. Either way, the funds have previously been budgeted in the Landscape Reserve budget.

Your del Lago DAC also has proposed additional turf reduction on the north side of the del Lago entrance. Stay tuned for further details.

EPC Seeks Translators

EPC (Emergency Preparedness Committee) is a Villages' organization whose volunteers are prepared to provide neighbor-to-neighbor assistance in case of an emergency, such as an earthquake, fire, or other disaster. You may have seen one of the Villages articles talking about the new team EPC is forming to help serve as translators, as needed.

Our Villages' residents come from a variety of countries, and for some people English may be their second language. In dealing with individuals in an emergency it could be critically helpful to utilize the skills of those residents who speak other languages, should translations be necessary for clarification of information. Nothing could be more frightening than to be unable to communicate with anyone in an emergency situation.

EPC is establishing a **Language Assistance Team** and will appreciate your help. The goal is to compile and maintain a list of individuals throughout the Villages who are fluent in any other language(s) and who are willing to share their language proficiency to provide translation assistance in an emergency as needed. These individuals would be working with other personnel (EPC, Public Safety, etc.) when translation is essential. Language Assistance at all levels could be helpful, whether individuals are fluent in reading, writing and/or speaking other languages.

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ACTION REQUESTED: Interested volunteers may complete the information below:

YES, I wish to support EPC by serving as a Language Assistance Volunteer

- 1) Name
- 2) Address
- 3) Phone number (land-line and cell)
- 4) Email address
- 5) Language proficiency: designate the language(s) and indicate how fluent reading, writing, and/or speaking.

Please submit your interest to: (del Lago’s own) Vera Buescher, EPC Recruiting Team, 408-531-9758, verabEPC@gmail.com. You may also want to check out EPC’s classy, improved and updated website located at thevillagesepc.org, for more EPC information.

February Quarterly DAC Meeting

Please save the date for our next Quarterly DAC Meeting which is scheduled for Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 9:45 AM., via teleconference. With so many things going on in del Lago, this meeting will be a town hall forum which focuses on hearing from del Lago residents and reviewing and discussing projects in progress. Your comments, suggestions and questions are essential. Please plan to be there.



Highlights of ABOD Meeting, January 25, 2022

(Excerpts from summary by ABOD Secretary Richard Holmboe)

Treasurer’s Report for Month Ending December 31, 2021

Operating Budget: Total revenue year-to-date (6 months, 50%) is \$5,161,000; \$2,400 favorable to budget of \$5,158,600. Total expenditures year-to-date (6 months, 50%) is \$5,088,800; \$364,500 favorable to budget of \$5,453,300. Net variance is \$366,900 favorable to budget, mostly due to savings in water, insurance, and planting expenses.

Reserve Budget: Revenue: The Association always receives full revenue from monthly assessments. Total expenditures year-to-date (6 months, 50%) is \$2,976,000; 37% of year’s reserve plan of \$8,023,000. The portfolio balance is \$12,484,635; average interest rate earned is 0.55%.

From the President

David Cook, Association Board president, noted that there will be challenges in 2022, but The Villages has staff and boards that are able and prepared to deal with them. David’s message was one of hope and gratitude. He encouraged us to consider all the things in our lives for which we can be grateful. His entire message can be read in the January 27 edition of The Villager.

Quarterly DAC Meeting Schedule (all on Thursday) January – December 2022		
<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
February 10, 2022	9:45 AM	via Zoom
May 12, 2022	6:00 PM	Vineyard Center
August 11, 2022	9:45 AM	Montgomery Center
November 10, 2022	9:45 AM	Montgomery Center

Save the Date: Sonata-del Lago Ladies Luncheon, Saturday, March 26, 2022.

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Highlights of ABOD Meeting, January 25, 2022

(Excerpts from summary by ABOD Secretary Richard Holmboe)

(Cont'd from Pg. 2)

General Manager's Report

Tim Sutherland highlighted the following: Coyote sightings are down to 1.4 a day; the water bill for November/December was 77.4% of what was budgeted; and finally, with regard to insurance, zero property claims have been filed this past almost 2 years, which is "unheard of in this business or historically at The Villages." For an elaborated version of Tim's statement, check out the General Manager's blog on The Resident Portal.

Reminders to DACs from the ABOD (relevant to all del Lago residents)

Here are a couple hints for getting timely information from the Resident Portal. Board Packets are usually placed on the Resident Portal the Monday before the regular Board meeting. In addition to the meeting agenda, the packet will also have the latest treasurer's report and financial commentary along with details for items to be discussed in the meeting. Another informative section of the Resident Portal is the General Manager's monthly messages. You will find even more financial information along with Maintenance and Landscape services, projects and improvements. After logging onto the Resident Portal, find the box with the message, "Click here to read the latest message from the General Manager's Office". This will take you not only to the latest message but you can scroll down the message to previous months' messages. There is a wealth of useful information about what's going on in The Villages, and in each village.

Future ABOD Meetings

All 3-Boards Meeting: Re: Liability Insurance, Preliminary, Thursday, February 10, 2022; 10:00 a.m., via Teleconference.

Next Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 22, 2022; 9:30 a.m., via Teleconference

All 3-Boards Meeting: Re: Liability Insurance, Final Bids, Friday, February 25, 2022; 10:00 a.m., via Teleconference.



The del Lago District Advisory Committee (DAC) voting members are: Emil Pisarri, Chairperson, (408-781-4216); Judy Bushey, Deputy, (408-930-2985); Valerie Dimmick, Secretary, (408-813-3985); Everett Jacobson, Newsletter (408-629-7210); Melinda Dobbs (408-666-9713); David Dimmick (650-804-9378); Anahid Gregg (732-742-4874). Associate members: Cheryl Allmen (408-307-3979); Gary Lohr, (408-912-5124); Margaret Spatafore (408-532-1966). We welcome your comments and questions.

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To receive these Newsletters via Email, contact: Anahid Gregg at anahid.villages@gmail.com or by phone at 1-732-742-4874.

DAC=District Advisory Committee, ABOD=Association Board of Directors, CBOD=Club Board of Directors, AC=Architectural Committee