

VILLAGE GREEN

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

HIGHLIGHTS

A Monthly Publication of the VGOA

June 2023

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Compiled by Patrick Comiskey

Thirty people attended a relatively brief Board meeting on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, including all nine board members and the management team. Two major points of discussion ensued, with the noisiest being a discussion about noise.

BOARD HIRES COST ESTIMATOR FOR TURF PROJECT

In a unanimous vote, the Board agreed to spend \$5,000 to hire consulting firm MGAC to generate a cost estimate for removing the lawn around the immediate perimeter of most buildings and replacing it with less thirsty flora. MGAC's work will figure into the upcoming Board vote on whether to adopt landscape architect RIOS' Master Planting Guideline recommendations.

ONGOING DISCUSSION ON NOISE

The Board took up the matter of revising the VILLAGE GREEN HANDBOOK to include more explicit guidelines for noise in common areas. Director Ashley Fondrevay laid out a framework for tackling the topic, including the enforcement of complaints and setting noise limits for parties and get-togethers. After much discussion, a straw poll was taken – three members voted to keep rules as they are, and six of nine board members voted to develop additional rules to be presented at a future meeting. □



FOUR YEARS LATER: A LANDSCAPE IS REBORN

By Lucy Fried, with appreciation to Teresa Thompson and Jessa Chisari



On Christmas Eve in 2019, roots of an enormous ficus tree at the southern end of a Court 6 building damaged the underground electrical conduit and caused a

dangerous outage that left electrical wires overhead for a year and an uncovered earthen pathway longer than that.

Eventually, a new sidewalk was laid, but the long bed between the garage and the residential building, plus the area south

of the building, remained without foliage until recently when toyon and ceanothus, clumping grasses, and two rock roses were planted.

All are California natives and other low water plants. Will this long-delayed Court 6 landscaping renewal become a template for new plantings at the Green? □



Dear Reader,

Did you enjoy last month's four-page printed newsletter? This month, as you see, we are back to two pages. This will likely be the norm for *Highlights* until someone with a knack for graphic design comes forward to help.

But there are more things that need to be seen. Please go to our new "*News & Articles*" webpage to read an interview with VG Facilities Engineer Linda Pollari, a City tribute to a VG resident, and a photo saga of a fallen Court 10 elm: www.villagegreenla.net/highlights.

Sincerely,
Lucy Fried, Editor

ABOUT HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights and the VGOA website are all-volunteer projects of the **Communications Committee**. We welcome your comments and participation!

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VG MANAGEMENT NEWS

Compiled by Lucy Fried

Garage Inspections The Board's enforcement committee held a hearing on May 13 for residents who did not allow access pursuant to the Notice of Hearing letters distributed in April. Management will distribute a final round of Notice of Hearing letters to residents whose garages contained electrical, storage, or flammable violations not cured by May 31.

Residential Building Painting, Insulation & Carpentry

This is expected to begin in June with Building 92. Residents will be invited to a Zoom-based informational meeting. Buildings 2, 17, 21, 23, 51, 53, 55, 65, and 96 are also slated for this year.

Garage Restoration, Termite Treatment & Painting

Courts 3, 7, and 11 have been selected for this year, tentatively starting in the fall. Repairs to some roofs and concrete foundations will also be addressed.

Electrical Upgrade The massive project continues its slow but steady forward motion. This month's upbeat report announced that Hariton Engineering, the electrical contractor Triple C, and Village Green have agreed to sign a joint contract for the

Building 91 pilot electrical upgrade project. Happily, also, only two of the four non-code compliant electrical panel locations in Building 91 will actually require relocation.

Metal Window Frame Repair/Replacement Los Angeles' Office of Historic Resources confirmed that Village Green is exempt from Title 24 energy requirements due to its historic status. Management will move forward with a contractor to source double-paned steel window frames that match the existing windows in all aspects except depth. These replacements will be deeper, will hold two panes of glass and an airspace, and are less expensive than rehabilitating existing single-paned windows.

Savings on Concrete Work The Green will save almost \$39,000 this year by bringing certain concrete repair projects in-house instead of hiring a vendor. The decision was made after discussion between Maintenance Supervisor Darwin Harry Ruiz and Facilities Engineer Linda Pollari, with the approval of Manager Sherri Giles. □

PUBLIC SECURITY REPORT April 21 - May 18, 2023

Edited by Jordan Deglise Moore

TRIP & FALL, April 24, Court 15, 5:39 pm. Security responded to a call from a resident who had fallen on the Main Green and injured her ankle. At her request, they called LAFD.

INDECENT EXPOSURE / USE OF FORCE /

TRESPASSING, April 28, West Circle, 4:42 am.

Security escorted home a female resident who had been "flashed" by a transient. After the man refused to leave VG and charged at him, the officer pepper sprayed him.

LEWD BEHAVIOR, May 6, near Court 1, 6:57 pm.

Security confronted a man engaging in lewd behavior, and the man drove off.

LARGE UPROOTED TREE, May 7, Court 10, 4:00 am.

A Chinese elm had fallen on two patios, buckled the sidewalk, and caused a water leak. Officers taped off the area, and one was injured.

LARGE BROKEN TREE BRANCH, May 7, Court 13, 8:40am.

Officers taped off the area and notified the office.

UNSECURED SECURITY DOOR, May 9, Court 15, 4:49pm.

Security responded to a call from the VG office and confirmed the security door was unlocked but the patio and front doors were locked.

TRESPASSING, May 9, East Circle, 11:12 pm.

A resident reported a guest who refused to leave but was gone when the officers arrived.

STOLEN LICENSE PLATE, May 10, Court 5, 9 pm.

A resident reported one of his car's plates was stolen on May 6 about 9 pm.

GARAGE BURGLARY, May 14, Court 1, 10:50 am.

A resident reported an open garage, and officers found signs of rummaging and vehicle damage.

TRESPASSING, May 15, Court 2, 12:22 am.

A resident reported strange noises from her patio area. Officers found a man in a black hoodie and blue face mask fleeing the property on an electric scooter.

FIRE ALARM, May 16, Court 8, 1:33 pm. The resident's excessive cooking smoke had activated the fire alarm.

VEHICLE BURGLARIZED, May 17, Court 2, 5:49 pm.

A resident flagged down an officer, who confirmed a thief had damaged the window molding to gain access. No items were missing or broken. □

JUNE 17, YARD SALE DAY

VIEW & BUY NEIGHBOR'S ARTISTIC WORKS: COURT 15 GARAGE, #622

When 50-year VG resident Harold Pelster passed in 2018, neighbors saved his archive of paintings, drawings and prints from destruction in hopes of bringing it to the art world's attention. You can preview a selection of Harold's work at www.haroldpelsterart.com.

