ANNUAL SPOA MEMBER REPORT FOR 2018

I AM PLEASED TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THIS YEAR’S ANNUAL REPORT FOR SPOA. THIS REPORT IS REQUIRED PER THE ANNUAL REPORT SECTION 12.5 OF OUR SPOA BY-LAWS.

SPOA IS COMPRISED OF 16 DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES, INCLUDING 4 OFFICERS, REPRESENTATING 17 GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS (UNITS) OF SILVERADO. THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS.

SPOA ALSO HAS FIVE COMMITTEES:

- ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE-CHAIR: PAUL ROBERTS
- ELECTION AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE-CHAIR: JOE RUSSONIELLO
- LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE-CHAIR: NANCY POLLACEK
- MEMBERSHIP, WEBSITE AND EMAIL-CHAIR: SHARON BOBROW
- NEWSLETTER-ACTING CHAIR: ANDY KIRMSE

IN JANUARY 2018 WE ANNOUNCED THAT SPOA WAS FORMING AN EXPORATORY COMMITTEE, LEAD BY BILL SENSKE, TO LOOK INTO SETTING UP A FIREWISE PROGRAM FOR SILVERADO. AFTER SEVERAL MEETINGS WE DETERMINED THAT THIS EFFORT WOULD BE OF VALUE TO OUR COMMUNITY. THE COUNTY FIREWISE COUNCIL HIRED A CONSULTANT, CAROL RICE, AND SHE HAS SINCE ISSUED A REPORT DESCRIBING THE EVALUATION SHE MADE OF THE SPOA COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOODS. THIS DOCUMENT WILL NOW SERVE AS THE BUILDING BLOCK FOR A COMMUNITY PROTECTION PLAN. AT THE END OF CAROL’S REPORT IS A LIST OF SUGGESTED PROJECTS. THIS SUBJECT WILL BE AN AGENDA ITEM IN OUR FEBRUARY 22ND BOARD MEETING AND A PRESENTATION WILL BE MADE BY TOM VREELAND, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COUNTY FIREWISE COUNCIL. OUR NEXT STEP WILL BE TO SELECT A LEADERSHIP BOARD CHAIR REPRESENTING SILVERADO TO THE COUNCIL.

LAST FALL WE ANNOUNCED THAT PG&E WOULD BE REPLACING ALL OF THE LIGHT POLE CAPS AND THEY WERE TO BE INSTALLED LATE LAST YEAR; HOWEVER, THE WRONG PARTS HAD BEEN SHIPPED TO PG&E CAUSING A DELAY. WE HAVE NOW BEEN INFORMED THE FIXTURES ARE IN STOCK AND THAT THEY COULD START INSTALLING THEM BY AS EARLY AS THE END OF FEBRUARY OR BY MARCH 3RD. AS YOU MAY RECALL THESE NEW LAMP FIXTURES WILL PROVIDE BRIGHTER LIGHT COVERAGE FOR SECURITY AND SAVE AS MUCH AS $5000 A YEAR IN ELECTRICITY COSTS. WE WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED ON THE PROGRESS.
THE SPOA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW GUIDELINES REQUIRE A MINIMUM OF 10’ IN PROPERTY LINE SET BACKS AND THAT ALL CONSTRUCTION PLANS BE REVIEWED BY OUR CHAIR, PAUL ROBERTS, BEFORE BEING SENT TO THE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT. UNFORTUNATELY THERE WERE TWO INCIDENTS WHERE CONSTRUCTION PLANS WERE NOT SUBMITTED PER OUR REVIEW REQUIREMENT BEFORE BEING SENT ON FOR APPROVAL TO THE COUNTY. AS A CONSEQUENCE PAUL AND I MET WITH THE COUNTY PLANNING DIRECTOR, THEIR LAWYER AND OUR DISTRICT 4 REPRESENTATIVE, SUPERVISOR ALFREDO PEDROZA, TO DISCUSS THE MATTER. AT THAT MEETING IT WAS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT IN FUTURE ALL PARTIES WOULD TRY TO INSURE THAT THE SPOA GUIDELINES BE FOLLOWED. A LETTER TO THIS EFFECT WILL ALSO BE SENT OUT BY THE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO A LIST OF ALL THE CONTRACTORS THEY HAVE ON FILE ADVISING THEM OF THIS POLICY.

OUR LANDSCAPING ACTIVITIES ARE IN FULL SWING AND WE ARE BEAUTIFYING THE MAIN ENTRANCE AT HILLCREST BY REMOVING CERTAIN PLANTS, REPLACING THEM AND ADDING NEW ONES. THE FULL IMPACT OF THIS WORK SHOULD BE NOTICEABLE IN THE NEXT 4 TO 6 WEEKS. ALSO ON THE FIRST TWO ISLANDS AS YOU TRAVEL SOUTH ON ATLAS PEAK BEFORE TURNING ONTO MONTICELLO WE ARE FILLING IN THE BARE SPOTS WITH DROUGHT RESISTENT AND FIRE SAFE PLANTINGS. THIS WILL PROVIDE A MUCH MORE AESTHETICALLY PLEASING LOOK. IN ADDITION SPOA HAD ALLOCATED $30,000 LAST YEAR TOWARDS UPGRADING SOME OF THE ISLANDS TO MEET FIREWISE STANDARDS. THE FIRST ISLAND WE ARE WORKING ON IS #23 WHICH RUNS ALONG HILLCREST JUST BEFORE YOU TURN ONTO WESTGATE. ALL OF THE HIGHLY FLAMMABLE JUNIPERS ARE BEING RIPPED OUT AND REPLACED WITH COLEONEMA SUNSET GOLD. THIS WORK SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT 10 DAYS WEATHER PERMITTING. WE HAVE RECEIVED SEVERAL INQUIRIES ABOUT THE LARGE ISLAND ON WESTGATE THAT WAS DESTROYED IN THE FIRE. OUR PLAN WAS TO FIRST REMOVE ALL OF THE DEAD PLANTINGS WHICH HAS BEEN COMPLETED. THE BOARD THEN DECIDED TO WAIT TO ADDRESS THIS AREA UNTIL MOST OF THE ONGOING HOME RECONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETED. THE REASONING IS THAT WITH ALL THE CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC ON WESTGATE THAT HAS STARTED WE WANTED TO INSURE THAT THIS ACTIVITY WOULD NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO ANY REFURBISHMENT EFFORTS.

IN ADDITION TO THE LANDSCAPING ACTIVITIES WE FOUND THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO UPGRADE OUR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS ON 10 OF OUR PLANTER BED AREAS AS MANY PLANTS WERE DYING EITHER DUE TO INADEQUATE OR NON-FUNCTIONING DRIP LINE AND SPRINKLERS.
LASTLY, WE CONTINUE TO EXPLORE WAYS TO IMPLEMENT AN EARLY EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM FOR SILVERADO. CON HEWITT IS WORKING WITH SUPERVISOR PEDROZA TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.

I CONTINUE TO ENJOY SERVING AS YOUR SPOA PRESIDENT. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME WITH ANY AND ALL CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS AS THEY WOULD BE MOST WELCOME.

SINCERELY SUBMITTED

ANDY KIRMSE, PRESIDENT, SPOA