Men's Coffee Group Minutes of the June 11, 2013 Meeting

The meeting attended by four representatives from Mainscape: Dan Rooney – Executive Vice President Gary Hill – Technical Advisor Jared Gray – Branch Manager Manny Gonzalez – Operations Manager

Gary explained that VillageWalk is built on top of "Shell Rock" excavated from our retaining ponds. Shell Rock is not a good sub-strait for plant life. It hardens to a pottery-like consistency, which creates a poor drainage condition. This soil has poor rooting qualities, and contributes to both rooting and nutritional deficiencies.

After this discussion, the meeting was opened for questions and comments. The first comment involved the speed of the lawn mower crews, and can they slow down! Jared agreed that this is a training issue, and Mainscape will try to correct it in the future.

The next question involved the condition of our Coconut Palms. These Palms are infected with "Spiraling White Flies". This condition started on the East Coast, and has now spread to Southwest Florida. These Flies feed upon the Palms, damaging the fronds. The Flies drop a sap that can harm or kill underlying plants. Mainscape is battling this problem by injecting pesticides into the bark of the Coconut Palms as needed. This is the approved method of treatment according to Florida State University. This "injecting" method is much preferred to spraying as is less harmful to the environment. This form of treatment does take longer than spraying. Mainscape started this injection method last August 2012, and will continue treatment as necessary.

Mainscape also spoke about "Blanket Spraying Broad Spectrum Pesticides", as compared to the use of "Narrow Spectrum Pesticides". "Narrow Spectrum Pesticides" pin point a particular pest. These "Narrow Spectrum Pesticides" are much less harmful to the environment than "Broad Spectrum". An example of this "Narrow Spectrum" application is the new Cinch Bug Control "Arena". It is spread on grass, absorbed by the plant, ingested by the Cinch Bug who then dies. If birds, lady bugs and other "friendly" wild life eat the cinch bug, it does not harm them.

A member asked Mainscape to give a short discussion on the makeup of the Company. It was explained that Mainscape is a family-owned, privately held company based in Indianapolis. Mainscape does business basically throughout the Southeast, in both the private and public sectors including a number of military bases. They employ roughly 800 employees, out of which 315 are in Florida alone. All of their employees are verified through "E-Verify". They undergo background checks, drug tests and driver training. Mainscape believes in promoting from the ranks. They feel this contributes to a better employee field and a less transient work force.

It was asked if the home owner can be notified as to what and when a chemical treatment is to be applied. Mainscape replied that notification can be accessed through VillageWalk's Community Calendar. Some Home Owners mentioned that they have been notified by Mainscape through the use of door hangers.

It was also suggested that any owners having landscaping problems, route these issues through the H.O.A.

A member asked if we should be using more mulch. Mainscape mentioned that they do not have the contract for mulching, but they believe most communities provide it once a year. Another question involving manual mulch spreading, as opposed to blowing of mulch. Mainscape feels that the blowing of mulch is much dirtier, and creates problems involving dirt in cages, pools and stucco.