


☰ Menu

[Home](#) › [Forums](#) › [HOA Board](#) › [Community Center Proposal](#) [Favorite](#) | [Subscribe](#)

This topic has 18 replies, 2 voices, and was last updated 7 months ago by   
[Paul Prescott](#).

Viewing 4 posts - 16 through 19 (of 19 total)

← 1 2

Author	Posts
May 22, 2020 at 4:39 pm	<a href="#">EDIT</a>   <a href="#">MOVE</a>   <a href="#">SPLIT</a>   <a href="#">TRASH</a>   <a href="#">SPAM</a>   <a href="#">UNAPPROVE</a>   <a href="#">REPLY</a> <a href="#">#1314</a>
	Second thoughts on Community Center at BIB Ann McG <annmcgr@gmail.com> Fri, May 22, 6:16 AM To: BIBHOA Board <bibhoaboard@gmail.com>

Paul  
Prescott

*Moderator*

(104.218.52.21  
4)

Cc: Susanne Jefferson <blewize42@yahoo.com>, Looey Tremblay <looey@looey.com>, Brady Irene <irene@natureworkspres.com>, Lodes Jenny <jlodes1159@icloud.com>, j davidlove63 <jdavidlove63@gmail.com>, farrell laura <lfarrella@hotmail.com>, Rufe Jane <rufesneider@yahoo.com>, WADLINGTON LORI <loriwadlington@comcast.net>, Skiwski Sara & Ian <xerskis@me.com>, Pask Martin <Martin.Pask@subrosagroup.co.uk>, Anello Francesco <fanello55@gmail.com>, [sprout33@gmail.com](mailto:sprout33@gmail.com) <sprout33@gmail.com>, Zentz Gayle <zentzgz@gmail.com>, Jayer Cecilia <cecilia.jayer@gmail.com>, Chris And Melissa <info@worldseedsupply.net>, Candee Tremblay <candee@looey.com>, Gene DeMarco <demarco.gene@yahoo.com>

Dear Board:

Thank you for posting some further information when you shared my and other owners' input on your website. I'd like to amend my preference/recommendation as a result.

I didn't realize that funds were so low and that we've had some unexpected extra expenses like attorney fees. I'd like to change my recommendation to just remove the fish tank/worm bin and use that space as-is for a gathering area for now, much as it has been in the past few years.

It is likely to be some time, at least into July, and more likely fall, which is close to next year's budget cycle, before anyone who is not already in Belize can travel there to even gather. So the space that is needed is really just for current residents who wish to hang out together. As we all know, that is a subset of total current residents.

It doesn't make sense to spend our little remaining money on screens and cement. Since there is no bathroom, kitchen or solar, most gatherings this year will be in daytime and of shorter duration. That will work for now and save money. With regard to extra water storage for garden expansion; there isn't an immediate need for that, either. I was assured last fall by the garden committee that the water never ran out in the gardens during last year's drought, and many owners who aren't in residence, including me, have pledged their water sources for firefighting should the need arise. Now that we are moving into rainy season, that is less likely.

There also isn't a compelling reason to expand the gardens using POA fees that come from the entire community. There is no mention of gardens or food production in the CCRs, which say that the fees are to be used "for purposes of maintaining roads, and open spaces, and providing general administrative services for the maintenance and operation of the subdivision. "

We should maintain what is already there, and then could set up space for owners to adopt garden beds to grow their own food at their expense. HOA fees shouldn't be used to feed

individual lot owners, per the statement you've made:  
"Individual lot owners using community property for their own private gain and at the expense of the community at large is not usually something celebrated in eco-communities."

To sum up, take out the tank and voila - problem solved for this year!

Respectfully,  
Ann McGregor

May 22, 2020 at 7:02 pm

[EDIT](#) | [MOVE](#) | [SPLIT](#) | [TRASH](#) | [SPAM](#) | [UNAPPROVE](#) | [REPLY](#) **#1318**



Marcia  
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*Moderator*

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Very good explanation Paul. The pictures help show the areas in need of attention and the proposed improvements.

May 23, 2020 at 3:39 pm

[EDIT](#) | [MOVE](#) | [SPLIT](#) | [TRASH](#) | [SPAM](#) | [UNAPPROVE](#) | [REPLY](#) **#1326**

Proposal for renovations to Garden Share Shed



Paul  
Prescott

*Moderator*

(104.218.52.21

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Dawna Bemis <dawnalbemis@hotmail.com> Sat, May 23, 2020 at 5:18 PM

To: "bibhoaboard@gmail.com" <bibhoaboard@gmail.com>

I'd like to add my thoughts and opinions on the proposed changes to the Garden Share Shed.

I think that overall this is a good proposal.

1. Provides us a place to meet more comfortably for now
2. Gives us much needed extra water supply
3. Protects visitors and the food left out for garden share from insects and other pests
4. Takes care of some safety issues
5. Preserves land in the milpa for cultivation
6. Is expandable

1. Expediency: For a modest investment of \$12K Belize (\$6K US) this proposal gives us a space that meets all of our current needs for a community center both in size and functionality. There are fewer of us here at the moment and our needs are limited. Given the rate of non-payment of fees by lot owners and other pressing priorities (e.g. roads and safety) it seems unlikely that a community center requiring a larger investment will happen anytime soon. The original community center was approved years ago but other higher priority items kept pushing it further out.

2. I think the changes to allow for extra collection and storage of water should proceed regardless of the overall decision. Extra water is needed for the milpa and for fire-

fighting. The one thing that we know for sure is that the climate here in Belize is unpredictable and a good and easy to access water source is essential.

3. The bugs and ants can be bothersome at the Garden Share shed. Food often has to be tossed after it is put out for lot owners because bugs and other pests get to it.

4. I am one of the many people who have fallen on the walkway from the chalkboard to the shed area. It really is just a matter of time before someone gets seriously injured there. This is not something that a responsible board should ignore.

5. Utilizing this spot preserves a wide expanse of land further down in the milpa for cultivation or other use. I was surprised to hear other lot owners want to limit or contain the production of food within the community. The garden share program was one of the big selling points for Paul and I and we'd like to see it expand. The current lockdown limited the easy availability of produce and highlighted the benefits of having our own locally grown produce. Yes, we could all grow our own but we can do a much better job and provide produce for part-time residents and guests if we continue to pool our resources.

6. This space can either be expanded at a later date to accommodate larger groups and greater functionality or can remain as is it is for use as the Garden Share area while another area is developed into a Community Center.

I applaud the board for coming up with a proposal that actually improves things on the ground here at BIB. We can do this now or we can continue to bicker in a completely unproductive manner and get nothing done.

Dawna Bemis  
Lot 25

June 1, 2020 at 9:19 am

[EDIT](#) | [MOVE](#) | [SPLIT](#) | [TRASH](#) | [SPAM](#) | [UNAPPROVE](#) | [REPLY](#) **#1356**



Paul

Prescott

*Moderator*

(66.45.246.236

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Thank you for listening!

Ann McG <annmcgr@gmail.com> Mon, Jun 1, 9:03 AM  
To: BIBHOA Board <bibhoaboard@gmail.com>, Kathie Miller <millerkathiem@hotmail.com>, <ashmaker@att.net>, <totalbaw@aol.com>, <cecilia.jayer@gmail.com>, Paul <paul.prescott@pobox.com>

Dear Board:

My son is in town for a few days, and Sunday is church and generally reserved for our family day so always a challenge to attend meetings that day. Last night I got busy cooking Sunday dinner and missed the meeting, but I have listened to the recording.

It was really a good meeting and you all are to be commended. It seemed like everyone was heard, and not put down when they disagreed. You provided clarity on some

topics that weren't clear to me before, too.  
I feel that a good solution was reached that I will fully support.

Thank you to the board and community members - together we are better....in Belize!

Regards,  
Ann McGregor

p.s. We also had to replace the dirt under our rotoplas with concrete because it is REALLY heavy and the ground slips away. When it tilts even just a little, the plumbing gets loose or disconnected. Thank you Bryan for explaining that so well.

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Viewing 4 posts - 16 through 19 (of 19 total)

← 1 2

Reply To: Community Center Proposal

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