

San Clemente Rotary Las Palmas Elementary District Grant

Administrative Document

The San Clemente Rotary Club has a tradition of small projects at Las Palmas Elementary School. During 2019-2022 we have been maintaining the “little free library” at the school.

We asked the principal of the school, Marian Barrosa, for suggestions. After discussions with teachers, she suggested the following projects.

- > 1. Develop a butterfly garden focusing on planting more pollinator attractors and labeling the ones we have
- > 2. Develop a native plant garden (and label existing plants) that focuses on Native American uses and properties
- > 3. Label and create in ground stations that allow for identification of permanent plants/trees in garden based on characteristics/adaptations.
- > 4. Complete the sensorial garden box with irrigation and plants that allow for safe exploration

This suggested to us that we coordinate the project with the San Clemente Garden Club. The Garden Club works with the various schools in the community and has been working on some of these projects with Las Palmas Elementary.

During the work on this grant, our contacts will be:

Las Palmas Elementary School – Parent – PTA – Julie Erickson JulieEricksonIs@gmail.com

San Clemente Garden Club – Sarah Gould SarahPGould@gmail.com

San Clemente Rotary Club – Oakley (Lee) Van Slyke leevanslyke@gmail.com

The funds of \$1,000 will be used to purchase planting materials and plants from local nurseries. Both Shore Gardens Nursery and Plant Depot have been generous for civic projects in the past. About \$75 will be used to prepare labels for some of the plants indicating their name and role as food sources for pollinators.

The precise application of the funds will depend on the gifts from the nurseries and what needs we find when we inspect the gardens in the fall of 2022. We do know that all four of these projects have been started and await funding for completion. Sarah Gould believes, without a detailed inspection, that the grant of \$1,000 will be sufficient to complete the project, assuming volunteer labor from the San Clemente Rotary Club to do some movement of materials, preparation of wood and other tasks that are more physically demanding than the members of the Garden Club are comfortable with.

By

Lee Van Slyke

6/1/2022