

TREETOPS

The situation we are in with Treetops is that Jon Hardy is telling County Council that he spoke to the public meeting at the community building on October 13 and convinced Van Wyck residents to accept his proposal for the cluster development at Treetops. He is supporting this with the newspaper story and the fact that we did not have a big presence at the last County Council meeting, saying "If they really objected they would be here."

It would be a good idea to have a big turnout for the County Council meeting at 6:30 pm on Monday, December 8. The benefit to doing the big rally at the December 8 meeting is that the Treetops matter will be near the beginning of the meeting and there will be a public hearing specifically on the Treetops matter, so everyone wishing to speak on Treetops will have 5 minutes to speak.

Dr. Wilt thinks that the Treetops ordinances will pass no matter what we do, but "we are better off long term if we cram it down out protesting throats than if we just roll over and accept the inevitability of the application of political power." He also points out that County Council plans to issue a general call that cluster developments in Van Wyck are for sale after the first of the year. Anyone wanting a cluster development in Van Wyck who is willing to sign a development agreement similar to the one Lennar is signing for Treetops will be able to have one. Approvals can be had in as little as 3 or 4 months. I think that we will be better able to deal with the expected surge in cluster development proposals in Van Wyck if we have a clear record of serious opposition as expressed by a large turnout of angry voters on December 8.

Dr. Wilt, Rosa Sansbury and others have faithfully represented Van Wyck by speaking at County Council meetings in opposition of the Treetops Cluster Development for almost two years. They and our community deserve our support by our presence and comments at the December 8 meeting.

Prepared by Betty Broome, Vice President

Approved by the Van Wyck Community Development Club at its regular meeting on December 2, 2014.