

DRAFT
TRAILER ESTATES PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
WORKSHOP
MARCH 23, 2009
SMALL HALL
1903 69TH AVENUE WEST
BRADENTON, FL 34207

The workshop was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Martha asked Gail to share the concept of “the empty chair” and name plate in memory of Trustee Bob Durrin who had just passed away. Martha announced that there will be a memorial service for Bob at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 28, at the beach pavilion.

Margo Cushman is the new liaison to the Beautification Committee. The committee will meet today at 1 p.m. There are only three people on the committee and there should be four. Martha asked all of us to think of someone we might suggest as an addition to this committee.

Fred has resigned from the ARC Committee. The committee needs a year-round resident as a member of the committee. Anyone interested should contact Nancy Keegan, president of ARC.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Notary Policy—Byron Beard, insurance agent for Florida Municipalities—our insurance carrier for Errors and Omissions insurance--stated that the district must have a policy in regards to the notary service TJ provides in her duties to the park. There are three possibilities: 1) she can notarize for the district only, 2) she can notarize for the district as well as non-district business for owners and guests or 3) she can notarize for the district as well as non-district business for the general public. TJ has no problem notarizing for TE residents she knows but is concerned about doing so for those people she doesn't know. The Board recommends TJ notarize for district business only; a policy will be written which states that TJ will do notary work for district business only.

2. Legal Consultation—Martha stated that presently we have no mechanism to bring the attorneys to a meeting. John said he thought the Board had adopted a policy a while ago that the chairman could bring an attorney to the meeting, but Martha said there is no policy for that. She went on to say she feels someone should have the authority to have the attorneys come to a meeting. Janet said it should be up to the chairman; Joe agreed. A policy will be written to allow the chair to bring an attorney to a meeting.

3. Deed Restrictions:

#1—Strike “at least two members” because it would violate the Sunshine Law. We need to review ARC policies. Martha feels there is a value judgment in the words “good construction repair” and feels these words should be defined with a measurable definition. It is also felt that the park should get a copy of the certificate of occupancy. There is a question about getting a survey for an addition within the lot line. We could add “that extend beyond the current footprint of the home.” There is a concern about the one-year requirement for a survey. We will go back to the ARC committee to see if there is a county requirement. No concrete should be placed in the setback. There are no county requirements for sheds less than 120’ or less than 8’ tall. There needs to be a permit for the portable storage container.

Deed Restrictions 2-6 are okay as written.

#7—Cross out the entire newly added paragraph due to the difficulty of enforcement.

#8—Use “of” not “by”; #9 is okay as written. The remaining Deed Restrictions will be looked at another time.

Due to the illness of Janet Jones, agenda item #5 was presented before #4.

5. Janet stated that at an Aug. 6, 2007, meeting, she, as chairman, stated that name calling at the microphone was unacceptable; that was to no avail. Residents asked for a sergeant at arms. Recent attacks to the Board call for a sergeant at arms, and Janet suggests we hire just such a person. It was stated that we would need policies as to what this person would do. Margot believes that this reminder is all we need. John said that he hates to see us go to a sergeant at arms; civility is a tough one to legislate. Due to illness, Janet asked to be excused from the workshop at this point.

4. Future Planning Survey—Martha explained that the committee developed this survey to be able to keep it updated regularly. They wanted to correlate amenities and services with various age groups. They wanted it to be a “living survey.” Joe: “I am for the survey. We can’t do things like we have done them in the past.” Martha stated that at a Future Planning meeting she attended as liaison to the group, they stated the cost of a programmer for the survey would be \$2,000-\$3,000. Joe asked if in-house people could do it. Martha discussed how surveys should be written so that they show validity, variable, randomizing and reliability. Gail was concerned about the cost since we have an ongoing lawsuit, personal information being gathered on the survey, reliable data, differences between the survey sent with the budget and this one, as well as a potential bias if volunteers went door-to-door; but, she empathizes with the committee that spent such a long time on the development of this survey. John suggested we set a goal and have a survey available for the next mailing in the fall. Could there be a grouping of ages? Fred: “People spent a lot of time on this.” Martha agreed to work on the survey and bring it back to the Board for consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John White, 2209 IN—The committee worked on the survey for almost three years and wanted it finished
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and given to the Board in January hoping to get it to the residents in February. “You are dealing with something that we are already ahead of you.” Programmers were going to volunteer. By April 1, we planned to mail those we didn’t get back. Martha replied that Chet Force said at the Future Planning meeting that he had a programmer for \$2,000-\$3,000.

Bev Lew, 2008 IL—We are in a huge drought situation; we should learn what we should and should not plant. She has a lot to say about Future Planning but will send her letter to Chet to put up on his Web site. She states that we cannot legally have a sergeant at arms.

Flo Mallory, 6919 W. Bayou—The survey is diagnostic as far as vision is concerned. We need the data to determine how we are able to serve the needs and wants of the property owners.

John White, 2209 IN—He agreed with Martha after a call to Chet Force. It might cost \$3,000 if we went with an outside programmer, but it would be no cost because there were volunteers to do it.

Pat Prosser, 6819 American Way—She stated that she had questions (Board answers are bolded): 1) Why must we get air conditioner permits from ARC? She stated that in an emergency, she would simply get one and have it installed. **The county says the same thing as ARC; and in an emergency, simply put one in and get a permit later. That is acceptable.** 2) Are we talking about grass being 6” or weeds, 6”? What is the charge if the yard is mowed? **We should use the term “growth” not “grass” or “weeds.” The county uses 50 percent as its guide. The charge varies due to the hourly rate of the employee, charge for the equipment, use of Roundup, etc.** 3) Why should someone have to have a land survey done again? **It is agreed that we will look into that.** 4) Why would concrete have to be removed? **It is only removed if it is in the setback, except the driveway.** 5) When will the meetings be put back on the Web site? **Minutes are on the Web site. Click on “Administration.”** 6) Can people know what happened at the court last week? **The hearing was delayed until June 5 (and may be continued on June 12) as those are the days the judge has three hours available on her docket. Three things happened at the court: 1) Committees cannot have two board members on them. That has been done. 2) We may not hold executive committee meetings, which has not been done since September of 2006. 3) We will provide certain public records.** 7) What have we heard about boat rentals being commercial? **According to both our attorney and Manatee County Land Development, Trailer Estates is grandfathered in non-conforming use and is, therefore, able to rent marina slips.**

Chet Force, 1608 Marina Drive—In response to Martha, Chet said he put a rough amount on the cost of a programmer. He stated that he also said he had programmers who would do it for nothing.

Bev Lew, 2008 IL—The reason the county has an 18” policy (for grass cutting) is they have a directive from the state of Florida because it is a health issue. She states that we cannot go on property because it isn’t a health issue. The county trumps ARC.

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ANYTHING ELSE?

Gail stated that she would like to thank the many residents—too numerous to count—who signed petitions in
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4/8/2009

DRAFT

support of the board. She was really touched by that and knows the rest of the Board was, too. She also thanked Barb Durrin and Bob, posthumously, for their efforts in organizing these petitions. Gail asked residents if they could get to the point where they bring one problem to the microphone at a time for the Board to consider. We should see one problem to its conclusion before we move to another.

Martha said some assumptions at the microphone are wrong because residents don't have all the answers.

Joe: Why do we mow county property? If we let it grow to 18", it would look terrible. Martha added: Part of it is appearance.

The workshop was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Opper, Secretary