

Saved e-mail message

From: writergail@juno.com
Date: Wed, Aug 1, 2007, 11:17am (EST+5)
To: jjobrien1@webtv.net
Subject: Response to our phone call...

Hi Janet,

I want you to know that I have written and will send this morning a letter to the park and trustees about all that has been going on. I'd like you--or someone else--to read it at Monday's meeting. Read it loudly and clearly so the dissidents understand. I believe the letter should arrive by Friday or Saturday. In case it doesn't, I have also attached the letter to this e-mail. I have a virus scanner so I know nothing in this e-mail or attachment contains a virus.

You asked me to reiterate via e-mail the things we talked about yesterday--here goes:

- 1) Ask the attorney if we have to re-duplicate material for the other attorney if that material has already been given to Mary Lou Smith. Since it is her personal attorney, isn't it Mary Lou's responsibility to give the attorney documents we've already duplicated and given to her?
- 2) Thurman and I both feel it is time to bring security into the meetings--at least for a brief time. Someone in uniform sitting at your trustee table would accomplish four things: First, it would be a threat/deterrent to those who feel they are above the rules. Second, it would give a sense of security/calmness to all of you knowing that if the rules are not respected, someone will be removed from the meeting. Third, it will enforce the rules you've already made and will bring order to the meetings. Fourth, it will indicate to the park the seriousness of the park's problems. I think too many residents have been/are too complacent about what has been going on. The meetings have simply gotten out of hand--and really, that has been going on for a long time. It is inexpensive to hire a security guard and well worth it, we believe. Most places have one these days. We believe this could be done for a relatively short time--just until order is restored and people know you won't tolerate inappropriate words or behavior. Right now, you have rules but nothing to enforce them. Unenforced rules might as well not be there. The other possibility is to ask the Manatee County sherriffs to send a deputy to the meeting. Our township does that.
- 3) We discussed whether or not I think the attorney should remain at the meetings. The attorney isn't doing much at the meetings. He can be given a copy of the video tape and watch things himself that come up. If a security guard is hired, I don't think an attorney is necessary; if a security guard is not hired, then someone outside the park absolutely should be present. Security guards are trained to do what they do, and they know the law so they know what they can and cannot do. I think people will know you're serious if you hire a security guard, and it's about time they realize that you have had enough and will bring civility to the meetings and the park. Asking a park owner to take on this role places them in a bad position between the trustees and dissidents. Thurman and I aren't sure that's a good idea.
- 4) Yes, announce at Monday's meeting that you won't tolerate name calling....but, you need someone like a security guard to back that up or your words will mean nothing to people who care only about themselves.

I think this is all we talked about. Janet, Thurman and I really believe it is time to get someone to those meetings to enforce the rules. Escort just one person out of a meeting, and the whole group will get the message loud and clear that you won't tolerate any further verbal abuse at the meetings...and the park will get the message of what has been going on. Just the presence of a security guard may make all of that unnecessary. Somehow they have to get the message that you won't tolerate any more of their nonsense.

I really care about you and all the trustees. Please, please hang in there or the dissidents will take over but take definitive action to end their "show" at meetings.

Gail Opper



TE Aug. 1, 2007.doc (msword attachment)