

**BOARD APPROVED AS CORRECTED JANUARY 19, 2009  
TRAILER ESTATES PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
JANUARY 5, 2009  
9:30 A.M.  
SMALL HALL  
1903 69<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE WEST  
BRADENTON, FL 34207**

**REGULAR MEETING**

Janet Jones gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Martha Brauer called the meeting to order

Trustees present were: Martha Brauer, Pam Cole, Bob Durrin, Harry Fitzpatrick, Fred Hoch, Janet Jones, Gail Opper, Joe Salerno and John Vandermolen.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A correction was requested by Janet Jones on page 3 of the minutes for the Dec. 15 meeting. The date for the Sunshine Meeting should be changed from Jan. 16 to Jan. 26. Pam Cole made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected and Joe Salerno seconded that motion. Motion passed 9-0.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Three letters were received. At the request of Chairman Brauer, the letters were not read to the audience. Chairman Brauer stated that she will handle correspondence this way for now and will decide later if changes need to be made. Letters were received from Dr. & Mrs. James McCumber, written Dec. 18 and received Jan. 5, in regards to their son; from Sharon Denson, written Jan. 5 and received Jan. 5, in regards to bulletin board space for the Let's Talk Club; and from John White, written Dec. 17 and received Jan. 5, in regards to the Future Planning survey. All are available for public viewing in the office.

**REPORT OF TREASURER:** Pam Cole distributed a form for board and public review showing costs to residents of various activities and areas of park ownership. The form covered the period of Oct. 1, 2007-Sept. 30, 2008 and was divided into sub categories and seasonal recreation. Questions: Joe Salerno asked if the large and small hall maintenance is separated from other maintenance to which Pam replied that none of this includes expenses for payroll. Martha Brauer asked if maintenance is supplies and repairs and does not include labor and wondered if December statistics might be available for the next board meeting; Pam said they would. Fred Hoch asked Pam to check the price of water under the beach category as he felt it was too high.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:** None presented.

## **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS FROM TRUSTEES:**

Pam Cole stated that the Budget Committee will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, and every Tuesday thereafter in the Card Room. The committee will consist of the same people as last year—Herb M<sup>A</sup>cFarlane, Jennie Battaglia and Bernie Kotlik. There will be an evening meeting in February to discuss the budget and budget approval will be March 16.

Joe Salerno stated that there will be an open meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13, in the large hall for residents to discuss recreation. The discussion will include 9-hole golf, game room, exercise room, laundry and cards. Everyone is encouraged to come and give input. He also announced that Showtime will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15. Venice Little Theater will perform.

Harry Fitzpatrick stated that December bingo had 782 people. \$3,798 was taken in and given out with an average of \$112 and jackpots of \$2,824. He is requesting volunteers to help him with bingo.

Martha Brauer stated that volunteer forms are available in the office. The board would like residents to possibly help with various jobs in the park. Volunteer forms should be returned by Jan. 7.

John Vandermolen stated that Ira Kirby will replace Rick Fletcher whose job it is to open buildings, check bathrooms and pool. Mr. Kirby will start working this weekend.

Fred Hoch asked about the unauthorized tenants on Iowa Avenue. John Vandermolen has been in touch with the owner Darlene Beasley who has filed an eviction notice with the court. The tenants have appealed. Ms. Beasley asked John Vandermolen to attend the court hearing Jan. 23 in her stead. John will call the attorney of Ms. Beasley to see if he can attend. Fred then asked about the storage lot. Spaces are available. Can we put this information in The Tribune. It was stated that we will have a draft at the Jan. 12 workshop and we will vote on Jan. 19. Vacancies will be noted at that time. Fred then asked about the east end ditch. John met with Ron Gettman and two employees from Land Division of Manatee County. The question is: Whose property is it? There is nothing anywhere about who owns the property. The county has agreed to research the ditch problem, as it is their responsibility to keep it clean.

Janet Jones asked that residents call her with information about Health and Welfare. A Trailer Estates Memorial Service will be held at 1 p.m. Jan. 11 in the large hall to remember residents who passed away in 2008. Janet commented that the idea for this service was Harold Arsenault's.

Pam Cole asked about the Tennessee fence. John replied that there are no setbacks. He suggests someone put up a fence; and if someone complains, take it down. He continued that this is a dead issue at this point.

Martha Brauer stated that there will be a Sunshine Law workshop in the small hall at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 26. She cautioned trustees about not attending events where current issues are being discussed, as that could be a violation of the law. She also stated that there will be a trustee orientation at the Jan. 12 workshop. Trustees must file a PP34 form to get an item on the agenda, and the form must be turned in by 8:30 a.m. on the Wednesday before a meeting. Martha sincerely thanked the old board members for their service as well as all the committee members and stated that all committee service ended Dec. 31 except the standing committees, which are Deed Restrictions, Marina, ARC, Beautification and Future Planning. Please send to the district office the names of committee members. The Policy and Procedures Committee has expired and will not be renamed right now. The Web site committee will not be renamed. Martha will work with the group and gather input to prepare an informational manual. Though there is no committee, the board will keep the site up-to-date. Martha asked that the Web site Committee secretary give names of committee members to the district office. Residents should use the Web site mailbox to put things on the Web. Martha asked Pam Cole to delay checking into the TV contracts until we learn more about the Florida Statutes. The budget questionnaire has been sent to residents with the financial statement and is due back Jan. 15. Martha then discussed the trustee liaison positions. She asked Fred to continue on the ARC Committee with John Vandermolen as liaison. The liaison appointment on the Beautification Committee has been postponed until Walter Dietz returns. Lucille Donovan has asked to be on the committee. This committee must have a minimum of four members.

## **REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

ARC: Requests for a fence and carport expansion at 2105 Minnesota, an expanded shed at 2206 New York and the replacement of an air conditioner at 1816 Illinois were all approved. The next meeting will be Jan. 9.

Beautification: The committee has not met since Joe Tinkle resigned.

Future Planning: The committee met Dec. 17 to discuss the survey. The next meeting is Jan. 7 at 1 p.m. in the small hall.

## **RESIDENTS COMMENTS**

Bev Lew, 2008 Illinois: The Web Committee is important and they did a good job, and the board sees them as not worthy. She hopes the committee will continue. We have \$100,000 into the lawsuit on both sides—money could be better spent. The board does not follow the Sunshine Law. Trustee Gail Opper asked Mrs. Lew to answer some questions to which she replied that she would not discuss anything further and returned to her seat. Gail then stated that as a trustee she would discuss it anyway because people want open and honest government. The board, Gail continued, never said the Web committee wasn't worthy, and the fact is that all committees end Dec. 31. Gail also

stated that there is a lawsuit pending about the Sunshine Law, but the lawsuit isn't settled yet so it is dangerous to state that the board isn't following the law.

Harry Splett, 2104 Ohio: Stated that he spoke with Ron Gettman who said that if Martha will call him, he will send the senior member to approve the permits if the resident will not follow the deed restrictions. If that doesn't work, there is a Plan B.

Richard Linn, 1805 Pennsylvania: There is a utility pole that belongs to Florida Power & Light at the rear of 1805 Pennsylvania. It is unsafe, unsightly and a fire hazard. There is live energy for service to 1808 Wisconsin. There is also a piece of free standing conduit on the pole. Mr. Linn has tried to get someone to take care of this for years. Can someone find out who is responsible for it; who is liable for the pole? We will workshop this; pictures were supplied to the board.

John Stephenson, 1703 Tennessee: There has been some miscommunication about who owns the fence. Dogs are coming through the fence so people can come through, too; and the fence has been on fire. John stated that the existing fence belongs to DeSears. Bob Durrin offered to reinvestigate the problem and report his findings to Mr. Stephenson through the board.

Virgil Reinig, 2113 Minnesota: As president of the Firemen's Association, he congratulated the board and assured us we would get all the help we need from the firemen. He suggested Mr. Linn call the fire marshal about the utility pole at the back of the Linn property. Mr. Reinig asked that residents not park across from one another as the emergency vehicles cannot get through, and the time it takes to go around could be life threatening. He is also concerned about storage area security and will bring pictures. The fence on the north side is in dire need of securing to the ground.

**OLD BUSINESS**—None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was introduced and presented by Pam Cole to approve normal expenses to be paid throughout the year from Jan. 1 to Dec.31, 2009. The motion was seconded by John. Martha questioned whether Item #6 "maintenance materials or equipment to \$1,500" match trustee duties. Items over \$1,500 must present three bids for items over \$1,500 and have a bill presented for payment. John says he will review. Bob questioned the use of the word "equipment" instead of supplies. He feels strongly this item should say supplies and not equipment. With an accounting background, Gail stated that in the world of accounting, supplies covers items such as paper and equipment covers tools, etc. With the discussion over, a vote was taken. Trustees Brauer, Cole, Fitzpatrick, Hoch, Jones, Oppen, Salerno and Vandermolen voted in favor of the motion, while Trustee Durrin voted against the motion. The motion passed 8-1.

**LITIGATION ASSESSMENT – A court reporter was present.**

At this point, the meeting was recessed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to allow attorneys Mark Barnebey and Thomas Shults to discuss the lawsuit Case 08CA11315 pending against the district. This was a private meeting with only the board and the attorneys present.

**The board meeting resumed at 1:05 p.m.**

## **REPORTS OF CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

TE Woodshop presented by Tom Featheringill: Bob Long, president of the Woodshop, reported that they made 300 Christmas toys for children. They made these toys at their own expense for children from Children First and Child Protection Agency. Thanks to D.J. McGowan and Sharon Denson for their contributions. This group donated a security system for the entry gate for the storage lot. SAFE donated a memory stick. Tom thanks everyone for his/her support in the annual spaghetti dinner.

Dancing presented by Kay Hislop: Folk dancing will take place Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. Line dancing is also available to the residents.

Christmas dinner presented by Bev Lew: The dinner was a big success with about 342 people served. There were a large number of "To Go" orders. Three board members or recently elected board members attended. 68 volunteers were involved. Donations came from the Yacht Club, the Woodshop, Share A Craft, Bocci and 24 people gave money. The cost per meal was about \$2.82.

Bocci presented by Joe Salerno: A waffle breakfast will be held at 8 a.m. Jan. 24. Cost is \$5.

Share Program presented by Pam Cole: On Jan. 24, food ordered in December will be available for pickup. About three days before Jan. 24, the new menu will be posted and food can be ordered for February.

Joe Salerno made a motion for adjournment. Seconded by Bob Durrin and passed 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Opper, Secretary