

PALM-AIRE COMMUNITIES COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2018

Palm-Aire Country Club

Present were Officers and Representatives:

President: John Parks, Fairway Lakes

Vice President: Barbara Robinson, Clubside

Secretary: Susan Romine, Woodland Green

Treasurer: Art Smith, Condo C/Fairway Point

Representatives: Lesley Stein, Club Villas; Jeffrey Smith, Club Villas II; Frank Gooch, Condo B; Pat Ledwith, Conservatory Estates; Dan Reeves, Fox Pointe; Gail Clay, Misty Oaks; Joe Rasset, Palm-Aire Country Club; and Ed Leon, Rosewood

A quorum was present; therefore, the meeting was called to order at 3:36 p.m.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAXING UNIT (MSTU)

Sheila Ballesteros, Manatee County Financial Management Department, reported a balance of approximately \$426,000 in the Palm Aire Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) account. The funds have only been used for the landscape maintenance contract with Hunter Landscaping. She provided a book of MSTU information for Barbara Robinson, as MSTU Committee Chairman.

Barbara Robinson, MSTU Committee Chairman, indicated that the members were not aware that the funds have not build up to that amount; however, now there are projects for which the funds could be used.

Dan Reeves asked about proper use of the funds. Sheila advised that right-of-way landscaping and beautification are the only services allowed under the ordinance.

Art Smith and Jeffrey Smith asked about using funds for safety, lighting, speed bumps, or signage. Sheila indicated that it might be time to update the ordinance (Ordinance 02-50). She will provide information as to how to update an ordinance.

Chad Butzow, Deputy Director of Manatee County Public Works Department, was asked about drainage at the Palm Aire Country Club in relation to Southwest Florida Water Management District requirements. Joe Rasset, Palm Aire Country Club General Manager, indicated the ditches had not been cleaned out.

Chad noted that the purpose of the MSTU is to enhance the maintenance of the rights-of-ways.

Lesley Stein asked about the process amending an ordinance. Barbara noted that care must be taken because the funds have accumulated over 25 years. If drainage and safety projected are added to the ordinance, the funds will be gone and the original purpose of the MSTU will be gone.

Barbara asked Chad about proceeding with the landscaping projects on Whitfield Avenue. She asked about getting landscape architects to submit bids.

Sheila advised that the vendor must go through the County procurement process. An ordinance requires a public hearing.

Gail Clay expressed concern related to the waterway issued expressed by Joe Rasset. Joe explained the watershed requirements and the flash boards installed by the County at the Country Club. He reported that no one is cleaning out the ditches, which are filled with foliage. Joe discussed the outflow at holes 11 and 12 of the Champs course.

Chad indicated that any questions can be handled by calling 941.708.7497.

John thanked Sheila and Chad for making their presentations.

MINUTES

The minutes of January 17, 2018, were approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Art Smith, Treasurer, reported the end of January balance is \$51,817.54.

He submitted a draft budget for FY 2018-19 of \$7,3831. The newsletter is the only new line to the budget, with costs of \$2,500 for each issue, including postage.

Gail asked about the website hosting. Art indicated that the website has been moved to another hosting site. An email will be sent to the directors shortly.

LANDSCAPING

Gail Clay will ask Hunter Landscaping for more penta flowers for the median at Whitfield Avenue and University Parkway. It is time for Hunter to update the area.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Barbara Robinson indicated that she will make calls to seek officers. She also will ask for committee members.

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NEWSLETTER

Barbara needs more volunteers to sell ads for the Newsletter. Now that there is a product, it may be easier to sell ads. Committee members do not have to be Directors. Reporters are also needed.

The first edition was mailed. Thanks went out to Dan Reeves for his work on the edition. Dan asked everyone to provide content for the next edition. He cannot provide the amount of content that he did for the first edition. He reported that ads need to be ready to print.

Dan purchased a new computer and he now must rent Photoshop, and he asked PACC to pay for the license fee, which is approximately \$10 to \$20 a month. The board agreed.

Barbara asked that members of PACC could write "letters to the editor for additional content.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Barbara reported that she was contacted by a reporter from "The Observer" regarding the operation of the MSTU. The contact was based on a proposed MSTU for park property at the Braden River; however, this MSTU would serve a different purpose than the Palm Aire MSTU. An article should be in the paper this week.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Romine, Secretary

Minutes Approved: