

PALM-AIRE COMMUNITIES COUNCIL, INC. MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2024
Palm Aire Country Club

Present were Officers and Representatives:

President: Barbara Robinson, Clubside
Vice President: Susan Romine, Woodland Green
Treasurer: Mike Grubbs, Country Lakes
Secretary: Marguerite Puca, Club Villas II

Representatives:

Cathy Allen, Avista; Donna Hampton, Broadmoor Pines; Dan Reeves, Fox Point; Cathe Snyder, Gardens at Palm Aire; Lesa Hartigan, Links; Joe Morrison for Laurie Lawrence, Misty Oaks (via Zoom); Guelda Wooldridge, The Preserves; Tom Schwartz, Rosewood at the Gardens (via Zoom)

Guests: Vince Ruma, Gene Guerra, Ron Pelliccia (all from Woodland Green)

Absent were:

Jean Pacholek, Eagle Creek Condos; Ray Toothaker, Eagle Creek Villas; Van Hayhow, Fairway Point; Frank Scianni, Fairway Six; Paul Staab, Golf Pointe; David Brand, Lakeside Woods; Greg Martzolf, Palm-Aire Country Club; Jon MacDonald, Pine Trace; Julie Jacques, Timberlake Village; Maryann Mitchell, Woodlake Villas

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 by President Barbara Robinson. A quorum was established.

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 15th, 2023 meeting had previously been emailed to all PACC directors. No changes were suggested. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Guelda Wooldridge, seconded by Cathy Allen, and approved via voice vote.

FINANCES

Mike Grubbs reported that he combined financial reporting for November and December, since there was no December meeting.

The balance in the checking account at the beginning of November was \$21,344. We earned \$1.67 in interest on the checking account and received \$300 for a Newsletter ad. For expenses, we paid \$2942 for holiday lighting and the annual fee for our Post Office box rental of \$176.

Photoshop software for the Newsletter cost \$240. Total expenditure for the two months was \$3358, leaving a balance in the checking account of \$18,288 at the end of December. The CD balance is \$35,586, giving us a total balance of \$53,874.

The CD is up for renewal on February 8th. The current rate is 5.35% for 120 days, so we should expect something similar when we renew.

So far for January, we received income of \$300 for a Newsletter ad and \$336 in association dues (a delayed payment recording). The expense to date is printing of the Newsletter for \$3688.

Mike asked that the community reps let him know if their community has changed their property management firm. This will help when the annual association dues bills are sent out in March.

Mike's email is jmgrubbs71@aol.com

MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAXING UNIT (MSTU)

Barbara asked Julie Jacques for an itemized bill for the Christmas lights which were installed on the island during the holidays, as well as an indication that the bill was paid in full. The county will reimburse PACC for the expense (out of MSTU funds).

Now that the island at University and Whitfield has been landscaped, we are turning our attention to the next phase of the project, the island at The Gardens entrance plus irrigation from University to Country Club Way. The MSTU Committee will be meeting with Manatee County representatives to start the process.

NEWSLETTER

Dan Reeves reported that the publication date for the spring newsletter will be March 22, 2024. All input must be received by March 15th.

Lesa Hartigan will create a piece on The Links for the Neighborhood Spotlight feature.

Dan reported that his efforts to cut costs by changing type size and reducing leading produced very little savings – only about \$100. Given this, he will revert to past sizing standards.

The mailing list continues to be an issue for distribution. Susan reported that her community, which is down for hand delivery, got both that type of delivery plus a mailing. Lakeside Woods did not receive copies in the mail. On the other hand, Country Lakes DID receive their copies in the mail, for the first time in several printings.

Dan, Susan and Barbara will meet to discuss cost and distribution.

THE WEBSITE

Cathy Allen reported that the website was up to date. She asked to be notified if a community changed its representative, so that the website would remain current.

Dan Reeves asked if reference on the website to the Newsletter was via a link of a pdf file. Cathy said that it was via a link (a picture of a cover that opens to a link). Dan said that in an effort to save money, he had eliminated storing of past issues by an outside company. He promised to send Cathy pdf files of past issues, which will work for the website.

A question was raised about whether or not the Newsletter should be printed or simply made available on the website with community notification via email. The preference is to print, since a prior attempt to have only electronic distribution was thought to have caused the organization to have lost touch with people in neighborhoods.

OLD BUSINESS**AVID AT UNIVERSITY – APARTMENT DEVELOPMENT**

Barbara noted that the development project will probably be on the agenda for a Planning Board meeting in February, as well as going before the County Commissioners. She asked that when a date is set, information on the meeting be distributed to PACC representatives for circulation within their communities. The goal would be to have a large presence at the meeting in order to make our concerns visible, particularly the impact on local traffic flows.

The county is in the process of doing a traffic study, as evidenced by the strips along Whitfield and along University.

NEW BUSINESS**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Susan Romine will chair the Committee, charged with securing PACC officers for the upcoming year. Elections will be held in March. Lesa Hartigan volunteered to be a member.

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Lesa Hartigan noted that the island at the entrance to her community, The Links, was county property (and has irrigation and electricity). She asked why it (and the adjoining community, The Hollows) was not included on the Whitfield Re-Landscaping Master Plan. Eagle Creek, another adjoining community, does have its island shown as county property.

Cathy Allen asked about the remaining dead trees on Whitfield. Barbara responded that the issue would be addressed by the county as we move further into the landscaping project.

Guelda Wooldridge asked if the yellow lines near the island at University could be repainted (they have become very faded over the years). This would greatly aid in visibility of the entire landscaped median.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

The next PACC meeting will be February 21, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. at the Country Club.

Respectfully submitted,
Marguerite Puca, Secretary