

THE BOBCAT COMMUNITY NEWS

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much" Helen Keller

The community has several major problems that need to be addressed quickly: a security system that is 20 years old and needs to be brought up to date; lake banks that are eroding and lake levels that vary much too much; electrical systems that are out of date and lights that are not working – did you know the lights are connected to the sprinkler systems and must be on for the sprinklers to work? These problems have plagued BCT for some time. As the community has aged, the problems have worsened.

CDD/HOA Board Meetings

The CDD board meets the first Thursday of the month at the community center 4-6 pm and the third Wednesday of the month from 4-6 pm. **Website: bobcatcdd.com**

Bobcat HOA meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the community center 3:30-5:30
Website: bobcattrailhoa.com

Fairway Commons HOA meet the third Monday of the month at the Community Center from 3-5 pm.
Website: fairwaycommonshoa.com

Bobcat Villas meet the second Thursday of the month at the Villas Community Center at 4:30 pm.
Website: bobcatvillas.com

Community Center Events

A calendar is e-mailed monthly listing the various committees and their scheduled meetings. The office is open Monday through Friday 9am to 3pm. 941-426-0808. Email is bobcatcommunitycenter@verizon.net

NOTE: Fobs cannot be shared, particularly in the exercise room, due to liability. A guest fob can be secured for a \$25 deposit with a waiver signed. Money is refunded when fob is returned.

At the April 16 infrastructure meeting the Board of Supervisors agreed they would send a newsletter on a regular basis (within the month of the meeting) as opposed to quarterly. Because of changes proposed they wish to inform the community of the details - to dispel rumors. We welcome your comments, suggestions and emails. To the community, here are the changes we have proposed and voted on:

Two board meetings a month – no infrastructure meeting – so we can vote on decisions in a timely fashion. There are too many urgent problems. We are waiving any payment to the BOS for this second meeting and are not employing a lawyer. The district manager will/must attend at a cost of \$600.00 which includes administrative and payroll costs. (Yes, payment for the second meeting has been put into the budget for next year. Next years' BOS has the right to vote on whether or not they get paid for the second meeting.) The motion was voted and approved for the second meeting which will take place on the third Wednesday, using the same schedule from the I/A meetings.

Envera Security System – Tom Coffing moved (April 5, 2018) to amend a prior motion to commence contract negotiations with Envera for a new security system for the CDD, subject to District Counsel and staff review, and final ratification by the Board. The Board appointed Dave Grant to work with Ms. Mooney-Portale and Mr. Faircloth regarding these negotiations. No contract would be entered into until it was presented to the Board for consideration. **Should** the CDD Board and Envera Systems **arrive at an agreed set of contract terms and conditions** the project will be scheduled to begin about three months later and may take a few more months to install and test the equipment. During that time there will be a person in the gatehouse to greet visitors and to help residents and visitors use the new equipment. Envera Systems will also provide training sessions for residents prior to the system going operational. To verify, the CDD Board solicited proposals from three different security systems firms. The proposals were fully analyzed by the Board. Individually they visited the selected vendor, Envera Systems, and the board spoke at the meeting and said they judged Envera superior and that they offered the best value overall. In addition, current customers of Envera Systems were visited and interviewed by many of the CDD Board members and the results of the interviews were very positive and encouraging.

Lakes and Roads – During the dry season our lake levels fall dramatically. Kimley-Horn, the engineering company contracted to help BCT overcome this issue, has made recommendations to drill a well to the Floridian Aquifer to help supply water for both irrigation and the lakes. They have to wait until after the rainy season to accomplish it. Rich Smith, golf course manager, is working along with the BOS to solve this problem. On the proposal to repair the erosion – it must be repaired after the lake issues are resolved.

Street light change – It is proposed to change present street lights to LED lights which are projected to last 18 years. Four lights are already out but there is not enough money in the budget for this year. The light changes were approved to put into the budget for next year.

Land Swap – There was a discussion of trading a parcel of land on golf hole 10 for a parcel of land behind the current tennis court. The BOS would like to pursue this for adding pickle ball courts, bocce ball courts, shuffle board courts and a horseshoe pit. The lawyer has advised that there would have to be an equal compensation in exchange. NO buildings or equipment would be put on the traded golf course parcel. The golf course is planning to clean up the space behind the tennis courts and may put in a practice chip and putt if the land exchange does not happen. The Board has stated this is the only place we could put in more recreational games for the community. No action was to be taken on this matter unless Rich Smith sent an official offer.

Bingo/CDD e-mail/calendar/ for our community use. JoDean Eddins, originator of S.E.T., requested the CDD blast an e-mail out to the community of the dates of Bingo, to be held in the community center. The Board is only allowed one e-mail blast per day so they voted it down in case they would need that e-mail to alert the community of a problem. This is not a Board policy. They are restricted by the e-mail provider.

The Board suggested that HOA send out the Bingo e-mails instead. The attorney was concerned about the fact a CDD employee, Mrs. Stratton, was collecting cash for Bingo and writing down people's names. When the CDD calendar was sent out the Bingo date for that month was included with all the other events. In the public comments in the following CDD meeting it was questioned as to why the CDD was advertising Bingo since CDD's are prohibited by Florida law to conduct gambling.

Tom Coffing, in charge of the community center and the newsletter, sent out the last newsletter stating that all non CDD projects – i.e. yoga, bridge, mahjongg, etc. – would also be removed until a solution could be found. The calendar would only be sent with CDD meetings, HOA and committee meetings. He then talked to the attorney and to S.E.T. and it was agreed that Mrs. Stratton could accept checks from the Bingo players and keep them in an envelope until Ms. Eddins picked them up.. HOA agreed to send out e-mails on Bingo. It will be advertised as HOA Bingo on the calendar. All other non CDD events will be returned to the calendar.

Carp added to Lake 10 – Responding to a letter received, with an attached website, that Michigan has outlawed carp added to their lakes because they were too plentiful, (they lived too long and grew too large) the BOS responded that the carp aren't in now because summer is not the best season to introduce carp. The BOS will discuss it at the May meeting.

The District Manager commented that Florida Wildlife is very diligent about their lakes and will watch carefully. Also, there is a difference between Florida and Michigan. Carp to be used are neutered and will not multiply. In addition, carp are vegetarian fish and do not eat fish eggs.