

Head shot

HPCDD Projects & Issues Update

*By Larry Harvey
CDD Vice Chairman*

Election Results for 2017-2020 Terms of Office – Al O’Brien, Seat #1; Fred DeCotis, Seat #2; Paul Schafer, Seat #3.

2017 Adopted Budget – The Board of Supervisors approved the annual non-ad valorem assessment per unit owner to remain at \$300. A detailed HPCDD 2017 Budget is posted on the HP website under the BOD & Governance heading.

Roads – In November 2011, the main roads (those asphalt roads with an accompanying sidewalk/gutter) throughout the community were resurfaced with a Microsurfacing product to protect the underlying asphalt base. The roads are again in need to be resurfaced. Plans are to do the project in Oct/Nov 2017. The cost is estimated to be in the \$350,000-\$400,000 range which will be funded from present Road Reserves.

Lakes – A contract has been approved to repair the eroded shoreline along the Sabal 18th Fairway with a 3 foot high wooden bulkhead. The work is tentatively scheduled for May/June 2017. The \$125,000 cost will be funded from present Bulkhead Reserves.

The lake compressor aeration systems installed in thirty-nine lakes are continuing to maintain constant oxygen levels throughout the depth of the lake which helps to prevent algae bloom and possible “fish kill.”

The CDD recently hired a new lake maintenance contractor, Lake & Wetlands. They were able to contain the severe algae growth noted in September in some of the lakes. Over the past few years overspray from herbicides have affected the littoral shoreline plantings. A concentrated effort will be made in May (just before the rainy season) to replace the damaged littorals where needed. Littorals are important to a lake’s biological balance. They absorb fertilizer nutrients which help to alleviate algae formation, create a barrier against wave action that can contribute to shoreline erosion and provides cover for fish which in turn attract fowl wildlife. Littorals are a code mandated requirement by both Lee County and the City of Fort Myers.

Storm Water Management System (SWMS) – The CDD is in the initial stages of investigating if there is a need to dredge some of the lakes to remove the sludge accumulation on the lake bottoms. Maintaining the SWMS by the CDD is a mandated requirement of the SFWMD.

Preserves – A contract was approved to semi-annually inspect and remove weeds, brush and overhanging tree branches along the Preserve side of the fences adjoining single family homes.

Sidewalks/Gutters – The summer rainy season and irrigation water runoff causes algae formation and discoloration to the sidewalks and road gutters. For safety and aesthetic appearances, the CDD has contracted to have all the main road sidewalks and gutters pressure cleaned in November on an annual basis. In January, Heritage Palms Blvd and the main gate entrance will receive an additional pressure cleaning.