

## Minutes of the Quarterly meeting of the Harbor Oaks Homeowners Association

August 12, 2015

After the Pledge of Allegiance the president, Chet Trotto, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Deputy Hughey from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO). Deputy Hughey is involved with crime prevention and the northern Pinellas neighborhood watch program. She came to the meeting to discuss results of recent crimes in the neighborhood and talk about other related topics.

Over time there have been many crime-related incidents involving people living at 6 Harbor Cove Street Deputy Hughey stated that the occupants who were living there based on the terms of Section 8 Housing were being evicted on Friday, 8/14. Chet had contacted the owner/landlord with the issues. The landlord used the list of the criminal activity and evidence of lack of rent payment to obtain a judge's eviction order. There were concerns that threats of reprisals had been made to neighbors that Deputy Hughey addressed.

There were leaflets available for attendees to explain the use of "Crime Viewer" on line whereby you can view crimes committed in your local area. The application can be refined to expand or contract the viewing area and to filter for types of crimes. Other leaflets to assist homeowners prevent crime were also available.

Deputy Hughey reiterated that simple things like keeping cars locked and garages closed help to prevent much of the petty crimes that happen. Also, if you are going on vacation, let the Sheriff's department know and they will check your home on a daily basis.

If you see anything suspicious in the neighborhood, call the Sheriff's office. The two deputies who respond to calls in this area are deputies Morgan and Detective Reddinger.

The visit was appreciated by everyone.

After deputy Hughey left the meeting continued as normal.

Deed Restrictions Report: There had been issues with boats and trailers being parked in the neighborhood. The owners have since moved them.

The Treasurer reported an opening balance for the quarter of \$11,794.27. After deposits totaling \$30.00 and expenses of \$564.51 the new balance as at 8/11/2015 was \$11,259.76. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was proposed and carried.

### **Old Business**

The block party approved at the last meeting will be planned for late October. Nothing has been done yet but the intention this year is to focus more on the adults in the community.

As noted in the minutes of the last meeting, there was a complaint about the condition of 7 Harbor Cove. Chet reported that garbage around the house and yard has been cleaned up.

**New Business:**

Chet is looking into the cost of having surveillance cameras installed at the entrance ways. To be of any real use, they must be high definition and the cost may prove prohibitive.

Oscar will check the timer associated with the lights at the 4<sup>th</sup> street entrance.

A nomination committee is needed to put forward nominations for the HOHA officers.

**Membership:**

Currently there are 87 paid up members for the year. This represents 67% of the homes in harbor Oaks.

Oaks will be eligible to participate, not just those that have paid the annual maintenance fee.

**Any Other Business:** Open to the floor.

There was no other business to discuss.

Motion to adjourn was carried at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted –

Barry Tosdevine.

### **Discussion with Mayor Andy Steingold.**

After being introduced the first concern was from the floor concerning drug activity associated with the Middle School. A resident stated that school kids are using drugs after school at the back of the school, behind the Cumberland Farms gas station and in Philippe Park. The consensus was that initially the community patrol officers should be informed and they should investigate further.

Q: Are there any plans to provide city-wide wi-fi?

A: A limited number of hot spots in and around the city will be established. At this point in time it is not expected that the whole city will have coverage.

Mayor Steingold:

Philippe Park is a County Park. The county wants to give the park to the city but the cost of the upkeep is prohibitive. The new Waterfront Park will belong to the city and contrary to earlier statements the city will start to develop the park in the coming year and then continue to develop it year over year.

The city is working on a property exchange with Harborside Christian Church so that the church can build (at their expense) a connecting road to Marshall Street. The exchange favors the city.

Q: Trash pickup has recently been reduced to one day a week – do you not see this being an issue during the summer months when food is left to bake in the trash containers?

A: It is unlikely that trash collection will revert to the twice-weekly pick up. There may be a reduction in the monthly fees. Note that there has been a 23% reduction in street lighting fees.

Q: Yard waste will only be collected if it is in 30-gallon containers – why not allow biodegradable bags?

A: Duly noted – will follow up.