# MINUTES OF MEETING SARASOTA NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The Board of Supervisors of the Sarasota National Community Development District held a Public Hearing and Regular Meeting on August 30, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at the Sarasota National Clubhouse, 25500 National Boulevard, Venice, Florida 34293.

## Present were:

Gerald Bergmoser Chair
Carlton (Cary) Leuschner Vice Chair

John Istwan Assistant Secretary Richard (Dick) Smith Assistant Secretary

# Also present were:

Chuck Adams
Cleo Adams
District Manager
District Manager
Operations Manager
Lindsey Whelan (via telephone)
District Counsel
Patrick Healy (via telephone)
District Engineer

Ean Sims SOLitude Lake Management

Douglas Kasl Resident

#### FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

# Call to Order/Roll Call

Mrs. Adams called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. Supervisors Bergmoser, Istwan, Leuschner and Smith were present. One seat was vacant.

## **SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Public Comments: *Agenda Items* [3-Minute Time Limit]

Resident Douglas Kasl suggested the CDD website include additional information to help residents understand the role of the CDD, as opposed to the HOA, with regard to additional infrastructure and land and assessments. Mr. Bergmoser stated this CDD's scope is narrow and primarily includes responsibility for lakes, conservation areas and the stormwater management system. Asked if the CDD is responsible for undeveloped land, Mr. Adams stated the CDD generally owns the land it maintains. Mr. Bergmoser stated the majority of the assessment

amount is allocated for repayment of bonds and approximately \$300 per year is allocated to Operations & Maintenance (O&M) expenses of the CDD.

Staff responded to questions about the littoral plantings, monitoring and reporting and the goal of including a littoral shelf around the entire perimeter of each lake for erosion control and to improve water quality.

A Board Member stated Mr. Willis will discuss littoral plantings during his report.

## THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consider Appointment of Judy Stewart to Fill Unexpired Term of Seat 4 (Term Expires November 2024)

Discussion ensued regarding the vacant Seat. The Board's preference is to appoint a candidate with previous CDD board or water management experience. It was noted that several residents expressed interest but none attended the last meeting.

Mrs. Adams stated that the term of Seat 4 expires in November 2022 and Ms. Stewart is not in attendance.

Discussion ensued regarding the HOA e-blast and filling the vacant Seat.

Mr. Kasl was encouraged to submit his resume and attend the next meeting if he would like to be considered.

- A. Administration of Oath of Office to Newly Appointed Supervisor (the following to be provided in separate package)
  - I. Guide to Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees
  - II. Membership, Obligations and Responsibilities
  - III. Financial Disclosure Forms
    - a. Form 1: Statement of Financial Interests
    - b. Form 1X: Amendment to Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests
    - c. Form 1F: Final Statement of Financial Interests
  - IV. Form 8B: Memorandum of Voting Conflict
- B. Consideration of Resolution 2022-02, Designating Certain Officers of the District, and Providing for an Effective Date

This item was deferred.

#### **FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

SOLitude Lake Management Waterway Inspection Report – August 2022

Mr. Willis stated that Ms. Kennedy is no longer employed with SOLitude. Mrs. Adams stated she is now working for the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).

Mr. Sims presented the Waterway Inspection Report and noted the following:

- Wetland teams and littoral crews are working together performing inspections and treating issues.
- During the last inspection many lakes were found to be out of compliance; dying vegetation was observed.
- Lakes are maintained every quarter. Maintenance of the even numbered lakes was first, followed by the odd numbered lakes, as indicated in the Report.
- New shrubs planted in the easements are blocking ATV access for the technicians to treat the lakes from the shoreline without driving through resident properties. Complaints were received about inaccessible areas that were not treated.

Mr. Willis stated this issue is addressed in his Report and pictures are included. Mr. Sims stated there are three instances of which he is aware from the latest inspection.

Mr. Smith stated he asked to inspect the lakes with a representative from SOLitude to receive a tutorial on the types of lake grasses and things to look for so he can share information with the Board but he was never contacted by SOLitude. He expressed his opinion that the bushes and grasses at Site 56, the large pond by the seventh hole, look rough and asked what the littoral crew would do in that area. Mr. Sims stated one technician, working from an ATV, might remove plant and treat littorals by hand, with machetes; the littoral crew can treat the huge littoral shelf in one day. Asked how long it would take SOLitude to bring the lakes into compliance, Mr. Sims stated the crews are working quickly and making headway. The littoral crew will begin treating the lakes and removing dead plants tomorrow so the process should be quicker and results noticed sooner.

The littoral crew is scheduled to be on site once a month and will be on site tomorrow to remove dead plant material. Two Technicians are scheduled to be on site weekly.

Mr. Willis stated he will email Mr. Smith about the on-site visit. He stated that, to prevent regeneration, some sprayed vegetation cannot be removed until it is dead.

Discussion ensued regarding lake access easements and the new shrubs and plantings that create an access issue for lake treatments.

Mr. Sims will provide a list of additional areas where access is blocked. Mr. Willis stated it is unclear who planted the decorative shrubs. Mr. Adams stated it is a matter of identifying the locations and coordinating with residents or the HOA to move plants in the lake tract that block access.

#### FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Hearing on Adoption of Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget

# A. Proof/Affidavit of Publication

The proof of publication was included for informational purposes.

B. Consideration of Resolution 2022-08, Relating to the Annual Appropriations and Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2022, and Ending September 30, 2023; Authorizing Budget Amendments; and Providing an Effective Date

Mrs. Adams presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

The following change was made to the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 budget:

Page 3, "Legal": Change "Hopping Green & Sams" to "Kutak Rock"

On MOTION by Mr. Bergmoser and seconded by Mr. Smith, with all in favor, the Public Hearing was opened.

Mr. Bergmoser stated the O&M assessment remains flat, year-over-year. Mr. Kasl asked why the proposed amount in the Mailed Notice was slightly higher than the amount shown in the version of the budget in the agenda. Mr. Adams stated that the Notice represented the maximum assessment amount; the actual amounts assessed are on Page 7 of the budget.

On MOTION by Mr. Leuschner and seconded by Mr. Smith, with all in favor, the Public Hearing was opened.

Mr. Bergmoser presented Resolution 2022-08.

On MOTION by Mr. Leuschner and seconded by Bergmoser, with all in favor, Resolution 2022-08, Relating to the Annual Appropriations and Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2022, and Ending September 30, 2023, as amended; Authorizing Budget Amendments; and Providing an Effective Date, was adopted.

#### SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of Resolution 2022-09, Making a Determination of Benefit and Imposing Special Assessments for Fiscal Year 2022/2023; Providing for the Collection and Enforcement of Special Assessments, Including but Not Limited to Penalties and Interest Thereon; Certifying an Assessment Roll; Providing for Amendments to the Assessment Roll; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date

Mrs. Adams presented Resolution 2022-09. This Assessment Levying Resolution takes into consideration the budget that was just adopted and the assessment levels contained therein, directs Staff to prepare a lien roll and transmit the on-roll lien roll to the Tax Collector for placement of the assessments on the property tax bill.

On MOTION by Mr. Bergmoser and seconded by Mr. Leuschner, with all in favor, Resolution 2022-09, Making a Determination of Benefit and Imposing Special Assessments for Fiscal Year 2022/2023; Providing for the Collection and Enforcement of Special Assessments, Including but Not Limited to Penalties and Interest Thereon; Certifying an Assessment Roll; Providing for Amendments to the Assessment Roll; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date, was adopted.

## **SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Discussion: Feral Hogs

Mr. Bergmoser stated the Facilities and Common Grounds Committee wants to hire a company to trap hogs. The original idea was to have a company trap the feral hogs on HOA property and in the CDD conservation areas, as the HOA did for nine years, without permission.

Mrs. Adams stated Ms. Whelan sent a Licensing Agreement to the HOA three months ago but the Committee will not enter an Agreement with the CDD. The Committee wants the CDD to enter into an Agreement with the trapper. The CDD does not budget for this. Mr. Willis stated a trapper will not remove hogs for free or without an Agreement.

Mrs. Adams stated she advised the HOA that they cannot enter the conservation areas without an Agreement. Mr. Bergmoser believes the HOA is seeking a new trapper but does not want to sign an Agreement with the CDD so it is prepared to limit trapping to HOA property.

Observations and solutions employed in other CDDs were discussed. Mr. Willis stated treating yards for grubs might reduce hog activity. Mr. Adams stated the acorns on HOA property also attract hogs. Mr. Willis stated CDD property is not being damaged.

This item was deferred.

# **EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Acceptance of Unaudited Financial Statements as of July 31, 2022

Mrs. Adams presented the Unaudited Financial Statements as of July 31, 2022 and the Financial Highlights Report.

Discussion ensued regarding an outstanding payment by Lennar, the Engineering Study, a monitoring event and Principal Prepayments.

Mr. Adams will contact the Property Appraiser and Tax Collector regarding fees to budget in the future.

The financials were accepted.

# **NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Approval of July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Bergmoser presented the July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

On MOTION by Mr. Bergmoser and seconded by Mr. Smith, with all in favor, the July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented, were approved.

## **TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

# **Staff Reports**

A. District Counsel: Kutak Rock LLP

There was no report

B. District Engineer: Kimley Horn and Associates, Inc.

There was no report.

C. District Manager: Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC

There was no report.

- NEXT MEETING DATE: October 11, 2022 at 2:00 P.M.
  - QUORUM CHECK

All Supervisors confirmed their in-person attendance at the next meeting, which will be held on October 11, 2022. The November 8, 2022 meeting is being cancelled.

# D. Operations Manager: Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC

Mr. Willis presented the August Field Operations Report and stated that resident interactions were included in the Report as previously requested.

Mr. Willis, Mr. Adams and Mrs. Adams responded to questions about photographs documenting homeowner repairs, CDD repairs, examples of the littoral shelf and treatment aesthetics.

Mr. Willis discussed an interaction where a resident complained because the CDD could not remove a native plant from the littoral shelf, which he believed to be invasive.

# **ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Supervisors' Requests** 

The consensus was that the Field Operations Report is very helpful.

# TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Adjournment** 

On MOTION by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Leuschner, with all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Chair/Vice Chair