

**GULF GATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 19, 2016**

Gulf Gate Library – Room AB
Sarasota, FL 34231

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by President Darrell Cox and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 112 members of the community present.
2. **Attendees:** Darrell Cox (P), Ray Deer (VP), Kathy Butler (T), Melanie Goddard (S), Bill Driscoll (D), Greg Crabill (D), John Christison (D) Absent: Mary Muir (D),
Committee Special Assignment members: Phil Reiss, Sue Stover, Margi Beshore
3. **Recognition of New Members:** Roger Peterson of 3075 Gulf Gate Drive introduced himself as a new resident and was welcomed by the association.

Officer's Reports

4. **Approval of General Minutes:** Minutes of the November 17, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted by unanimous vote
5. **Treasurer's Report & Membership Data:** Accepted as submitted, approved by unanimous vote.

Beginning Balance (12/1):	\$29,618.99
Income	3,206.78
Expenses	<u>2,185.35</u>
Cash Balance	30,640.42
CD	5,622.61
PayPal Balance	<u>255.16</u>
TOTAL FUNDS 12/31/15	\$36,518.19

Income includes \$1850.00 in Dues and \$1356.78 in Rezone donations. Expenses included CONA dues, website development, storage and Rezone printing.

6. **Vice President's Report:** Ray Deer provided information on the initiative to update and revamp the GGCA website. Frank's Designs, by Frank Gomez, a Gulf Gate resident, has been hired to set up and maintain the site, with a cost of roughly \$2000 this year and an estimated \$500 annually going forward for site hosting and maintenance. The site has been launched and continues to evolve, particularly with information relating to the golf course rezone application.
Darrell and Ray extended their thanks to Director John Christison, who had set up and maintained the previous website on a volunteer basis for several years. John will continue to interface with Frank Gomez on content.
7. **Demographics:** Darrell Cox submitted a report on the demographics of the community. There were 399 Association members in 2015, compared with 468 in 2014. Rental properties make up 26% of the community. Currently there are 43 homes for sale and 37 rentals. As of 1/16/16 133 members had renewed. The attendees were reminded to process their renewals as soon as possible.

Committee Reports

8. **County Sheriff and Security Patrol:** Ray Deer reported that there were 2 incidences of vandalism, 1 burglary, 1 theft and 0 Juvenile Disturbances in the Gulf Gate area in December. A brief explanation of the security patrol duties was provided and members were encouraged to volunteer for shifts – pick a day or two per month and drive around to observe and report as necessary. Colonia Terrace members reported the not unusual appearance of vagrants and intoxicated individuals, and asked for more attention during the security patrols. One member questioned hiring a security guard, but with no funding and very low incidence of petty crimes, it was deemed unlikely. An attendee also suggested the idea of installing and operating webcams for surveillance.
9. **Deed Restriction Violations:** Greg Crabill reported 37 unresolved deed restriction violations: 18 walls/fence issues, 14 trailers, 2 roofs, 2 sheds, 1 unsightly object. Trailers have rapidly become the largest issue. Notices have been sent by our attorney to violators that have not responded to preliminary contact by the Deed Restriction team.

10. **Welcome/Membership**: This year there have been 133 new owners, and 112 welcome packages have been delivered. 22 packets will be sent this coming month, and 24 were completed in the last 2 weeks. The most recent distribution went roughly ½ year-round residents and ½ landlords.
11. **CONA**: working with us on Rezone, holding March meeting on Infill/Redevelopment with GGCA as primary subject, media contacts established with the help of CONA President Kafi Benz.
12. **Flood Control**: No report
13. **Streets and Lights**: Acknowledged Carolyn and Darrell Cox and Brenda and Hilda (who prefer to remain partially anonymous) for their part in designing and creating the Holiday decorations. Storm damage minimal – power outage was brief. Contact County 861-5000 for any issues as in storm debris, etc.
14. **Newsletter**: Margi is looking for content. Any interesting personalities or residents of note? Please contact her with info. In lieu of a newsletter in January, members for whom email addresses had been collected were contacted with email updates (roughly 620). The next scheduled newsletter will be mailed to the community.
15. **Website**: It is hoped that new content will continue to be developed for the site. Darrell would like to have residents find updated info on the Rezone Application and other timely issues online.
16. **CERT**: Community Emergency Response Team – 10 members on the committee, needs members, especially in light of recent tornadoes in Siesta Key, Communications and rescue. County provides training. Phil Reiss suggested residents consider a weather alert radio or download an app for alerts for personal information at critical times.

Old Business

17. **Deed Restriction Revisions**: the intended test vote for revisions has been on hold until the Rezone Application issue is resolved.
18. **Open Door Sessions**: One more session is scheduled on January 23rd. Members are invited and encouraged to meet with the Board members to express concerns, suggestions and ask questions.
19. **Medallion Homes Rezone Application/Gulf Gate Golf Course**: Updates were provided on the current status of the Rezone Application. No Planning Hearing date has been set as yet, but multiple committees are researching and preparing the Association Rebuttal to the request. The Canvassing Team has made 600 live visits and mailed info to roughly 800 residents. Once a date for the hearing is set, residents will be phoned and emailed to provide updates and to encourage attendance. Van or bus service to the hearing will be arranged. The theme of the GGCA rebuttal is to highlight the inconsistent and incompatible nature of the proposed developments. An attorney has been hired and the argument for the hearings will be 2 pronged: to attempt to stop the rezone on the basis of conflict with the County's Comprehensive Plan and secondly, to detail modifications to the proposal that would bring it in line with Gulf Gate, should the Commission move forward to authorize the rezoning.

New Business

20. **Questions**:

Can a traffic light be arranged for the Aruba intersection? A Traffic Study has already been done by the County on Aruba intersection – any action was declined.

Gulf Gate Drive from Bispham to Village didn't get updated on the median. Why? County was only doing the east end. Possible that work isn't finished? Won't plant in winter – there were flags there to signify work to be done, so it is likely the County will finish the work in the spring.

What is the status of Gulf Gate Drive? Any plans to widen? None that we know of, and the developer's traffic study did not call for widening, except in the portion from Curtiss to Beneva.

21. **Next General Meeting**: The next meeting is Tuesday, April 20, 2016, 6:30 pm at the Gulf Gate Library.
22. **Adjournment**: The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Goddard, Secretary