

VHA Town Hall Meeting

10:00 AM – Laurel Manor

April 16, 2019

- 1. Can the checking of resident ID cards at the El Santiago Recreation Center pool be improved? Residents who frequently use this pool are concerned about safety issues with the crowding and the fact they have not had their resident ID cards checked.**

Richard Baier: Per John Rohan, the checking of residents' ID cards is done an average of 3x @ day at different pools to avoid being cumbersome or asking people to get out of the pool. There is no set pattern to which pools are checked or when. John Rohan tracks this information looking for a plus or minus 5% accuracy rate. Unfortunately, some people do not follow the rules.

- 2. The ice machine at El Santiago Recreation Center makes unusually loud noises which has caused many residents to stop attending activities. What can be done to return this machine to normal functioning/sounds?**

Sam Wartinbee: We repaired this ice machine and thought it was fixed when the issue happened again. We learned that it needs a new compressor which has been ordered.

Update: The compressor for the ice machine has been replaced.

Question: Can a shade be placed on the door to the card room so that card playing can continue without the excessive sunlight that comes in at El Santiago Recreation Center? The request has been made several times.

Answer: I will look into this.

- 3. We currently have a Villages Health group servicing the Villages and are wondering if a Dental group could be formed to provide good affordable dental care by licensed experienced dentists?**

Dr. Lester: We are grateful that residents are enjoying The Villages Health. We have considered adding dental but have no plans to do so at this time.

- 4. Can anything be done to correct the problems with the wireless microphone system at La Hacienda Recreation Center? Many program presenters have the same problem. The staff says they have notified the proper people but the problem persists.**

Sam Wartinbee: We have had the systems checked in all the recreation centers and they are working correctly. Sometimes people make adjustments without understanding how to do it properly.

Question: Is the staff trained to use the sound system?

Answer: I will check with Matt Armstrong on those procedures.

5. Will the apartments at Brownwood be age restricted and will they get amenities?

Dr. Lester: Yes, as reported in the Daily Sun, these apartments are age restricted and they do pay amenity fees. These facilities also have their own amenities including a pool and fitness room.

6. About a month ago The Villages announced that land purchases would add around 49,000 homes to the current 63,000. March 29th The Daily Sun announced another land purchase could add up to another 36,000 homes adding a total of 85,000 more homes or almost one and a half times what we already have.

a. Are these numbers and estimates correct?

b. What are the total Villages existing rooftop numbers and the projected total rooftops when construction presently planned is complete?

Dr. Lester: Some of those numbers have been double counted which has created confusion. In round numbers, the current Villages encompasses 30,000 acres and 65,000 homes. The Villages now owns an additional 30,000 acres which includes the 18,000 acres recently reported in the Daily Sun. So, if future development were to stay the same, again in very round numbers, we could have an additional 65,000 homes. However, development plans evolve based on feedback from residents and prospective residents. That resident input determines future development just as it has guided past development.

That resident feedback also relates to Question #10 – we can't know how many golf holes we'll have in the future as we don't know what residents will desire. Resident's interests change. We used to build a lot of shuffleboard courts and we had never heard of pickleball. Future residents may desire more golf...or less golf...or different golf. The new putt and play is very popular. By the way, the fact that residents are coming from all parts of the community to enjoy the putt and play at Fenney is a great example of how the community has always been designed to work - with all Villagers welcome to enjoy all amenities regardless of where they live or where in the community a particular amenity is located.

7. A homeowner moving from north of CR 466 into Sumter County wants to know:

a. Who will pay for repairs/maintenance to the Morse Blvd Bridge?

b. What are the costs?

Richard Baier: The Morse Blvd Bridge is owned and maintained by Sumter County.

8. Would you please give an update on the inspection status and/or plan to move forward with the Morse Blvd bridge revetment?

Richard Baier: The Morse Blvd Bridge embankment has two parcels in District 5. Weather events including Hurricane Irma have caused unusually high water levels making a visual inspection of the islands' embankment difficult. Money has been set aside to pay for a recent laser survey taken by Kimley Horn which will cost less than \$10,000. With their first review of this raw data, they are not seeing anything dramatic insofar as additional slumping of revetment stone. By next week a full report and summary of the laser survey will be provided to PWAC. The Districts south of CR 466 contribute a portion of their maintenance assessment fees into a

project wide infrastructure fund. This fund is utilized to maintain and repair such common infrastructure and provide broad oversight of such infrastructure so that storm water systems and multimodal paths and such benefit from this economy of scale with such maintenance as well as share in the liability associated with such infrastructure. .

Question: Why is the road sloping crossing that bridge?

Answer: The bridge was engineered and constructed upon a large culvert sections. Storm water inlets exist and are designed upon the bridge decking areas in order to prevent high accumulations of water during large water events and these depressions are often mistaken for settlement areas but are not. The actual bridge structure is maintained by Sumter County.

9. What is planned for the land just west of the nursing home on CR 42 where stakes have been added?

Dr. Lester: The only definite plans are the Chatham Glen nursing facilities and those plans are regularly updated in the Daily Sun.

10. Golf course and tee time questions include:

- a. One of the most enjoyed golf opportunities for full time residents has been the Twilight Golf on Championship Courses during Summer months. Rumors are that it will no longer be offered. Is this correct?**

Dr. Lester: People will be allowed to play golf until dark as before. Yes, there will now be new rates for playing later in the day in the summer. The new late-in-the-day rates are now posted at golfthevillages.com

- b. Executive courses are most heavily used from January – April. Would it be possible to give priority to full time residents or restrict the number of guest pass players during those months?**

Richard Baier: Golfing is on first come-first served basis.

- c. What is the current ratio of holes of golf in The Villages to houses/population north of SR 44? *See answer to Question #6***
- d. Is the same ratio of houses to golf and other amenities used in The Villages new growth areas south of SR 44 as the ratio used north of SR 44? *See answer to Question #6***

11. To allow more people to park closer to stores and restaurants inside the town squares, could parking be restricted to golf carts since each parking space can hold 2 to 4 golf carts?

Richard Baier: In order to enforce this we would need to place a sign in front of each parking space which would be contrary to our policy of limiting signage. It is parking on a first come-first served.

Lt. Siemer: We have no plan to restrict parking to specific kinds of vehicles.

- 12. “Our home in Michigan has an HERS (Home Energy Rating System) rating of 45” and we would like to know if there is a plan to build energy efficient homes in The Villages which might include foam insulation and Mitsubishi mini split units to heat and cool a whole house?**

Dr. Lester: We build energy efficient homes. Different parts of the country utilize different energy rating systems. Based on our 30 years experience, we build energy efficient homes suited for Florida. That said, any owner is welcome to order additional materials and features for their home.

- 13. The fence on both sides of the multi-modal path near Live Oak Park at the entrance to the tunnel going south under Morse Blvd. has been damaged. Property Management has placed orange ties on the damaged areas. Can we get an update on when they will be repaired?**

Sam Wartinbee: This fence should be fixed by the end of next week about April 26, 2019.

- 14. Where do we stand on the repair of the sinkholes in District 4?**

Richard Baier: There are many complex issues involved with these repairs. Detailed reports are given at the District 4 meetings and the information is posted on line as well. Please attend to hear full explanations and better understand what is involved. Staff is currently developing an alternate storm water collection system which does not involve use of the easement within the private properties that is still unstable.

- 15. A previous VHA Town Hall question was asked about additional shade for the Square in Sumter Landing. The answer was that it is being studied. Can we get an update on that issue?**

Sam Wartinbee: We have been working with a contractor on this project which should be installed by mid June.

- 16. Are there plans to have the lines along the multi-modal path along Hillsborough Trail repainted? In some areas, it is completely worn off creating safety issues.**

Richard Baier: This is a Sumter County issue and has been reported. Individuals may call Sumter County directly at 352-689-4400 and report problems. You may also call The Villages Customer Service at 352-753-4508 and they will transfer you to the County which is the point of service provider.

- 17. What is the status of the Paradise Recreation Center renovation?**

Richard Baier: The Amenity Authority Committee (AAC) has made the First Responders Recreation Center a priority. After that, they will work on a design for a new build which is approximately 2 to 2 ½ years out.

18. What is the status of the La Grande Blvd project?

Dr. Lester: We are still waiting on final direction from the United States Postal Service before proceeding with plans.

19. What can be done to correct the bad smell coming from the golf view at Paradise Pond?

Sam Wartinbee: Every once in a while an algae bloom occurs which has to be treated and then takes several days to work.

20. Can the Farmer's Market or an alternative be brought back to Spanish Springs?

Dr. Lester: We are very pleased with the success of the Farmer's Market at Brownwood and we are working on some alternative ideas for Spanish Springs.

21. Landscaping concerns include:

- a. **What can be done about the landscaping at the entrance to Birchbrook and Forsythe Villas and near the recreation center in the Village of Briar Meadow? The landscaper said he needs more funding in order to replace shrubs that needed to be removed.**

Sam Wartinbee: There is a multi-year plan for replacing shrubs in order to keep the budgets level.

Question: Can the golf cart cut-throughs be trimmed to open up those areas?

Answer: Ninety-five percent of the golf cart cut-throughs have overhang from owners' private property. We have spoken to homeowners and encouraged them to put in shrubs that require less maintenance but they have chosen to keep what is there.

- b. **What can be done about clearing away yard debris from the entrance to Rio Grande Courtyard Villas and its pool area?**

Sam Wartinbee: That has been completed. Some of the debris was from common ground and some from private property.

22. When can the Mulberry Bocce courts be refurbished? The coverings and side rails are in poor shape.

Sam Wartinbee: That area has been inspected and no issues were found with the bocce courts.

23. What can be done about the unsightly front yard at 17897 Freedom Court in Fairlawn Villas in the Village of Springdale?

Richard Baier: Deed compliance had received calls regarding the property but were given the wrong house number. Since they now have the correct number they have contacted the owner and are working on correcting the problem.

24. Presently multi-modal path tunnels in the Fenny and Southern Areas of the Villages do not have as many mirrors to see oncoming traffic as tunnels north of SR 44. Are there plans to add more mirrors to the tunnels south of SR 44?

Sam Wartinbee: Placement of mirrors in multi-modal path tunnels is determined on a case-by-case basis. Many factors need to be considered when placing mirrors such as sun shining on a mirror at a certain hour of the day which could be the cause of an accident. Controlling speed and using courtesy are best for safety.

25. Do you have an update of when recycling will occur in the Villages south of SR 44?

Dr. Lester: Those neighborhood utilize an “energy from waste” reuse plan. In this particular case, the waste is utilized to create electricity. “Energy from waste” reuse seems to be the direction many communities are moving as the demand for recycling materials continues to shrink.

Richard Baier: The District will be reviewing the solid waste stream, and is currently looking at the resident needs as forecasted over a ten year horizon. Further, the District is analyzing into the costs of recycling north of SR 44 as national and global markets react to a vast over supply of recycled goods and limited reuse.

26. Can the parking area near Fenney Putt and Play be increased since parking for cars and golf carts is limited?

Dr. Lester: There is ample parking for that facility with golf cars in their designated area and both golf cars and automobiles at the neighboring recreation centers.

Question: Are you aware of cars blocking the mail kiosk nearest because of parking for Putt and Play.

Answer: Thank you for making us aware of that concern, we will check into it.