

VILLA VOICE

Reporting the News and Happenings Around the Bobcat Villas

Calendar

Water Aerobics, Daily, 9:30 am,
Villa Pool

Villa Coffee, Sat., Feb. 3, 9 am*

Villa Euchre, Mon., Feb. 12, 7
pm*

Bobcat Trail CDD Board of
Supervisors Mtg., Thurs., Feb.
15, 3 pm, Bobcat Community
Center

Villa Board of Directors Mtg.,
Thurs., Feb. 15, 4 pm

Villa Potluck, Tues., Feb. 20, 5
pm*

Villa Euchre, Mon., Feb. 26, 7
pm*

Bobcat Trail Master HOA Mtg,
Tues., Feb. 28, 3 pm, Bobcat
Community Center

Other events may be scheduled throughout the month. Be sure to check the message boards at each post office station and in the breezeway of the Clubhouse for event notices and sign-up sheets. Items above marked with a () require sign-up.*



From the Villa Annual Membership Meeting

The Villa Annual Membership meeting was held on Wednesday, January 31 at 2 pm in the Bobcat Trail Community Center.

The main reason for this meeting was the election of officers and approval of 4 proposals relating to the operation of the Association. With there being 3 open Board of Directors seats and 3 nominations, there was no need for a vote and all 3, each a sitting Board member, were elected - George Baillie, Jean Leismann and Barb Bugbee.

Volunteers Make it Happen

A review of the HOA's annual budget shows a number of suppliers and vendors used to service, maintain and administer to the Association's business and care of the overall common property. However, there is also a cadre of resident volunteers who serve in a variety of important roles. Let's recognize these valuable individuals:

Your Board of Directors:

Lou Sperduto, President
Sue Mason, Vice President
George Baillie, Secretary/Treasurer
Jean Leismann, Board Member
Barb Bugbee, Board Member

Finance Committee:

George Baillie, Chair Bill Scarano
Kathleen Glenney Sue Mason

Landscape Committee:

Jean Leismann, Chair Tom Allen
Sandy Weikel Rob Smith
Heather Hoffman

Social Committee:

Jill Ross, Chair Kathleen Glenney
Sharon Fleischmann Joan Bellucci
Deb Adams Sue Mason

Newsletter/Calendar Editor:

Sue Mason

Website Administrator:

John Hall

Roster/Database/Email Distribution:

Jerry Mason

Villa Librarians:

Marlene & Rob Smith

Volunteer Landscape/Maintenance Crew (Lou's Crew):

Lou Sperduto, Bill Fleischmann, Jean Leismann, Barb Bugbee, Iris Cooper, Leigh Arthur, Heather Hoffman, Rob Smith, Tom Allen, Jim Broadwell

Anyone interested in joining any of these committees or groups can contact the chair or first person listed.

As for the 4 issues, the results are:

- The vote to rollover surplus funds from the previous year's budget to avoid paying taxes on those funds, the vote was 62 for/2 against.
- The vote to borrow the annual insurance premium from reserves and then replenish those funds over the course of the year, the vote was 55 for/7 against.
- The vote to waive more stringent financial reporting requirements, the vote was 47 for/15 against.
- The vote to amend the Villa's bylaw to restrict nominations for Board of Director's seats to submissions in advance of the meeting, the vote was 57 for/5 against.

Officer/Committee Reports

President Lou Sperduto reported on an upcoming CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) meeting and its efforts at gathering information on Bobcat Trail residents to be used in the case of an emergency such as a hurricane.

Vice President George Baillie explained the increase in the monthly HOA dues citing a large increase in the HOA's insurance premium as the major driver of that increase. The premium for 2024 is up 54% over 2023. Other line item increases were reasonable and expected.

For the Social Committee, Sue Mason announced the upcoming Villa Coffee on Saturday, February 3 at 9 am.

Special Guest Speakers

Gino Littlestone, the HOA's insurance broker, explained to the Villa owners the situation with property insurance in Florida. He said his job as a broker is to look at the insurance market, the best companies and the best price for our insurance needs. In the HOA's case, it has been difficult to find insurance carriers interested in covering our property with 2 open insurance claims. He is hopeful that once the roofs are replaced and the claims closed, he is more successful at finding an insurer at a more reasonable price.

Ernie Sturgess, the HOA's general counsel, outlined his role as legal counsel. He explained that much of the negotiations the HOA board is currently involved in with

FIGA for our Hurricane Irma claim is covered under attorney/client privilege. He said he is not involved directly in either claim and therefore, does not receive any compensation from any settlement that is made.

Upon the adjournment of the Annual Membership Meeting, the Villa Board went into its organizational meeting where officers were elected for the coming year. They are:

Lou Sperduto, President

Sue Mason, Vice President

George Baillie, Secretary/Treasurer

Jean Leismann, Board Member

Barb Bugbee, Board Member

The next meeting of the Villa Board Directors is scheduled for Thursday, February 15 at 4:00 pm in the Villa Clubhouse.

Board Members Earn Their Certification

Three members of the Villa Board, Sue Mason, Jean Leismann and Barb Bugbee, attended Star Management's 11th Annual HOA-Condo-Co-op Board Leadership Seminar held Friday, January 26 at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center, Punta Gorda. The three of them heard a presentation on insurance and lessons learned from Hurricane Ian and a review of legal issues and concerns for community associations. They also took part in a Board Certification presentation covering a variety of responsibilities charged to volunteer Boards. At the end of the day, Sue, Jean and Barb received a Certificate of Completion for their participation in the seminar.

Social Events Return with the New Year

The Social Committee has put together a calendar of events for the rest of the season.

-The next potluck is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20 at 5 pm in the Villa Clubhouse and it will be **Soup Night!** This popular dinner will feature 5-6 types of soup, salad, bread and dessert. Be looking for the sign-up sheet closer to the event.

-The Villa Potluck scheduled for Tuesday, March 12 at 5 pm in the Clubhouse will be a **Throwback Dinner**. It was introduced last year to rave reviews last year, and you'll be asked to bring a dish you remember from when you were young that may not be seen much today.

-The Social Committee's annual fundraising dinner - **the Fried Chicken Dinner** - is on tap for Tuesday, March 26 at 5 pm. It's a hearty meal of fried Chicken (half a bird for everyone!), a potato dish, a salad and dessert. Tickets are sold in advance and cover the cost of the meal and a contribution to the Committee.

-A regular **Potluck** will occur on Tuesday, April 16 at 5 pm in the Clubhouse. It's your choice as to the dish you bring. But you can guarantee the meal will be great!

-Tentatively scheduled at this time is a **Wine Tasting** event. With plans still in the works, be watching your Villa communications for more details.

Card players will be gathering on Monday, February 12 and Monday, February 26 for **Villa Euchre** in the Clubhouse. Sign up on the sheet posted in the Breezeway. There is an entry fee of \$1 for each player. Top winners walk away with BIG prizes at the end of the evening.

Welcome to These New Residents of the Bobcat Villas

We welcome New Owners who join us each month. Be sure to welcome them to our Community!

Frederick and Kimberley Dole - 2062