

SAPPHIRE SHORES RECREATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES

December 8, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm EST

Location: Community pool of Sapphire Shores.

SSRA BOD members in attendance:

Ana Rueger, President

Steve Damman, Vice-President

Dennis Feltgen, Secretary

Absent:

Nelson Crespo, Director of Community Affairs

Maria Kopel, Property Manager, Pines Property Management

Residents of the community in attendance: 12

New Business:

- Richard Vera volunteered to fill the vacant post of SSRA Treasurer. He will contact Pines Management this week for the necessary forms.
- Additional lights have been installed at the community pool and adjacent tot lot in an effort to provide better lighting for the camera surveillance. Plans are in the works to add two more cameras near the entrance of Sapphire Shores to monitor the center island.
- Vandalism continues to rise in the Sapphire Shores community, especially to the pool and tot lot fence and the flood lights in the center island.
- Ongoing repair and replacement costs combined with the number of homes in foreclosure have nearly depleted the SSRA operating budget. It is noted that if the identity of the vandals is determined, those persons responsible will bear the full costs of repairing and replacing the damage, in addition to the fullest prosecution of the law.
- Crime is also on the rise in the community, more than 15 percent in the past year. This includes several incidents of home invasions and burglary, even to those homes with alarms.
- Ana Rueger met with Kent Security Vice President George Castro, who stated that there is just one guard on patrol at any one time on patrol covering all of the Silver Lakes communities in Miramar, approximately 2500 homes. That means it is several hours between patrols in any one neighborhood. Ana has attempted to raise the issues regarding Kent Security at several recent Silver Lakes presidents' meetings, but was told on each occasion that it would not be discussed.

Open Forum:

-All residents attending the community meeting displayed frustration and disappointment at the rising rate of crime and vandalism, the lack of security from Kent Security, and the ambivalence of the Silver Lakes Master Board to discuss it, calling the entire situation unacceptable and a waste of money. Due to the rising crime and gang presence in the neighborhood, there is genuine concern of bodily harm as well as a continued drop in home values. A motion was made and seconded to explore adding extra patrols by Miramar Police. The following will be done by the SSRA president this month:

1. Obtain a copy of the contract with Kent Security
2. Contact Miramar PD to gauge its interest in, and costs of, adding patrols.
3. Contact the presidents of the other non-gated communities to gauge its interest in sharing the added costs.

-Another Community meeting will be called soon to discuss:

1. The costs for the added patrols, as it would be added to the fees collected quarterly for the operation of the Sapphire Shores community
2. The development of a neighborhood CrimeWatch.

Notices of the meeting will be sent via flyers.

-Ana Rueger is in discussion with the City of Miramar to add more speed humps to the neighborhood as well as exploring a lowered speed limit in the community of 20 mph.

-It was noted that many roofs, driveways and sidewalks in the community need to be pressure-washed, now that the wet season is over. Pines Management is responsible for notifying affected residents, and it will be contacted this week for enforcement.

-A complaint was made by a resident regarding bulk pickup and trash pickup. It was noted that if no satisfaction is obtained with the point of contact at Pines Management, the issue should be raised with that person's supervisor.

-The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm EST.

Recorded by:

Dennis Feltgen
Secretary, Sapphire Shores Recreational Association
Miramar, Florida