

**Jackie Leger**

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**From:** GRAND HAVEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT <dave@www-grandhavencdd.ccsend.com>  
on behalf of Office <Office@ghcdd.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 12:21 PM  
**To:** Vanessa Stepniak  
**Subject:** Highlights from the GHCDD COMMUNITY WORKSHOP 10/05/2023

# GRAND HAVEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT NEWS



**To:** All Grand Haven Residents

**From:** Kevin Foley, GHCDD Board Chairman

**Re:** Highlights from the GHCDD Community Workshop, October 5th, 2023

## Highlights from the 10/5 CDD Workshop

(The 9/21 meeting was cancelled: no quorum)

- At the beginning of the workshop, I asked all present to remember our friend, Ray Smith, who passed away a few weeks ago. Ray was a long-time resident of Grand Haven and contributed much of his time to the community as a member of the GHMA board for several years along with the CDD board for 8 years. He will be missed and our condolences go out to his wife, Joy.
- We had three speakers during resident comments. Two advocated for the pickleball community and one of them asked for the board to build more courts. Another speaker advocated for a new dog park or an improved dog park in Wild Oaks. Management is looking into the cost to provide better access, safety and other improvements to the one in Wild Oaks.
- We also heard from tennis pro/instructor, Bill Rogers, who is providing some instruction to residents. Bill is a retired professor, and he indicated his available time will be limited. Brian Counts, our long-time tennis instructor, continues to provide lessons as well. We are fortunate to have two very qualified professionals here in Grand Haven.
- We heard back from the UF folks regarding a written study of our oak tree situation. They will join us at a special meeting on Nov. 15 to discuss this further. We are looking for a written set of alternative management strategies that this board and future ones can consider.
- The board considered whether pedestrian gates should be installed at the five Grand Haven sidewalk entrances. Management informed us that the cost would be high and not completely effective. It is true that some non-residents ride bikes or walk through our community. Occasionally, we find some kids playing basketball or fishing in ponds. Amenity management dispatches the former and neighbors can call the sheriff's department for the latter. The board did not indicate a desire to move ahead with the installation of gates.
- The board agreed on a draft list of topics to be discussed at workshops during FY 2024. The list should be finalized in November and will, of course, be part of the public

record. Workshops are generally used to discuss topics while meetings are where decisions are made.

- We also considered the terms of a \$750,000 line of credit that may be offered by our bank if we desire. It is attractive because it can be used to help cover our expenses in the first fiscal quarter of every year while we wait for the county to deliver our assessment funds. That is significant because we could then use at least some of the money we set aside every year for other things. There are no fees for the line but there would be some legal documentation cost to set it up. Our intention is to make a decision at the upcoming meeting on October 19.
- The board indicated agreement on a revised staff organization model to reflect the existing reporting and job responsibilities particularly of our office staff. We have a great staff and this new model recognizes it!
- We asked that management come back to us with alternatives to improve our gate access technology to make it easier and more efficient for residents while maintaining good security. This will probably be expensive but the board feels our existing system is antiquated and may need replacement. More to come on this.
- I'll have a hog activity update after the 10/19 meeting but it continues. The empty lot next to me was recently visited by them.

**Thanks for reading, and feel free to comment by email to [office@ghcdd.com](mailto:office@ghcdd.com).**

**Kevin Foley  
Chair, Board of Supervisors**



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