

SANDESTIN OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
Safety and Security Committee
February 6, 2024
Notes

Members Present: Gregg Pierce, Chair, Diane Zierhoffer, Ralph Carroll, Mariam Younger

Others Present: Jimmy Willis, Security Director, Tom Cooper, Executive Director, Aimie Trussell, Exec. Asst.

Off Agenda – Owner Address Committee

Owner in Bay Estates addressed the Committee requesting an exception to the Traffic Enforcement policy to allow his 17-year-old son to operate an electric scooter to get to work due to special needs. Due to the circumstances, he does not have a driver's license, so a golf cart is not an option.

Tom Cooper thanked him for coming to the committee and explained that an exception to the policy would have to be addressed by the Board of Directors and if a letter of condition and the product information on the electric scooter were provided, it could be included in the February 22, 2024 Board Meeting agenda. Members discussed reasons why making exceptions can create challenges but possible options if approved. The owner thanked the members and stated that he would get the needed information to Tom Cooper.

Quorum

Gregg Pierce noted that a quorum was established with 4 of 7 members in attendance.

Previous Meeting Notes

Members reviewed the notes from the October 10, 2023, meeting. Diane Zierhoffer noted a typo (poll, instead of pole) on the first page. Ralph Carroll made a motion to receive the notes with the proposed revision. Gregg Pierce seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Charter – Review

Jimmy Willis presented the Charter approved by the Board of Directors on April 27, 2023, noting that this is not revised annually unless there is a change. Gregg Pierce gave a short review of the items that were focused on in 2023 noting the Lifeguard Contract, the upgrade of all cameras, the RRFB that had been added to busy intersections, and the revisions to the Golf Cart policy.

New Business

Roster

Members received the roster via email and a change to Ralph Carroll's phone number was provided. The updated version was provided, and an electronic one will be emailed. **<ACTION>**

Strategic Plan

Tom Cooper reviewed the 2023 Strategic Plan and the recap of the three-year-plan created in 2020. Mr. Cooper pointed out that many of the items were more task oriented than strategically planned. He encouraged members to email him items that they would like to recommend for the 2024 Strategic Plan that would plan for the future of Sandestin, not just to accomplish in the upcoming year. **<ACTION>**

Mr. Cooper also shared that one item that is being researched constantly is how to limit traffic congestion at the East Gate. Tom stated that Jimmy is currently researching a way to utilize the database system to include guests that would allow them to be in the system upon arrival instead of waiting for on proof of rental, address, and information to be entered at the gate and then print a pass. Tom advised that there is legal research to be done in order to understand what we can and cannot require rental companies and owners that rent individually to provide for gate access.

Members discussed the aging infrastructure, the impacts during busy season and the impact on Security staff. Discussion included off-duty deputies, the costs and availability of them, options of volunteers and additional cameras at the entrances of neighborhoods. Jimmy noted that he would be attending a meeting later this

month regarding the off-duty deputy options and that he was also gathering price comparisons for additional cameras. **<ACTION>**

Security Uniforms

Mr. Willis introduced Lieutenant Joe Bailey who was present to show the proposed new uniform consisting of a navy blue, lightweight, "PFG style" button up, short sleeve shirt with an embroidered badge and khaki cargo pants. Jimmy explained that the current white shirts and black pants are provided by a uniform company with an approximate cost of \$700 per week and noted that the white shirts become dingy fast and the black fades after washing. One of the main considerations for the uniform change is the material difference and overall, aesthetically appealing look of the new uniform. The second consideration is that every Security officer could be outfitted with 5 sets twice a year for the same price being paid now. Members discussed the opinion of the other officers with Lt Bailey, and he advised that they are excited. The plan is to have 5 uniforms for each officer and 10 shirts of the typical sizes in stock with pants ordered as needed. Members agreed to recommend the new uniform be presented at the February 22, 2024, Board of Directors meeting.

Chief's Report

Jimmy Willis presented the Security report comparing January 2022 to January 2023. He noted that the decrease in citations was partially due to staffing but there are now two full-time Security staff for citations for better enforcement. Members asked about the point system used on the back of the citations. It was noted that it is a tool used more to deter repeat offenders but there are enforcement conflicts. Members also discussed bicyclists obeying the traffic rules and safety areas of concern, such as the tunnel entrance at Pine Ridge. Jimmy reminded all that the best way for Security to be aware of areas or violations is for the community members to report them; see something, say something.

Member Comments

Tom Cooper shared a bill that is currently being discussed in Tallahassee that would require all HOAs have a third-party provider responsible for citation/violations. Members discussed how this would affect the SOA and the current practices and asked that Tom keep them informed on this bill. **<ACTION>**

Discussion ensued regarding contractor passes and other items pertaining to eliminating traffic and parking on roads. Gregg Pierce reminded members to check out the SOA informational videos and Tom Talks on Tik Tok and YouTube, as this is a great way to communicate the rules.

Next Meeting: April 9, 1:30 p.m.