

Hammocks Community Association Inc.

Minutes of the Security Committee Meeting
October 18th, 2023 – 7:00PM

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Security Committee was called to order by Don Kearns at 8:05pm

2. Determination of a quorum

Present:

Advisory Board Members Present:

Don Kearns

Todd Botner

Zoe Azpeitia, Anthony Serrone; FirstService Residential

4. Proof of Notice of Meeting

Anthony Serrone advised that Management posted notice for the meeting on all the bulletin boards throughout the community and on the association website on Monday, October 16, 2023.

• Budget for safety committee

- **Todd Botner** – There is going to be more than a 100% increase of budget from the 18 neighborhoods. So, we need to have a 100% increase in staff.
- **Jeff Hurst** – Back in the day they used to go through every neighborhood. They spent more time in the neighborhoods. Things have changed and costs have changed, and we will have to reevaluate to make sure we have more coverage. Going to have to look at the cost of today's prices and getting the most for our money. 18,000 people in the community so you need a lot security but what is going to be the price? Just want the visibility of the officers because it is a deterrent.
- **Don Kearns** – in 2013 the budget was about 1 million dollars and had four zones operating at all times with 1 officer. A lot of the cost was insurance and things that are not in the proposal now. Thursday nights through Sunday nights are the bulk of the issue.
- **Jeff Hurst** – We had security in my neighborhood 24/7 and they were visible, so people knew it.
- **Don Kearns** – Such things like vehicle break ins and such were happening in my neighborhood.
- **Todd Botner** – how do we go about getting quotes?

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- **Jean Carlos Peralta** – My advice would be to let us know what you're looking for and we can tailor it to that. We can allocate guards for different areas and times.

Motion – Don Kearns - FSR present options but within budgeted figure, proposals with four coverage zones, 4 officers, emphasis on Fri, Sat., Proposal to include Miami Dade police officer or FHP to assist in helping on Fri and Sat. 9pm-5am. Three proposals and likewise with the off-duty officers and Hammock's district (cost to include vehicle) for year 2024.

- **Second – Jeff Hurst**
- **Vote – Motion carries unanimously.**

- **Security activity within HOA – Guillermo Lanzas – Elite**

- **Don Kearns** – We recognize that Elite is doing fine job and the requests for proposals are for due diligence not a reflection of your work.
- **Guillermo Lanzas** – There are 8 officers, 2 per shift 6-2pm, 7am-3pm, 2pm – 10pm 3pm-11pm, 11pm-7am. 41 communities for 2 security officers is almost impossible with the influx of calls. Vehicles have GPS and are monitored. We need to make sure that we are not putting our company at a liability and going into communities that we are not supposed to be in. Residents are upset that we are not patrolling their neighborhoods claiming that they pay a lot of money.
- **Todd Botner** – That proposal is to include the entire community.
- **Don Kearns** – Many people are used to all the neighborhoods being patrolled from years past.
- **Jeff Hurst** – A lot of people are upset because they weren't paying attention and now that they are. This is going to take time to gain everyone's trust, but it is not going to happen overnight.
- **Todd Botner** – Is there anything going on in the community that needs to be addressed?
- **Guillermo Lanzas** – Fences are being broken by teenagers. Lights at Water Oak which is pretty much our office. Lights in Ensenada need to be fixed.
- **Don Kearns** – Receiver has a proposal in front of him and FirstService Residential is waiting for his blessing to start a project which is close to starting.
- **Todd Botner** – Bring us any issues because you are the eyes and ears of community.
- **Don Kearns** – have you seen gang activity?

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- **Guillermo Lanzas** – No. I believe it is just teenagers. Just the other day some kids broke my window to my personal car. School police are only meant for school and will not leave the area that they sit in.
- **Don Kearns** – 10 years ago we had issues with children. Now that we have those school police, we are getting a lot less of those calls.
- **Guillermo Lanzas** – Ensenada is very dark in the community.
- **Todd Botner** – That is an ongoing issue and we have heard a lot of feedback from the community about the lack of light in that neighborhood.
- **Guillermo Lanzas** – There is a lot of illegal dumping in the neighborhoods.
- **Jeff Hurst** – We had to put up cameras from people in other communities who would dump their trash, furniture. We have to stay vigilant in our communities. I have mentioned that Miami is #1 in human trafficking in Florida. The cost is great but worth it so thank you for what we are doing.

Motion – Don Kearns - public safety committee recommend to Judge Gersten to make an immediate decision on the lighting

- **Second – Jeff Hurst**
- **Vote – Motion Carries Unanimously**

- **Guillermo Lanzas** – Is there any way to put lights on lakes?
- **Todd Botner** – We can do study on that. Sure, it will be a great cost, but we can investigate it.

• Owner comments –

- **Laura Chevel – Cedar Landing** - Ensenada is very dark in the back. There was a car parked one day while walking and it looked suspicious. We need more supervision. What communities can he not go into?
- **Guillermo Lanzas** – The other communities that are not in the contract.
- **Todd Botner** – The security budget and contract was for the 18 communities that the Master is responsible for, not all 41.
- **Laura Chevel** – Are those the ones with the local associations?
- **Jean Carlos Peralta** – yes
- **Laura Chevel** – Can we have some people being “watchdogs” or some community help?
- **Don Kearns** – We had a drug dealer issue and we got together with local Miami Dade and the drug unit team.
- **Jeff Hurst** – I would work with Hammocks Police but just warning that there are people around walking with guns that do not really know the new concealed carry law. Good to see something say something.

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- **Guillermo Lanzas** –Please call us and let us deal with it. Get your phone out and take pictures and stay away and call the police. I took a picture of a license plate the other day for a suspicious vehicle and he took off.
- **Todd Botner** – Receiver aware of office we are trying to get you and parking for your vehicles.

Todd Botner motions to adjourn 9:45pm

Seconded by Don Kearns