

# Cottonwood Palo Verde

## Safety & Security Committee (SSC) Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2023

**Board Liaison present:** Glenn Martinsen

**Management present:** Steve Hardesty, General Manager, Tom Catri, Patrol Manager

**Committee Members present:** Carole Weiner, Chris Walter, Catherine Nelson, Bob Mariano, Steve Brandon

**Committee Members absent:** Mike Rogers

**Homeowners:** Edd Welsh

**Guests:** Arizona Fire & Medical Authority (AFMA) Assistant Fire Marshal John Teixeira, AFMA Fire Corps Representative Randy Smith

**Called to Order:** Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM

**Approved Minutes:** Minutes of April 5, 2023 were approved

### Agenda:

- **Old Business:**
  - See Management Comments section
- **New Business:**
  - The SSC will not meet in June, July or August of 2023. Glenn said that the SSC can meet over the summer if needed. The ASM (Patti) needs to give two-day's notice to the community so homeowners can attend.

### Management/BoD Liaison Comments:

- **BoD Liaison:**
  - Glenn asked AFMA Assistant Fire Marshal John Teixeira if someone would speak during the Safety Day in January 2024 and John said yes, they would.
  - Glenn read the report for the April 2023 Board Meeting.
  - Glenn noted where the First Readings of proposed policy updates could be found on the CWPV homeowners website.

- **Management:**
  - Steve Hardesty spoke about status of addressing the pickleball court safety issues brought up in February SSC meeting. They had a tennis court / pickleball court company give an estimate for updates to keep from running into light poles, electrical boxes or tripping on raised area by court. The final estimate was \$10,000.00.
  - Steve discussed solution for fixing hazard of “holes” in courtyard. Landscape rocks have been put in but is uneven in places. Facilities is going to put some metal artwork in those areas so homeowners know not to walk there.
  - Steve had discussions with HOA attorney about what could be done legally to help alleviate speeding in certain areas in Palo Verde. The Palo Verde Road Commission has a Traffic Engineer on their committee. It was suggested they perform a study of what the options are to help alleviate speeding. Then it will be up to management whether to fund any of the options. Liability to HOA for implementing some options has to be accounted for.
  - Steve said during the summer management and the BoD will be reviewing all of the HOA policies. One of the items for review will be if any policies need to be changed/added for use of Remote Controlled (RC) boats on the lakes.
- **Patrol Manager:**
  - Tom Catri reported that the PV road work is going as planned this week.
  - Tom discussed that old neighborhood watch signs are faded and not in right places in some instances. Committee discussed options of just taking down all signs or possibly putting up new signs with associated costs.
    - Someone said that committee chairman Mike Rogers has an opinion on what the HOA should do based on his past experience. This item will go onto the next SSC meeting agenda for Mike to discuss.

**Guest Comments:**

- AFMA Fire Corps Representative Randy Smith described in detail the emergency lock box program and what is done during home safety assessments that are available to all CWPV homeowners. The lock box has a one-time fee of \$50 for installation which is done by Neighbors Who Care (NWC).
- AFMA Assistant Fire Marshal John Teixeira described in detail fire extinguisher training (such as do not put it next to a potential fire source) and fact they have CPR and AED training available. There is also an Ambulance Membership program that may save homeowners money. He described a service called Vial for Life which is a vile containing critical medical information in case homeowner cannot speak for themselves. He talked about having a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) form in the house. It has to be an orange color form and have original doctor’s signature on it (not a copy of form). In their vehicles they have a checklist of all access points to get to each hole on a golf course to save time when they get a call.
- John wanted to promote the AFMA Charities for firefighters. They do events like helping underprivileged families get toys and clothing.

**Homeowner Comments:**

- Edd Welsh said he was trying to attend each of the HOA committee meetings to get an understanding of what is going on in the neighborhood.

**Committee Comments:**

- Catherine Nelson said that current light bulbs in Palo Verde light poles are dim and would like to be replaced with brighter bulbs. Steve Brandon noted that these light poles are owned by SRP so they control what type of bulbs are in them.
- Carole Weiner said there was house that had 4-6 cars for all residents in house. Steve Hardesty said there are no HOA rules on number of cars per residence and you are allowed to park cars on the street.
- Carole reported that her dogs were poisoned and one has passed away. It was noted by others at the meeting this has happened to other homeowners.

**Recommendations for BoD:**

- Recommend that \$10,000.00 be allocated to fix issues on pickleball courts that are impacting safety of the players.

**Recommendations for Management:**

- None

**Adjourn Meeting:** Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

**Next Meeting:** September 6, 2023 @ 10:00 AM in the CLC Meeting Room #1. If you are unable to attend, please email chair, Mike Rogers at [mrogers8619@gmail.com](mailto:mrogers8619@gmail.com)

**Submitted by:**

**Chris Walter**, Secretary

**Mike Rogers**, Chair



## **Safety & Security Committee Meeting**

**Monday, May 15, 2023**

**Board Liaison present:** Glenn Martinsen

**Management present:** Steve Hardesty (General Manager), Tom Catri (Patrol Manager)

**Committee Members present:** Mike Rogers (Chair), Carole Weiner (Co-Chair), Bob Mariano, Steve Brandon, Catherine Nelson

**Committee Members absent:** Chris Walter (Secretary)

**Guests:** Fifteen homeowners from Cottonwood Palo Verde

**Called to Order:** 10:00 AM

**Approve Minutes:** Minutes of May 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting- were approved

### **Agenda:**

- **Old Business:**
  - None
- **New Business**
  - Discussion regarding upcoming Safety Day

### **Management/BoD Liaison Comments:**

- **BoD Liaison:**
  - No new comments
- **Management:**
  - No new comments

## Homeowner/Committee Comments:

Fifteen homeowners from Cottonwood and Palo Verde were present at the meeting today, and had the opportunity to comment on recent security concerns.

- 1) Traffic cameras – Can the HOA2 bylaws be modified so that those caught speeding can be fined? If speed cameras are installed, can this be added to the bylaws?  
Children have been seen sitting on adults' laps in golf carts which is a danger; can the adults present be corrected and fined? Can underage drivers of golf carts be fined, along with the adult owners?
- 2) Children have been seen “hanging off” of golf carts. How to report this – one can take a photo of activity, and the license plate number and report to Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO).
- 3) Increased crime – Question for Tom C.  
Increased security team for HOA2?  
Cost comparison for our Patrol vs. a private security company?  
Homeowners would like Board transparency of these costs:
  - Patrol vs. private security
  - What could private security do?
  - Is it possible to hire a private police force?
- 4) MCSO is ~300 officers short, the one MCSO we have patrolling is also patrolling south Gilbert, and south Chandler. Homeowners feel that “rampant” home-based crime is decreasing their quality of life (in Cottonwood). Would like to see increased Patrol presence throughout HOA2.
- 5) A homeowner's garage was broken into and their golf cart was stolen, and other items were taken. Her neighbor's car was stolen two weeks later.  
What authority would a private security company have? What would be the cost?  
  
Tom C. shared that there are three Patrol officers on duty during each shift.
- 6) A homeowner was wondering about raising the block wall around Cottonwood, particularly the one that backs up to Hunt Highway. She also enquired about cameras at all CW entrances/exits. She also enquired about working with the Native American community to have better communication with them. She was also concerned about skateboards after 8 PM due to a concern about a person on a skateboard who she has seen in her area late at night.
- 7) A homeowner was enquiring about having more MCSO officers available for Sun Lakes/Chandler/Gilbert.
- 8) Tom C. commented that private security can carry weapons and arrest; however, MCSO will not allow this to occur.

- 9) A homeowner asked about spotlights and light bars on our Patrol's cars. This could be a deterrent, especially if the spotlights could be aimed at side and back yards.
- 10) A homeowner enquired about an email blast about crimes in HOA2. Steve H. addressed this stating that MCSO or CPD will not do this due to privacy laws, and hampering an ongoing investigation.
- 11) A homeowner asked what could be done if people are seen biking or wandering around and they look suspicious. Tom C. stated to call Patrol or MCSO, and to continue to call MCSO for any questionable activities.
- 12) A homeowner stated for his neighbors to lock their doors, keep outside lights on, and take belongings out of vehicles, as criminals look for easy targets.

Many homeowners also enquired about making CW a private gated community. A brief discussion ensued regarding the expense of such an action.

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**Safety Day Discussion**

Safety Day will be on **Saturday, January 13, 2024** from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

Glenn stated that Carole, Mike, and Bob will be on the committee until Oct 2023 before they may reapply. Catherine, Chris, and Steve will be on the committee until Oct 2024 before they may reapply.

The committee reviewed the activities of the previous Safety Day.

We discussed creating a "living" document to keep track of solicitations for donations/sponsorships, raffles, and vendors. The suggestion was made to create a Google Docs spreadsheet that all members could utilize, and would be email and password protected. Sheets/Tabs included could be "Vendors", "Donations Received or Declined", and which members would approach which organizations so that more than one member did not approach the same company as someone else. It was discussed about approaching organizations that our residents utilize, as they may be more willing to donate. Carole suggested approaching pet food and pet supply companies such as Chewy, PetSmart, and Petco since many residents have companion animals.

Glenn passed out documents, including FEMA information document, an Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK), How to Create a Family Emergency Communication Plan, a Handy Number Guide for Sun Lakes HOA2, and information for law enforcement officers to know when encounter one who is deaf or hard of hearing.

Volunteers are needed for Safety Day.

When should members start approaching potential sponsors? Starting in September or October. If they are out of funds for the year, then reapproach in January. They should approach potential vendors as soon as possible. If you have ideas for vendors, please let Mike know.

The next scheduled meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM** in the CLC, Room 1. Mike will be out of town, we may do a Zoom conference with him. For September meeting, think about who you would like to approach for sponsorships or donations.

There may be another meeting during the summer.

Steve H. stated that he and other Board members had met with the County Supervisor, who was unaware that there was only one MCSO officer on in this area in any given time.

Lastly, Glenn distributed a copy of Chapter 6-03 of the Sun Lakes HOA #2 Policy Manual, and discussed currently allowable HOA2 fines.

**Recommendations for BoD:**

- None

**Recommendations for Management:**

Steve Brandon had two recommendations for the Board:

1. Excessive speeding;
  - i) New equipment is needed – speed monitor with possible camera that can be added at a later date.
  - ii) Gather adequate information, including traffic surveys, prior to hiring a traffic engineer.
2. Street lighting;
  - i) Increased brightness of street lights in PV.
  - ii) Bob Mariano brought up the “Dark Sky Ordinance” applicable in Maricopa County. A copy of this ordinance can be found in Section 1112 (page 212):  
<https://www.maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4785/Maricopa-County-Zoning-Ordinance-PDF>

Bob Mariano discussed the need for homeowners to be mindful of how their security cameras are mounted. The ACC Guidelines state:

“Security devices such as cameras mounted on or near the house must be pointed toward your property only. Devices such as cameras must be located so they point away from neighboring property.” (Section 19J of the ACC Guidelines)

Additionally, activities of neighbors cannot be recorded without their expressed permission. If there is a dispute with neighbors, law enforcement will need proof – video and audio.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Meeting adjourned at 12:34 PM

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in the CLC, Room 1.

**Submitted by:**

**Catherine Nelson,** Committee Member

**Mike Rogers,** Chair