GULF GATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
GENERAL COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2019
Faith Lutheran Church, Sarasota, FL 34231

Meeting Called to Order: 7:05 PM

Attendees: Melanie Goddard (P), John Van Vleet (VP), Kathy Butler (D), Cass Smith (D).
Absent: Andrew Gamble (S), Ann Matthews (D), Carol Connolly (D), Ben Sinkunas (T)

Welcome and Pledge: Meeting was opened, and pledge was led by President, Melanie Goddard.

Officer's Reports:

Approval of November General Meeting Minutes: Minutes were approved as presented by Goddard, no objections.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was accepted as presented by Goddard, no objections.

Our beginning cash balance as of January 1, 2020:

Beginning balance:	$25,106.16
Income:	$ 7137.91
Expenses:	$ (441.68)
Ending Cash Balance:	$31,802.39
Total Funds of:	$38,577.67 (Added with funds in CD and PayPal)

GUEST SPEAKER

Neal Dollar – 2020 U.S. Census: Neal Dollar provided historical background on the US Census and explained the census progress and what we as citizens need to do to take part. He also emphasized the importance of counting everyone in our community for providing equal representation for our county and state in Congress.

OLD BUSINESS

Golf Course Property Update: Goddard explained the golf course property owner is in talks with another developer (D.R. Horton) for a potential sale of the golf course. If the sale goes through, the development planning process will start back from the beginning with the county and state.

Siesta Promenade Project Update: Goddard explained that the Siesta Promenade project is still an ongoing court case.

NEW BUSINESS

2020 Membership Dues: Goddard explained that the 2020 dues will be increasing from $50 to $75 beginning February 1, 2020. This increase will allow the Gulf Gate Community Association to maintain reserve funds for maintaining compliance with deed restrictions in order to keep Gulf Gate property values up. It also addresses the increase in GGCA expenses: storage unit, printing, legal counsel hourly rate, insurance.

Deed Restriction Amendment Project: Goddard reviewed the importance of keeping the deed restrictions up to date for each unit of Gulf Gate. Many of the deed restrictions have not been updated since the units were developed in the 1960s and 1970s and have not kept up with modern construction options, such as paver driveways and fences. Updating the deed restrictions is a long-term project that will require approval of 80% of the Gulf Gate homeowners and take place over 2-3 years.

7070 Curtiss Ave – is NOT in Gulf Gate: Goddard explained that the Gulf Gate Community Association has received numerous deed restriction complaints about 7070 Curtiss Ave but the property is not part of Gulf Gate so the Gulf Gate Community Association cannot enforce deed restrictions upon it.

Deed Restrictions vs County Code Violations: Goddard explained that Gulf Gate does not have specific restrictions on short term rentals but Sarasota County restricts short term rentals to once every 30 days. Gulf Gate Community Association will send a landlord letter and report the rental to Sarasota County. Other code violations that should be reported to the county include unkept yards, commercial vehicles, and blocked sidewalks.

Recycle Bin Storage: New blue recycle bins are not supposed to be visible from the street. County will have the option to provide smaller blue bins in April.

Social Event: Love thy Neighborhood Feb 22nd: Third annual Love thy Neighborhood social event is at 6:30pm on February 22nd at Faith Lutheran Church.

2020 General Meeting Dates: 3/23, 10/19, 12/7

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Infrastructure/Beautification: Cass Smith explained that the committee took down and stored holiday decorations in December and has ordered 6 new Gulf Gate signs to be installed on roads leading into Gulf Gate. Street resurfacing will also begin in March for parts of Gulf Gate and Gulf Gate Woods.

Deed Restrictions: New Deed Restriction committee chair will be starting soon. We are looking for volunteers to help verify deed restriction violations when they are reported.

Traffic Safety: Sarasota county will be providing flashing speed signs on Curtiss and Markridge, date unknown at this time.

Welcoming Committee Update: Welcome packets are continuing to be distributed to new Gulf Gate residents.

Safety: Carol Connolly continues to oversee safety patrol and emergency preparedness. Volunteers are always welcome.

Open Discussion: Van Vleet reported that lift stations throughout Gulf Gate are now working. Sarasota County has put chemicals and sniffers in lift stations to help with odor issues.

Next General Meeting: Monday, March 23, 2019, 7:00 pm, Faith Lutheran Church

Meeting adjourned at 8:15.