

**Property Owners Association of The Villages
General Membership Meeting - South
October 3, 2024**

Called to order: by Cliff Wiener, President, at 7:00 pm.

- POA Board members present: Gary Search, Mike Gross, Tita Dumagsa and Reb Benson; Excused: Dan Warren, Gil Windsor, Jerry Ferlisi and Ken Knodel.
- Members present: Approximately 25.
- Organizations present: Sun Kool, One Trust, Realty Executives and Seniors vs Crime.
- Membership meeting minutes, Treasurer Report, Membership Report and Raffle deferred.

Announcements:

- Cliff mentioned the following member meetings at Laurel Manor: Trust One on HUD properties in October; Realty Executives on new real estate laws in November; and, Charter Research on Alzheimer's research in December. He added Realty Executives is accomplishing an Alzheimer's fund-raising dinner (\$99/person) and to see him or Realty Executives for more information.
- Cliff mentioned the member meetings are live streamed, adding that over 6,000 folks have viewed the July 18th meeting (Sumter County Commissioner candidates).
- Cliff mentioned the member-only Shredding Event (where we shredded over 40,000 pounds of paper this past April) will happen again at Covenant United Methodist Church next March or early-April. Details to follow shortly with tickets available in the November or December timeframe.
- Deb Butterfield went over the upcoming election process.
 - Mail-in ballots went out today (can be mailed in or dropped off at any early voting location or the County Election Office). Ensure (based on audience input) a separate mail-in envelope is used for each person (i.e., do not mail in a husband's and a wife's ballot in the same envelope).
 - October 22nd - Nov 2nd: Early voting (can vote at any location).
 - November 5th: General Election (can only vote at your assigned location).
 - The Sumter County Commissioner primary winners (Deb Butterfield, Todd Coon and Don Wiley) are on the ballot with the write-in candidates (since they did not resign as a write-in line).
 - Ensure ballot accomplished properly...fill in the circle next to the primary candidate winner or fill in the circle and write the write-in candidates name on the line.
- Cliff mentioned it was too bad the write-in candidates hadn't resigned yet (it's clear they didn't plan to run), it slows up the ability for primary winners to start receiving Commissioner material now.
- Cliff mentioned, during Pat Breedon's comments, that the POA has been handing out the Vial-for-Life products for many years and will continue to do so until all residents have one. Breedon added folks can now go online and register the fact they have a Vial-for-Life in their refrigerator.

Questions: None.

Speaker: Candidates Night.

- Cliff welcomed all stating there are 6 candidates present, two for Sumter County Sheriff: Pat Breedon and Eric Anderson, two for Sumter County Clerk of Courts: Erin Munz and Gloria Hayward and two for Wildwood City Commission: Julian Green & Phil Montalvo. Cliff went over the ground rules; stating each candidate will have 8 minutes for an introduction with audience questions after all introductions are complete; adding a bell will let them know they have 30 seconds left and then when time is up. Cliff asked the audience to be courteous and respectful of the candidates.
- Opening comment key points (based on order announced by Cliff):
 - Phil Montalvo...has lived in the Village of Clinton for 5 years and is a Supervisor for District 12. Previously served as a Community District Development Supervisor in Orlando with over 40 years as a lawyer (to include City Attorney). He discussed the job of the Commission and how he got the developer (at developer's expense) to fix a road drainage issue on their street. He is running with a vision of providing a good quality of life for City residents while promoting growth and also having more than one Village resident on the Commission.

- Julian Green... grew up in Wildwood, has diverse professional experience and is the incumbent Commissioner having serving 12 years in office. He has seen the city grow from 3,000 to over 30,000 residents, with this growth being addressed in the Wildwood Redevelopment Plan that he helped create and manage. He has also served as chair of the East Central Florida Planning Committee.
- Eric Anderson...spent 8 years as a Marine, then with the Washington State Patrol and eventually the Leesburg Police Department. He has been here since before The Villages began its big growth and stated, as a nation, we use to be able to communicate but now things have become too politically oriented; we need to get back to being friendly and respectful. Thru a large volunteer organization, he plans to reestablish some of that respect.
- Pat Breedon...has been with the Sumter County Sheriff's department since 1990, having advanced from corrections to his current position as Undersheriff. He has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Administration and is a graduate of the Saint Leo University Command Officer Management Program and the Florida Sheriff's Institute Commanders Academy. He has worked in and managed most every aspect of the department and has implemented various community outreach programs and new technology (such as use of drones). Under his leadership, the Sumter County crime rate is the lowest 6th or 7th out of 67 counties in Florida.
- Erin Munz...has spent 27 years working in the Clerk of Courts and it is time for new leadership. She was a teen court coordinator; kids are her passion. She is involved with the community and is a hard-working Republican that can get the job done.
- Gloria Hayward...started 55 years ago in the Sumter County Clerk's office and was first elected as Clerk of the Court in 1996. She has managed the County Court Division since it was added to the Clerk duties 21 years ago. She began the Teen Court program in 1997 (allowing first-time offenders to avoid a criminal record by completing a series of steps). She played a key role in developing procedures for the Offender-Based Tracking System (OBTS) - tracking cases from arrest to disposition. She also secured grants to modernize technology (both software and hardware upgrades).
- Key Questions:
 - How does the County Sheriff work with Wildwood City Police? **Ans:** Breedon...work well together. Sheriff's have overall Sumter County while Wildwood only addresses their downtown and surrounding area with great coordination. It was pointed out by Green that Wildwood 911 service transferred to the Sumter County call center and it is all seamless.
 - Will you run the Sheriff's Department differently? **Ans:** Anderson...do everything mainly like it currently is run then make changes as he understands all operations; Breedon...we created a District-Lieutenant concept to ensure better interaction with the community.
 - Are you for or against Amendment 3 (legalize marijuana)? **Ans:** Breedon...against it (too many teens related issues); Anderson...for it (since there will be controls in place).
 - Rate efficiency of the Clerks office and what changes will you make? **Ans:** Munz...rate it a 7 and modernize technologies; Hayward...rated it a 9.5 and all improvements are in place to include state-of-the-art technologies.
 - Growth has caused traffic and waste water issues; how will they be addressed? **Ans:** Montalvo...waste water treatment plant is being expanded and the redevelopment master plan needs to be revisited to better flow pedestrian and vehicular traffic and incorporate innovative ways to improve; Green...expansion of waste water treatment plant will take care of capacity issues and traffic issues are being addressed as best as possible (such as a new parking garage) but changes to US Hwy 301 is out of their hands with improvements being delayed again.
 - Is an Orlando Health mini-hospital not being built? **Ans:** Green...30-bed Orlando Health facility is approved but not a larger hospital at this time; Montalvo...believe the issue is ability to get adequate water to the area a larger hospital would be built.
- Cliff concluded stating he appreciated all attending and that any candidates the POA might endorse is based on what the POA Board of Directors decide.

There was a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14pm that was seconded and unanimously approved.
Submitted by: Reb Benson, Secretary