

SHORT-TERM RENTAL AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: May 16, 2019

The Short-Term Rental Ad Hoc Committee met on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at the PDPOA Administration building. All members were present with the exception of Chief Griner who was on vacation. The meeting commenced at 12:55PM.

The meeting began with a review of the topline STR survey results and a review of the top three issues and potential solutions generated by each committee member. The first discussion topic was bicycles.

Bicycles

All members recognized the potential safety risk introduced by the improper use of bicycles within the community. The group discussed how to effectively communicate the rules to bicyclers as well as the role of and need for consequences to encourage proper behavior. The group discussed the need for bicycles to remain on the leisure paths (when available barring obstacles or passing others) and the need for bicycles to be walked on the narrow beach paths. Unanimously the group believes additional enforcement is required at *strategic locations* (Mooring Buoy, Sea Lane, Queens Folly/General Store, Ocean Lane) and *key times* (Saturdays and Sundays—particularly during the mornings). The need for SC-compliant lights (available for just a few dollars each, see: https://www.everythingbranded.com/bicycle-light-1?gclid=CjwKCAjwIPTmBRBoEiwAHgpvheCKqXsqGpJ8v4tKNciEildgylcF8IIUN_dTurMYI07T_JxPU7SvhoCo2AQAvD_BwE) and reflectors was discussed as was the ability to permanently attach bicycle rules to the handlebars (for reference by security) and the need for additional bicycle racks (to limit inappropriate parking and landscaping damage—location TBD). The group also *suggested* the use of helmets, particularly for children under the age of 12. The group agreed any further discussion should involve the manager/operator of the Outfitters and perhaps other bicycle rental companies operating within Palmetto Dunes.

Noise/Property Management

The group then turned their attention to noise, which was also referenced within the STR survey results. The committee discussed the difference between loud music, loud gatherings, and pool screaming. The group agreed a decibel-based approach is likely neither friendly, timely nor particularly effective. The group was encouraged by the survey results indicating both owners and non-owners recognize the need to limit the number of people within properties and the desire for rental properties to be registered with the POA.

To further explore this topic, the group agreed that several property management firms should be invited to share their thoughts and potential solutions.

Education

The group discussed the need to persuasively and effectively communicate community rules across multiple key areas, including: vehicle right of way, traffic circle rules, pedestrian/bicycle crossings, parking, operation of bicycles, noise, feeding wildlife, protecting the natural environment and others. Signs may be part of the solution—such as on bridges and near common lake/lagoon access points. However, additional methods (such as activity based, point-in-time) need to be explored.

Next Steps

The group agreed to address each of the above topics during a dedicated meeting. Members are encouraged to develop their individual thoughts prior to each meeting, providing for an effective, engaged discussion.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4, at 12:00 noon at the POA Administration Building. The topic of the meeting will be a “deep dive” on bicycles, including participation from the Outfitters and ideally at least one additional bicycle rental company that services Palmetto Dunes.

The meeting concluded at 1:55PM.