# MINUTES OF MEETING LAKE ASHTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND LAKE ASHTON II COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The joint meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Lake Ashton Community Development District and Lake Ashton II Community Development District was held on **Friday**, **January 20**, **2023** at 11:00 a.m. at the Health and Fitness Center, 6052 Pebble Beach Blvd., Winter Haven, FL 33884.

# Present and constituting a quorum:

Lloyd Howison Michael Costello Steve Realmuto Debby Landgrebe Brenda VanSickle James Mecsics Bob Zelazny Mary Clark Angela Littlewood Roy Aull Lake Ashton CDD Chairman
Lake Ashton CDD Vice Chairman
Lake Ashton CDD Assistant Secretary
Lake Ashton CDD Assistant Secretary
Lake Ashton CDD Assistant Secretary
Lake Ashton II CDD Chairman
Lake Ashton II CDD Vice Chairman
Lake Ashton II CDD Assistant Secretary

### Also present:

Jeremy LeBrun
Jason Greenwood
Jan Carpenter
Sarah Sandy
Christine Wells
Mary Bosman

District Manager, GMS
District Manager, GMS
Lake Ashton CDD District Counsel
Lake Ashton II CDD District Counsel

### FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Burns called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and called the roll. All Lake Ashton CDD Supervisors were present, and Lake Ashton II had four Supervisors present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

# SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS

# **Approval of Meeting Agenda**

Mr. Greenwood: First on the agenda today is approval of the meeting agenda.

Mr. Mecsics: Does anybody have any additions or corrections to the agenda as presented? Hearing no changes, I would ask for a motion to approve.

On MOTION by Mr. Costello, seconded by Ms. Landgrebe, with all in favor, the Meeting Agenda for the Joint Board of Supervisors Meeting, were approved.

On MOTION by Ms. Littlewood, seconded by Ms. Clark, with all in favor, the Meeting Agenda for the Joint Board of Supervisors Meeting, were approved.

#### THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

# Public Comments on Specific Items on the Agenda

Mr. Greenwood: The next item that we have is the public comments specific to agenda items. I do have one in my hand for Tom Scali I believe.

Resident (Tom Scali, 3084 Dunmore Drive): I am here to talk about the dock and the rehabilitation of it. First of all, I hope that the Boards learned from the process that we went through with the golf course. Keep everything a secret, do not reveal what the plans are. Do not pay a penny for the property that is liable property. There are enormous amounts of potential lawsuits associated with that. Do your homework. Make sure you understand what SWFWMD's requirements are and understand that completely because there are horrendous potential exposures there. Secondly, insurance and liability understand what that is going to cost you. Please understand the costs involved in this project. The rewards are very minimal. There are not that many boat owners within the community. If you are going to open it up to outdoors, maybe you can charge a fee for the boat rent, I do not know, but be careful and do not tell anyone including the community what you are doing. Just say you are evaluating and you are thinking about it, period. Thank you.

Mr. Mecsics: Thank you, Tom.

Mr. Greenwood: Just to clarify that comment, I think it was more so at the Lake Ashton II meeting, Roy Aull the new face on our Board had more of a general question of understanding what we can and cannot do. I think if we can cover that quickly during

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the meeting it would put a lot of minds at rest. Other than that, I have not received any other public comments.

Mr. Mecsics: Nothing from Zoom?

Mr. Greenwood: No hands are raised at this time.

#### FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes of the October 17, 2022 Joint Board of Supervisors Meeting

Mr. Howison: Any discussion of the minutes?

Mr. Realmuto: I have some discussion and corrections I would like to see. I do realize we refer for clarity to our Board sometimes as the "Lake Ashton I CDD Board" but I believe our minutes and other documents should reflect our correct legal name. On the first page of the minutes and the last page on the motion to adjourn, whoever took the minutes referred to us as "Lake Ashton I CDD" our legal name is "Lake Ashton CDD" and I would like to see those two changes made to the minutes.

Mr. Howison: Any other discussion? Do we have a motion?

On MOTION by Mr. Costello, seconded by Mr. Realmuto, with all in favor, the Minutes of the October 17, 2022 Joint Board of Supervisors Meeting, were approved as amended.

On MOTION by Mr. Zelazny, seconded by Ms. Littlewood, with all in favor, the Minutes of the October 17, 2022 Joint Board of Supervisors Meeting, were approved as amended.

#### FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Hearing on the Adoption of Amended Joint Amenity Facilities Policies and Rates

Mr. Greenwood: Do we want to open the public hearing now or do we want to have a discussion and open it up at the end?

Mr. Mecsics: We can open a public hearing.

On MOTION by Mr. Costello, seconded by Ms. Landgrebe, with all in favor, Opening the Public Hearing, was approved.

On MOTION by Ms. Littlewood, seconded by Ms. Clark, with all in favor, Opening the Public Hearing, was approved.

Mr. Howison: Do we have any comments from those in the audience?

Resident (Tom Scali, 3084 Dunmore Drive): I have not read the document and I apologize for that. Are there going to be any financial changes to the residents in result of this joint change?

Mr. Howison: No.

Resident (Tom Scali, 3084 Dunmore Drive): We aren't going to be charged for renting the facilities or anything like that?

Mr. Howison: Nothing will change from the current policy in terms of charges for rentals and so on, no.

Mr. Zelazny: Any changes to the rental has to be done at two open hearings. If there is going to be a readjustment of rates, there will be two hearings for everyone to have input. This is primarily procedural stuff on how to utilize the amenities.

Mr. Howison: Any discussion from the Lake Ashton CDD Board members?

Mr. Realmuto: As a member of the Joint Amenity Policy Committee, I just want to make a brief comment or overview to remind the Board. I guess this has been over a year now, but we went through these policies page by page, line by line, at our last joint meeting. The amenity committee did basically roll all of those comments into what you have before you. That is what is highlighted so you can clearly see the changes as well as a few additional ones that rolled in from individual Supervisors following that meeting. I think now is the time to address anything that might need attention, but not to raise new issues. That needs to be the start to the next revision to the amenity policy. As far as I know, everyone was happy I think, but I would like to hear from all of the fellow Supervisors.

Mr. Mecsics: Does anyone from Lake Ashton II have any comments on the proposed amenity policy?

Mr. Zelazny: Let me just say that Angie and Steve who led this effort have done a tremendous job. I think we are at the point now where all of the major issues and even minor issues have been addressed and I think it is time to go ahead and approve the policy. Thank you to the two Board members who spear headed this.

Ms. Littlewood: I had a phone call conversation with Sarah this morning, she wanted clarification on some things. Her main concern is the intent with the golf course and golf club of how that is going to be handled regarding disciplinary action and things. Sarah, are you there? Can you shed some light on what your concerns were?

Ms. Sandy: Yes. I want to confirm both Board's intentions. I know we included language in there that states the management company can set the policies and enforcement including denial of service. That is a longer suspension rather than one day, but a suspension of golf course privileges. Is it the intention of both Boards for that to be handled through the joint amenity policy, or handled by our management company and Lake Ashton II separately. We can work with it either way, we just want to make sure that we understand the intention. When I spoke to Angie, she wanted to clarify as well.

Ms. Littlewood: When we originally did this, we looked at all of this, and the intent was that the golf club would be run independently and disciplinary action would be taken by the Board. Management would have nothing to do with the two Boards. As it is written, Sarah, do you think it is fine if we go ahead or do we need a separate policy?

Mr. Realmuto: I would like a chance to respond to that for Sarah's benefit as well. I certainly haven't spoken to her. I believe that not just the intent, but we talked about this at length both in the committee and at the last joint amenity meeting, and I would bring your attention to section 11 on page 14, the amenity policies and specific usage. The intent, as I believe it is clearly stated here, is that as it says, "The clubhouse restaurant, Eagle's Nest and Lake Ashton Golf Club are independently operated businesses and management has sole discretion on hours of operation, new policy creation and enforcement, including denial of service to any patron." To put that into English, that is the purview of the people operating the business. All of those things are outside we believe than the joint amenity policy, at least that is my interpretation.

Ms. Littlewood: Can I add to that? One of the things that Sarah was asking was that if there is an incident in the golf club or Eagle's Nest or Golf Club or wherever, and they suspend someone from there, does that apply to the rest of the amenities? I think we discussed that in the committee and said no.

Mr. Realmuto: Angie is exactly right. This was discussed at length and because as you see these amenity policies can be lengthy and quite complex, we felt it was only the amenity managers across the Boards that had a full understanding of what it meant and the intent. I personally would not want to see the restaurant manager suspending someone from all of the joint amenities. We did not think that was appropriate. I would think that they would work closely with the amenity manager in that situation. It is pretty clear in these policies that it is the District through the Board and the amenity manager that have the final authority. It also provides the provision in their absence, they can designate someone else.

Mr. Zelazny: Steve, I think you are exactly right. The difference in when I talked with Sarah was that the Golf Club operations which is a separate entity than the restaurant and Eagle's Nest, they self-discipline within their own organizations. When you look at the golf course track, those general amenities which are the cart paths, the bridges and the ponds, which are covered in the general amenity policy, is not enforced by the Golf Club management but it is enforced by the Board, just like any other general amenity would be. I don't see a conflict in that at all.

Ms. Littlewood: I think the other thing that Sarah was concerned about was to make sure that the Lake Ashton Board was in the same agreement as the Lake Ashton II Board so that further down the line if anything arose, we were all on the same page.

Ms. Sandy: That is correct, Angie. I just wanted to confirm because as I discussed with you, we will probably need to work to develop a separate policy for any kind of suspension or termination and I think we discussed that a little at our meeting. I wanted to confirm if we move forward with that, that it would be keeping with both Board's understanding of how the joint amenity policy applied and that it did not cause any issues. Thank you for bringing that up and I think we have clarity on how to move forward.

Mr. Mecsics: Any other comments? Hearing none, I would asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

On MOTION by Mr. Costello, seconded by Ms. Landgrebe, with all in favor, Closing the Public Hearing, was approved.

On MOTION by Ms. Littlewood, seconded by Ms. Clark, with all in favor, Closing the Public Hearing, was approved.

# A. Consideration of Resolution 2023-03 Adopting Amended Joint Amenity Facilities Policies and Rates (Lake Ashton CDD)

Mr. Howison: Lake Ashton CDD, do I have a motion to approve Resolution 2023-03 adopting the amended joint amenity policy.

Mr. Realmuto: This is Steve, and as a member of the joint amenity policy committee, I would like the honor of making that motion in that we adopt Resolution 2023-03 approving the joint amenity policy as printed here.

On MOTION by Mr. Realmuto, seconded by Ms. Landgrebe, with all in favor, Resolution 2023-03 Adopting Amended Joint Amenity Facilities Policies and Rates for Lake Ashton CDD, was approved.

# B. Consideration of Resolution 2023-05 Adopting Amended Joint Amenity Facilities Policies and Rates (Lake Ashton II CDD)

Mr. Mecsics: Lake Ashton II Board, do I have a motion to approve Resolution 2023-05?

On MOTION by Ms. Clark, seconded by Ms. Littlewood, with all in favor, Resolution 2023-05 Adopting Amended Joint Amenity Facilities Policies and Rates for Lake Ashton II CDD, was approved.

Mr. Zelazny: Christine, Mary, Steve and Angie this was a long process. A little over a year. You all did a great job. Thank you very much for your efforts.

Mr. Realmuto: Thank you. I would also like to thank everybody. Now the amenity managers can continue the reservations for the rooms.

#### SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Discussion of Rehabilitation of the Marina (Requested by Lake Ashton II Board of Supervisors)

Mr. Mecsics: Roy, do you want to take this one?

Mr. Aull: I am just curious if the east Board has any interest in back finding on the marina and have someone assigned with me to look into some of the facts about the marina and whether or not it is worth pursuing.

Ms. VanSickle: No, thank you.

Mr. Aull: The only reason I say that is because we are going to be short sighted and if it gets taken over by a public entity, we have more problems coming our way than you can imagine. I think with an opportunity to possibly get it, it might be a good thing.

Mr. Howison: Where I stand on this is this. First of all, Mr. Lee has had some issues that made him unavailable over the last 60 days for us. I want to gather the facts before we make any kind of decision. I have spoken with Mr. Lee briefly and I intend to speak with him further. Obviously, Roy and I have met. I am not going to make a commitment of any action, and certainly I am not going to make a commitment of funds unless our Board is fully informed and fully in favor of taking such action. I do think it behooves us to gather the facts. That is where I stand.

Mr. Mecsics: Lloyd, would you be willing to work with Roy to continue gathering the facts and report those back to us?

Mr. Howison: I think there are a couple of points here. One, I think this is a wonderful example of an opportunity to move forward toward a single Lake Ashton. There are issues that impact our residents on both sides. That said, we need to understand that the property in its entirety falls within Lake Wales. Ultimately, it would be the Lake Wales CDD, or Lake Ashton CDD that would be responsible for any funds and so on. I am absolutely willing to work with Roy, but I think everyone needs to understand that the responsibility for the decision and any action going forward would fall with Lake Ashton CDD.

Mr. Mecsics: Any other discussion on that point?

Mr. Zelazny: Can we make sure that we have it on the next joint meeting agenda so we can have a report out from this group?

Mr. Howison: This will be on the agenda for the Lake Ashton CDD meetings as we gather facts and as we look to the Board for their input. I would ask perhaps that we forego making that decision until we get closer. I would have no issue with it being on the joint CDD agenda.

Mr. Mecsics: Any further discussion?

### SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Discussion Regarding Emailing System (Requested by Lake Ashton Board of Supervisors)

Mr. Mecsics: Lloyd and I have talked and there was some concern over the Constant Contact and cost overruns. We met in December. Lloyd and Christine have done some research, and they have come up with what I believe to be a good thing for us to go up a higher level as far as Constant Contact and then split that between the two Boards as 2/3 to 1/3 because you will have more emails. That also takes the golf course out of that. They are going to have their own separate account, as well as any HOAs who will have their own separate account.

Mr. Howison: I will just say that this is about a 50% reduction in cost for our email services. Again, because of Sunshine Laws, I was unable to discuss this with our Board, so it will be added to our agenda for Monday and we will discuss it. Basically it goes like this. We move from the plus plan to a core plan, which reduces our monthly costs in half. We then go on an annual billing which reduces another 30%. What brought this about is that Constant Contact is now invoking an additional charge if you go over a certain number of emails, which we have every month over the past couple of years. This would allow us to cut our costs about in half and still have the same email system, and it would avoid the potential for residents to have to sign up separately for emails from Lake Ashton CDD and Lake Ashton II CDD. It does avoid what I think would be an inconvenience with our residents. We will discuss further.

Mr. Costello: You are saying that the golf course will no longer be involved in this?

Mr. Mecsics: They will have their own account.

Mr. Costello: And we are going to still save 50% of what we are spending right now?

Mr. Howison: Correct.

Mr. Costello: This is kind of a no brainer as far as I am concerned.

Ms. Landgrebe: Just another point of clarity because Jim, I could not hear you. Did you say also that the HOA would have their own account?

Mr. Mecsics: Yes. Our HOA who as you know is just coming up, they will have their own account. It is by emails and that is why we want to cut down. That is why the golf course will have its own and each HOA. That will cut down on costs.

Mr. Howison: To clarify further, and Christine can correct me on the number, we send out "x" number of email addresses that we send to. Let's say for the sake of the argument that is 2000. Each time we send an email, that is 2000 emails. The way they calculate it, in a finite period which I think is a little over two weeks, the Lake Ashton CDD sent out a little over 60,000 emails. It is a fairly extensive thing. They have added a charge for overages for the base number of emails you can send. We were going to have to deal with that. Instead of a cost of roughly \$2,500 a year shared by the two CDDs which is where that would've taken us, it is going to be about \$1,100 a year.

Mr. Costello: Now you bring up a question to this. We are sending out 2,000 every time we send out an email. That to me means that some households are getting more. Can we request that every household only get it through 1 email instead of two?

Mr. Howison: We can request that, but I doubt it is realistic. I will say that one of the things we get through this is better list management. I will use an example, but my wife passed away last year, and her name was still on the list. I just recently removed her from that list. We do need to review that somehow and come up with a process to make sure that the emails we are sending out are actually getting to residents.

Mr. Realmuto: To completely understand the cost structure, I think it is important that we all be on the same page. My understanding, and please correct me if I am wrong, is that there are two elements to establishing the cost. The base plan that you are on determines how many people can be signed up on the list. I believe the current number we may feel is sufficient and it may not be actually is 2,000. I think we are very close to that if not over that. That determines the base plan cost. There is probably nothing we can do about that unless we were to limit that to one household as Mike suggested. That is only one element of the cost though. The other issue you raised is the number of emails that go out per month. It is capped at a certain number, but to listen to what you said, members might believe that for every additional email that goes out above that cost, it cost that much more. Because of a specific provision in the contract, which caps the overage charges at twice the monthly rate, and I think we are

well over that number, in effect additional usage will not increase our cost beyond double that monthly rate. Perhaps by having the three different organizations signed up separately we are paying more than we would if we kept them on a single plan, because the most that plan will ever cost us regardless of the number of messages that goes out, is twice the base rate. I think it is important to understand the finances of that.

Mr. Howison: Currently, our base cost is \$70 per month. The overages which we max out are capped at twice the monthly rate. Our overages cost us \$140 a month. That is \$210 per month, \$2,520 per year.

Mr. Realmuto: Lloyd, I have to question just a detail of that. We are paying \$70 a month, and I thought what we paid was capped at twice that so \$140. Is that not, correct?

Mr. Howison: The overage charge is capped at \$140.

Mr. Realmuto: So it is essentially three times.

Mr. Howison: Three times the base. So that is \$210 monthly, \$2,520 annually. If we were to go to the next level down, our base monthly cost would be \$35 but if we went on an annual billing, it would be \$378 per year and our overage costs would be capped at \$756 per year, and that comes out to \$1,034. It is more than a 50% reduction.

Mr. Realmuto: Just to be clear, what is getting us that reduction is changing the plans. I believe the plan we are signed up on now offers all kinds of features beyond the emails that we are not using. Just so none of the supervisors misunderstand, the 50% savings has nothing to do with the number of emails sent out that you are quoting. It is by reducing the plan we have and what we can do with it.

Mr. Howison: Yes. Christine, do you want to explain further? We really do not lose any functionality. It is just a lower cap, but since we are going over, it doesn't matter anyway.

Ms. Wells: The plan we are on now we just do not use all of the features. The lower plan, the core plan, would cover what we currently do.

Mr. Realmuto: So switching to the core plan, I agree, is a no brainer. But what I want to be sure is that we understand what we expect our usage to be and based on

our existing usage, or projecting forward, do we expect it to be 1x the base rate, 2x the base rate, or do we expect to hit the cap at 3x the base rate. What does the data say?

Mr. Howison: Data shows clearly that we will hit the cap.

Mr. Realmuto: If we are hitting the cap, in order to maximize the savings to the entire community not necessarily one District, have them all share a single plan and that also makes it easier I believe for them to sign up.

Mr. Mecsics: When we first discussed this our first discussion was to have separates for both CDDs. You have your contract and we will have ours. But as we discussed it, that causes some administrative issues that we have to contend. As I think Lloyd and I talked about, we can go either way. But I think from this perspective if we have the one and the proper management of it as we watch how many emails we put out and be very careful on that, and without the golf course being part of that, we won't have that as much.

Mr. Realmuto: I cannot help feeling that there is a disconnect though. I just asked Lloyd do we expect to hit the 3x number and he said yes, then we don't need to watch the number, it does not matter if even in our lower usage months we are going to hit 3x, it doesn't cost us anything.

Mr. Howison: I think the point is do we want to pay \$2,520 a year or \$1,034. On our own, Lake Ashton CDD will hit the cap. On our own. The numbers show that we would hit the cap. On their own, Lake Ashton II CDD would hit the cap.

Ms. Landgrebe: Together, we could still hit the cap, above and beyond and that would still remain the same. So why wouldn't we still include HOA and golf course and split it 4 ways?

Mr. Howison: The golf course does not wish to be on the email system. Part of it is that is a much larger company and they have their own email management systems.

Ms. Landgrebe: Okay, what about the HOAs?

Mr. Howison: I did not get into a big discussion about the HOAs. I don't have a problem.

Mr. Mecsics: The problem is when you start increasing more and more users on one contract, it becomes an administrative challenge. Especially with the HOAs. I do not like mixing HOAs with CDDs.

Mr. Landgrebe: I was wondering because they are a private organization versus, we are a government.

Mr. Mecsics: Yes, we are a government and they are an association so my perspective is I do not believe the HOA should. Right now, we have been helping them out, but our HOA will be told they need to get their own.

Ms. Landgrebe: Okay, so when would this become effective?

Mr. Mecsics: Depends on you all's approval.

Mr. Howison: It is something we would need to approve in our meeting. We could have it active by the end of the month.

Mr. Landgrebe: Could the HOA move to their own that quickly?

Mr. Howison: I do not know if they could and we would want to accommodate them.

Mr. Mecsics: Do you deal with your HOA?

Ms. Landgrebe: No.

Ms. Bosman: Which CDD?

Mr. Howison: It is still your account at this point I believe but we can do it either way.

Ms. Bosman: If the assumption is there are going to be overages every month, will that just be no matter what splitting that way?

Mr. Howison: It makes sense to do it that way because either organization would go over, but we will work out the details. The Lake Ashton CDD does send more emails, but at the end of the day it caps. So if we split it 50/50, we are both saving 50% or more and actually you are going to hit the cap too.

Mr. Mecsics: Then we will have to discuss that at our meeting.

Mr. Howison: Yes, that makes sense.

Mr. Realmuto: Again, the two chairs are saying two different things. Jim, you brought up the 2/3 and I was not sure what that referred to.

Mr. Costello: Yes, when the golf course was involved.

Mr. Howison: The original discussion I had with Jim looking at that was we send out more emails, but as Christine pointed out to me, both organizations hit their max. Either organization would hit their cap. If you look at the volume of emails sent out, we

do send more on the Lake Ashton CDD, but if you look at the volume that Lake Ashton II CDD sends, it also will hit the cap. It makes sense.

Mr. Realmuto: I do agree the 50% number would make sense.

Mr. Howison: And again, the bottom line is we save more than 50% each of the two organizations. They will talk about it in their meeting and we are meeting Monday.

Mr. Mecsics: We will put that on our agenda.

Mr. Zelazny: So currently, we have 1 account, and we pay how much a year?

Ms. Bosman: \$740.

Mr. Howison: That \$740 is excluding any overages charges because Constant Contact did not charge overages. This is a new policy on the part of Constant Contact. On a going forward basis, our costs jointly would be \$2,520. But you are right.

Mr. Zelazny: But the proposal you are discussing is still 1 account, just cost sharing?

Mr. Mecsics: We can do it one of two ways. We can have one account or we can have you have your account and we have ours. But we will discuss that at our meeting.

Mr. Zelazny: The two accounts don't make much sense to me if you are capped. I want to make sure all we are really doing is dropping the golf course off, changing the type of account we have, and doing a cost share 2/3 and 1/3.

Ms. Landgrebe: What about the 50%?

Mr. Mecsics: Please, do not. You work on our rules when you are here. You do not call out. You ask for the floor, folks. What we will do as Lloyd said you will have your meeting and discuss there and we will discuss at ours on how we go forward with this. '

Mr. Howison: If we were to go forward the way I explained, and if it were 50/50, each CDDs costs would be \$667 a year, and that is a savings from the \$1,260 our costs would be if we did nothing.

Mr. Realmuto: Just so the rumor mill doesn't start, I want to make sure people understand that the reason the golf course won't be on it is because they choose not to be on it. We are not saving any money because the golf course isn't on it because of that cap. That is a business decision on their part. That is not an issue. The same with the HOA. I would think as a community we might want to look into that and discuss it.

Mr. Mecsics: Right now, your HOA does not use Constant Contact, ours does, and that is our decision with the HOA.

Mr. Realmuto: Absolutely. As long as it does not increase the total number, because again with the cap it does not matter.

Mr. Howison: In the period that we looked at, the Pro Shop and Eagle's Nest sent out a total of 122,832 emails. The Lake Ashton CDD II sent out 37,710, and Lake Ashton CDD sent out 62,850. If you look at that in total, the Pro Shop and Eagle's Nest sent out more than the two CDDs combined. That is why it made sense to them to take control in their central system.

Mr. Realmuto: What was the period looked at, Lloyd?

Mr. Howison: Two weeks.

Mr. Realmuto: Just to help wrap it up, financially, I think it is a no brainer as everyone has said. That seems pretty clear. I want to point out to everybody that there is an additional advantage to sharing an account and that is that it makes it a lot easier for our residents and members of the community to sign up one time instead of having to sign up in two or more places.

Mr. Howison: That was the initial driving force behind our position.

Mr. Mecsics: Any other discussion on that? Hearing none.

# EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Supervisor Requests and General Public Comments

Mr. Mecsics: Let's go to Supervisor's requests.

Ms. VanSickle: This is something important for our entire community. People, when you are driving, please drive the speed limit. Also please drive on the right side of the road. If you are trying to pass a bicycle or golf cart, make sure that the way is clear for you. We nearly had a head on last night and it seems to be happening more and more of people having near misses. Let's all try to be a little bit more careful.

Mr. Mecsics: Any other Supervisors? Just one I would like to add, and it is not a shot at anybody. On our Board, we have a rule of decorum of we don't call names or shoot at anyone on our Board or from the audience or other Boards. I would just ask that as we discussed someone on the alarm system, there was a terminology of bullying and I am not going to call anyone out on that. Please refrain from that, because if we

are going to work together, it causes an issue. As we both work together, I know I am very tight with our Board on that, please if you have your own opinions keep it to yourself and don't make a public comment because it is not necessarily true. Any other supervisor comments?

Mr. Zelazny: I want to thank Lake Ashton CDD and Christine. As many of you know, we did have a mechanical issue with our walk-in refrigerators over at the Eagle's Nest. Both Mary and Christine stepped up and offered their facilities to allow us to move some of our food over. We greatly appreciate that so thank you.

Mr. Mecsics: One more that I have, is since we have had our meetings in our different groups of the development that is going on around our community, there have been some changes as far as ownership or at least bids on different property that circle around Lake Ashton. From a public safety perspective, as I watch the communities and different sizes and types of houses, I think we need to work diligently to look at our public safety posture. Especially our postulated threat as what we have to worry about out here. Get a good focus on what our security needs will be in the future because ladies and gentlemen we are a gem of higher income people in this community and as we see a lot of different low-income homes, we could be a target for criminal activity. I would like to ask Lloyd if Mike Costello since he is close to public safety being a fireman, if he would like to work on that with me.

Mr. Costello: Yes.

Mr. Mecsics: Great. The area is changing and we need to look harder at our security postures on both sides so that we are protected. Lastly, as we know, Mary Bosman is retiring. On the 10<sup>th</sup> of February which is a Friday afternoon, I will sponsor a pizza party and that will be open to the community to come in and say thank you to Mary and it will be a get together thing for her. We will also have based upon our Boards, dinner with the Board and Mary's family ourselves to give our thanks to her as well. Please put that on your calendars.

Ms. Littlewood: What time is the pizza party?

Mr. Mecsics: 2 o'clock.

Ms. Littlewood: You mentioned the alarm system. I must have missed that meeting because I do not know anything about the alarm systems.

Mr. Mecsics: What happened was we have a lightening alarm system that services the entire community. Lake Ashton CDD maintains the mechanics and horns for their side and we maintain those for our side. There is a primary controller for all of that and it resides at the Eagle's Nest. We would split that all up across the Eagle's Nest and the two CDDs. Lake Ashton CDD chose not to fund that. My company in the interest of public safety, funded that shortfall. I think that is something we will have to look at in the future because we are coming up on a time to renew that so that it is covered. We will have the lightening alarm system for the entire community.

Mr. Realmuto: On that topic, since you brought it up again, I want to ask that before you send the Lake Ashton CDD any bills to be paid, that you bring the proposal up at a joint meeting like this so we can discuss it jointly and so our Board has a chance to discuss rather than just billing us.

Mr. Mecsics: Yes, we all share in the safety of this community.

Mr. Realmuto: That should be a separate agenda item that we discuss in the future.

Mr. Littlewood: We have not discussed it at all I don't think.

Mr. Mecsics: Anything else?

Ms. Landgrebe: I would like to say publicly since this is our last joint meeting, Mary thank you for your many years of service here to Lake Ashton. Thank you.

Mr. Mecsics: Jason, when do we set the next joint meeting?

Mr. Greenwood: The next one is set for April 17.

Mr. Howison: April 17 and it will be at the Clubhouse.

Mr. Greenwood: At this point Jim we are going to ask for public comments.

Mr. Mecsics: Yes, public comments?

Ms. Wells: The joint meeting is scheduled when our budget workshop is as well. I don't know if there an issue there.

Mr. Mecsics: Why don't you all discuss that at your next meeting.

Mr. Howison: Yes, let's talk about it. We may ask you to change it.

Resident (Tom Scali, 3084 Dunmore Drive): I would just like to again encourage the Board with regards to the boat to keep it private. Do not have public meetings. Whatever you do. When you have your plan in place, then you present it to the

community and then the developer will hear it at the same time. Do not let this get out and get into the trouble we had the last time. Secondly, in my opinion, the HOA should be included in the email distribution system because again then everyone is going to have to sign up twice. It is going to be an additional expense to the residents. It is foolish in my opinion to not include the HOAs. Thank you.

Mr. Mecsics: Thank you Tom. Any other public comments?

Resident (Iris Realmuto, Lot 1031): When it comes to the email and who is splitting it, there are two parts to consider. Who sends the mail, and who gets the mail. So as an example, Lake Ashton CDD from the Clubhouse can send out 10 email messages, but the number of users are all from Winter Haven. It is both parts and that is why 50/50 makes sense. You have to look at who is getting it and who is sending it. Thank you.

Mr. Mecsics: Any other public comments? Hearing none.

#### **NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Adjournment** 

There not being any further business to discuss,

On MOTION by Mr. Costello, seconded by Ms. Landgrebe, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned by the Lake Ashton CDD Board.

On MOTION by Ms. Littlewood, seconded by Mr. Zelazny, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned by the Lake Ashton II CDD Board.

Lake Ashton CDD

Secretary / Assistant Secretary

Chairman / Vice Chairman

Lake Ashton II CDD

January 20, 2023 \_\_

Lake Ashton CDD & Lake Ashton II CDD

Secretary / Assistant Secretary

Chairman / Vice Chairman