



SUNSET VILLAGE, INC.  
O/A SUNSET PALMS

**Vision: Implementing Priorities**  
**Focus Group - Summary**  
**March 13, 2024**  
**Library**

**Attendance:** As appended

The Vision: Implementation of Priorities – Security, focus group discussion began 10:30 am.

Notice of the focus group was posted on the bulletin board and emailed to members on March 8, 2024.

**Agenda**

Pat explained the purpose of the meeting was to provide a forum for members to share concerns with security and to propose solutions to improve security in our park. As articulated in the notice of the meeting, significant research has been completed by the Security Focus Group, a sub-committee of the Neighborhood Watch Committee. The Security Focus Group (2023) will present their information and recommendations at the BOD meeting March 20, 2024:

- Securing the Walmart gate area
- Restricting Park access via open wall areas at 1) Canal & Oleander, and 2) Azalea & Gardenia
- Improvements to the Oleander gate
- Front Entrance Gate

Pat noted that these items will not be discussed today. Members were encouraged to attend the March 20, 2024, BOD meeting for the presentation on these security improvements.

**Summary of Security Discussions**

1. Stop Signs: Concern expressed that vehicles, golf carts and bikers are not stopping at stop signs. All agreed this was a concern. Pat noted that signs 'Seriously Slow Down' that are faded are in the process of being replaced. The Pinellas Police Department has loaned us a speed radar sign to use to alert riders of their speed and encourage self-discipline. The sign is not working but the office has called the police department to request that the sign be fixed. Discussion ensued on the best location for the sign. By a show of hands, decision was to first place the sign on the roadway entering the park. Bill Hickey and Kevin Stewart will determine exact location. Providing the police are willing to move the sign, the second location will be on Canal. Dennis Cook, in consultation with Maggie Stokes, will determine location on Canal. Members were encouraged to report violations using the Complaint Form at the office. Our manager will follow up on complaints.
2. Streetlights: Additional street lighting, as recommended by Security Focus Group, is scheduled to be installed in June 2024. Karen reported that the contract for this project has been signed.
3. Accessibility: Concern with accessibility to the clubhouse was voiced. The possible purchase of ramps for doors to the clubhouse, for example from clubhouse to pool, is being



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investigated by the office. The next Vision focus will be on improving and enlarging the clubhouse. The need for improved access can be addressed with this initiative.

4. Night Patrol: the suggestion to introduce a night patrol was presented to the group. ?? noted that several years ago the park did pay for night patrol. This was discontinued when the use of fobs for access to the clubhouse and pool was introduced. Additionally the back gate (Oleander) was added to improve security.
5. Emergent Situations: Members reported concern with recent events when police, multiple police cars were in the park and a helicopter was hovering over the park. Members wondered if there was an alert system that could be used to advise when we should stay inside and when the situation was resolved. Pat and Karen agreed to arrange follow up with police to see if they have a community alert system. Suggestion was put forward that individual members could post information on Facebook 3401. It was noted that sharing information in this way might be the fastest way to alert others. Pat noted that the timeliness of posting would depend on a Facebook administrator seeing and approving the post. Pat noted that Facebook 3401 could use additional volunteers.
6. Patrols of Park by Manager: It was suggested that if the manager could do regular patrols this would help with safety and security. Karen and Pat confirmed that Marilyn Corazza has begun doing patrols of the park.
7. Neighborhood Watch: A member noted that Neighborhood Watch is a good initiative. She noted that we all need to do our part and be vigilant, share information and report.
8. Non-compliance with Parking Regulations around pool: a member voiced concern about vehicles not adhering to parking rules. A suggestion was that could we have signs made that all residents could use and place on windshields when they observe parking violation? Discussion ensued about the repercussions. For example, you could break a windshield wiper. Pat and Karen will bring concerns to manager. All members can report violations.

Members were informed that a Zoom Focus Group will be offered for those who are not in the park or could not attend today. The next Vision: Implementing Priorities Focus Group will be on the number two priority – Enlarge/Improve the Clubhouse. Did we give date??? All were reminded of the agenda for Security Focus Group presentation at the BOD meeting March 20, 2024.

Conclusion: Focus Group concluded approximately 11:40 am.

Recorder: Patricia Osmond, Chair, Vision: Implementing Priorities



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Attendance:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Lot #</b>		<b>Name</b>	<b>Lot #</b>
Pat Osmond	289		Sheryl Stewart	295
Karen Harding	477		Bill Hickey	006
Royce Pauley	453		Sharon Hickey	006
Dennis Cook	247		Mike Zwicker	660
Dominic Calandra	588		Marianne Zwicker	660
Bryant Harding	477		Kathy Duncan	417
John Joseph	158		Richard Anderson	042
Phyllis MacEachern	044		Frank Smutka	134
Kevin Stewart	295		Miriam Clemmons	108
Maggie Stokes	182			