

FAIRFIELD HARBOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Lee Fossett

My wife and I are relatively new residents in Fairfield Harbour. We sought an active, engaged community, hopefully with some heritage and culture. Perhaps some respite from Florida's heat and hurricanes would be a bonus. We got it all! Our first community event was the (33rd, I think) consecutive Christmas Concert, and we were blown away! A community that can partner to present something like that for 33 consecutive years says a LOT about your neighbors. Homeowners here are engaged in countless clubs, boating, fishing, or just casual nature walks at sunset. It appeared to be the perfect place for us.

As an engineering graduate from Purdue University, I spent 25 years as an engineer and a manager for a number of manufacturing firms dealing with products ranging from aircraft to fire trucks. As my career evolved, I progressed to serve as Manager of Business Planning, Manufacturing Manager, and Sales Manager. Those positions gave me the perspective and understanding of the tools required to manage large and complex projects and the staff needed to complete them. After retiring from my engineering career, my wife and I decided to start our own business. We started a staffing and professional recruiting agency. We became quite successful, and we were in business for 26 years. As a small business person, you learn and understand the importance of customer service, employee relations, and listening.

In my business career, we moved several times and lived in several communities. I have served on three HOA/POA Boards in Florida. In two, I served as the Treasurer. I thought I knew what to expect when I attended the FHPOA Budget presentation for the 2024 fiscal year. The lack of understanding, the disregard for consensus, and the general disrespect in the discussions were a shock. I quickly realized this was not an isolated incident. It became clear to me that our community has a pressing need for leadership that understands the foundations of a strong community, honest communications, full disclosure, and property owner involvement in all decisions that significantly impact the fiscal health and the way of life of the community.

How do we bring our community back to the picture we all came for? We need to adopt a reasonable and understandable operating plan and budget that is open and supported by members within the context of open membership meetings. We need an operating and financial plan that restores the community and returns it to the basics. Approval of major capital expenditures will be by referendum vote by all members. All our finances will be transparent. We will revise our outdated bylaws. Basic infrastructure maintenance and repair will be a priority. Our open space will be protected by respecting the property owner's wishes.

Your voice and vote count. If elected, I pledge to listen carefully and respect the best interests of the community so that we can move confidently into the future.

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