

CGPOA August 2021

eMinder



Notes from the President (Katherine Winters):

By the time you read this, we will have survived Mini Season and live to talk about it in the coming months. The board is still here working for you. We are investigating and taking action where warranted on several complaints that we received. I do not make it a habit to discuss those actions in the newsletter because we do not want to pit neighbor against neighbor.

On the legislative front, several things that may impact the Gardens happened. At the county commission meeting, \$329,936.00 in grant money from FDOT was acquired for the Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail with the connection at Cudjoe Gardens. We do not know exactly what this means. The commissions appointed two pro-housing members to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. The commission granted approval to advertise a Public Hearing to adopt a glitch Ordinance to remove the requirement in Monroe County Code 2-700 that appointments to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee be accomplished by resolution. If this is approved, then there will be no public insight or input into who is appointed to the AHAC. Beware: Parking violation fees in Key West (and possibly more of Monroe County) will increase from \$20 to \$200. The change was made because it was cheaper for people to pay the fine than the fee charged by parking lots.

The CGPOA reviewed the by-laws for the association. (These are the by-laws and NOT the deed restrictions). Several questions have come up over the last few months concerning different interpretations of the by-laws. We found there are several areas where there is inconsistency and lack of clarity. Over the next few months, we will be revising the by-laws to be consistent. We hope to have that work completed no later than the next annual meeting. We will send out any changes before the meeting so you can review them before taking a vote. If you are interested in those discussions, please come to the next board meeting. One of the questions being discussed is who is allowed to attend the board meetings - anyone or only paid members. If you have an opinion on that question, please attend the meeting or contact one of the board members. There are certainly pros and cons on this issue.

Love Your Dog but Not Their Poop:

This is a repeat of an article that appeared in the April Newsletter. We still have a problem. In Cudjoe Gardens, we love our dogs. We even have birthday parties for them. However, if you have walked on Drost lately, you know we have a problem. Many are not picking up after their dogs. If you are out walking or riding your bike and see someone not picking up after their dog, offer the offender a bag; perhaps they forgot one or ran out. If you have a rental house, please place a note telling the renters they need to clear up after their dogs; maybe you can give them a roll of doggie bags. Thanks everyone for your help with this.

Clarification on Last Month's Article on Restrictions:

I want to apologize if the article last month on restriction on Motor homes, Campers, etc. was misunderstood or poorly written. In no way did I intend to equate a motorhome with a mobile home. However, I did intend to equate a motor home to a camper. Also, there was a question as to whether the deed restriction posted on the website are the last version. After talking with multiple people, I believe they are. However, I still

need to get to the county and pull the latest they have on file and verify that fact. I hope to have that done by the next board meeting.

Canal Water Sampling (Randy McDonald): The baton has been passed! Our new Assistant Director for Canal Water Sampling is Susan Kurdziel. I have coordinated the canal water sampling efforts for the Gardens since 2007 and felt that it is time to let someone else share the pleasures. Susan has graciously accepted the position and will continue our neighborhood's work in building a long-term database of canal samples and trends. She has three strong teams to do the collection, water sampling, and filtering required for thorough analysis:

Team 1 – Pete Pedersen and Susan Kurdziel

Team 2 – Dolly Garlo and Robert Keeley

Team 3 – Mark and Libby Scott

I thank these teams and many previous team members for their support of this important mission for the Gardens over the years. Randy

Cudjoe Gardens By laws (Andrew Daly): "In an effort to review our documents and regulations to keep them current and useful, I was directed to review the CGPOA bylaws. Anyone who has any input should contact me at cdaly31867@aol.com"

Thank You (Cindy Dresow): **Kudos and many thanks to Jo Socha for hosting a GREAT CGPOA Street Party Friday, June 18!!!!**

Kudos and many thanks to Nancy Andrews, and Janet & Bob Schoneck for maintaining the corner area behind and including our newsstands at Drost Drive across from the

Sheriff Station, and for their super work on the landscaping of our new entrance sign.

Thanks to everyone who helps pick up bits of trash on your morning walks!

Fish Carcasses (Stacey Pillari): We have had some recent issues with fish carcasses being thrown in our canals. This is not only a horrible sight to see, and smelly, but also can cause issues. We all love to swim in our canals and want to know we are safe from our wonderful sea friends and the carcasses can attract sharks. Also the carcasses can be harmful to other incredible wildlife such as seabirds, sea turtles, and manatees. If we all could inform our guests and renters, that this is something we here in Cudjoe Gardens are asking them not to do and to be respectful of our canals. They can properly dispose of the carcasses and this would be greatly appreciated.

Lobster Season (Stacey Pillari): As Lobster Season is upon us please make sure all guests and renters are aware of the following rules and regulations, and ask them to PLEASE be respectful and follow them. This is a fun sport and has a great reward of delicious lobster! But there is plenty for everyone if we all follow the rules and make sure to only take our limit of 6 per day per diver and leave the small guys. And any eggs are to be left alone! Last year there were divers taking lobsters in front of peoples properties in the canals at night without permission. If you see or know of anyone doing this please let them know this is not legal or respectful and to cease. If you are given permission that is one thing but do not sneak and take what is not yours to take.

Lobstering Rules and Regulations -

<https://myfwc.com/media/13224/monroecountylobster.pdf>

Thank you and see you on the water and around the Gardens!

Rain Report (Rainman): The rain total for July was 6.74 inches. Thank you Peggy Jent for monitoring my rain gauge during my absence.

Property Owner's Concerns: If a property owner has a specific concern, it must be mailed to the Cudjoe Gardens Property Owners Association (CGPOA) or given to a Board Member in writing. It will then be discussed at the following Board of Directors Meeting and kept on record. Please mail any correspondence to: CGPOA, PO Box 420121, Cudjoe Key, FL 33042