

Save Deer Run Newsletter

August 2, 2020 - Volume 2, Issue 7



CODE ENFORCEMENT RECOMMENDS RESIDENTS STOP CUTTING GOLF COURSE GRASS

Save Deer Run and several homeowners met with Seminole County Code Enforcement officers on Friday, July 10th. At that time, Code Enforcement indicated to us that a formal case was finally to be opened against Mr. Dello Russo for failure to maintain the course so that it complies with county laws. He had previously been given written warnings and been asked to come into compliance with his reported violations that included failure to cut grass, failure to maintain the golf course waterways, and failure to maintain the wooden slat fences that mark the golf course properties. It appears that Dello Russo previously responded to these warnings by only mowing/upkeeping areas that were visible from the road. Code Enforcement officers were limited in observing lands deeper into the golf course that were not visible from the road. Code Enforcement officers were given access by homeowners on both sides of the golf course so that they could view areas in both the front and back nines that are not visible from the road. Several homeowners have provided written permission for Code Enforcement to enter their back yards as needed so that the officers can continue to document the lack of compliance or not as the case may be. The owner has approximately 30 days from July 13, 2020 to respond before the case is referred to the Code Enforcement Board and/or a special magistrate. These are the two entities that are able to assess finds/liens against the property for noncompliance.

Code Enforcement did make one suggestion which they asked us to share with Deer Run residents. We know that many homeowners have been cutting/mowing the grass near their properties. As hard as it is to refrain from doing this, the officers strongly encouraged homeowners to stop cutting the grass. The



explanation for this suggestion is when any area of the grass is cut, Code Enforcement must assume the owner is doing so. He basically gets credit for any mowing that is done on the property, whether he is doing it or not. That credit is what has allowed him to draw out the compliance assessment since early spring. So, in a way, homeowners are helping him to get more time to bring the property into compliance even when he is doing very little himself to do so. We know it is hard to do because of the eye sore and safety concerns (a lot of people have noticed an increase in snakes, particularly water moccasins, and rats in spaces adjacent to the spaces), but Code Enforcement must document themselves compliance/noncompliance issues and this can only be done if the course is left as is.

SDR TO HOST BCC DISTRICT ONE CANDIDATES' FORUM ON AUGUST 6TH. 2020

Save Deer Run is pleased to announce that it is hosting a Candidates Forum with the BCC Candidates for District One on Thursday, August 6th, 2020 beginning at 6:30pm. The event is being held on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at MetroLife Church. The venue is located at 910 S. Winter Park Drive, Casselberry, FL 32707. The venue usually holds seating for up to 700 people. However, we are mindful of the current global health pandemic with the threat of covid-19. In order to try to mitigate guests' exposure to the virus, the venue is being limited to no more than 200 individuals. Tickets and masks will be required to enter. Tickets are free and distributed electronically on a first come, first serve basis via EventBrite. Seating will be spaced to help ensure social distancing as much as possible. Hand sanitizer stations will also be located throughout the venue. We also plan to record/livestream the event on Facebook for those who are unable to attend in person. All three candidates (Bob Dallari, Matt Morgan, and Katrina Shadix) have agreed to participate in the forum. Doors will open at 6:30pm. Candidates have the option of setting up a table to distribute campaign materials between 6:30pm and 7:00pm and converse with guests. The Q&A portion of the event will begin at 7:00pm. Each candidate will be introduced in turn by the moderator. The forum moderator will be Dr. Deborah Bauer, president and founder of Save Deer Run Citizen's Action Group. Each candidate will receive no more than three minutes to make an opening statement. Each candidate will receive approximately 8 to 10 questions from a random pool submitted to the moderator prior to the day of the event. Each candidate will have no more than 3 minutes to answer their question. Candidates will not directly address each other. Rebuttals are not allowed. Candidates will be given no more than three minutes to make a closing statement. The event will last from 7:00pm until 8:30pm. We are holding this event with the hope that the candidates for the District One race can speak to our residents so that our residents can get an idea for which candidate may best represent our PD's future. To reserve your tickets, please go to the Eventbrite page for this event. It can be found at the following URL: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/save-deer-run-seminole-bcc-district-1-candidates-forum-tickets-114832781942>

SDR TO PUBLISH SERIES OF BCC CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

In July 2020, Save Deer Run Citizen's Action Group sent written invitations to all three candidates who had qualified for the Seminole Board of Commissioners District One seat. Invitations were sent to three candidates: Bob Dallari (Republican), Matt Morgan (Republican), and Katrina Shadix (Democrat). Dallari and Morgan all agreed to participate. Shadix initially agreed to participate as well.

All three candidates received the same written questionnaire. It contained ten questions. Candidates were told they could write as little or as much as they wished in response to the questions. SDR assured all candidates their responses would be published

unedited, in whole, and as submitted by the candidates. Dallari returned his interview first followed by Morgan. Shadix did not return her questionnaire before the specified publication deadline. As a result, SDR will be publishing two separate special newsletter editions. Volume 8 will feature Dallari's interview and will be published on Monday, 8/3. Volume 9 will feature Morgan's interview and will be published on Tuesday, 8/4. As Shadix did not return her questionnaire, SDR is unable to publish an interview with her.

All completed interviews will be available for download on the SDR website at <http://www.savedeerrun.com/>.

SEMINOLE COUNTY STAFF WANTS TO REDUCE LAND CODE OPEN/GREEN SPACE REQUIREMENT AT AUGUST 11TH WORK SESSION

Staff for Seminole County have been working with a consulting firm called Canin Associates Inc. to overhaul and update the Seminole County Land Development Code. This code is crucial for Seminole County residents. It is the law which governs all development in the county, especially unincorporated parts of the county like Deer Run. The county solicited input from the public via email in June 2020. On July 21, 2020, they held a public input session via Zoom. The next step in the process is for county staff to present a series of specific recommendations to the Seminole County Board of Commissioners at a virtual work session via Zoom scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2020. We encourage all individuals to consider attending this event if they are able and to participate in public comments. We strongly believe more

public input sessions are needed to help protect possible proposed changes to the Planned Development/PD land designation which helps prevent certain types of development in places like Deer Run. It appears county staff is recommending a reduction in the required 25% open/green space required in PDs like Deer Run. Please help us stop this change from happening! For more information, see the work session agenda here:

<https://seminolecounty.novusagenda.com/agency/public/CoverSheet.aspx?ItemID=5481&MeetingID=1251>



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Did you know there's a Facebook group where you can discuss matters about the golf course closing? Check us out!

https://www.facebook.com/pg/SaveDeerRun/groups/?ref=page_internal

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.savedeerrun.com/>