

**RAINBOW LAKES ESTATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA
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DATE: March 21, 2024

- **As a courtesy to others, *silence* your cell phones and other electronic devices.** If you need to take a call or text please step outside.
- If you want to address the Advisory Board, you may do so during either the “Agenda Item Public Comment” portion (if related to a specific item on this agenda) or the “General Public Comment” portion for all other comments.
- **When you stand up to speak, state your name and address for the record.** You must provide any documentation to the Staff Assistant. Also, any information you provide will become part of the official public record.
- Please keep comments to no more than two minutes, focus on specific issues, and refrain from making sales pitches or personal remarks directed at staff or board members.

General public items, consent agenda items and other items that the board is expected to discuss will be listed on the agenda available at the front door.

Call to Order

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Announcements

1. **AGENDA ITEM PUBLIC COMMENT:** *Reserved for comments related to items specifically listed on this agenda.* Scheduled requests will be heard first and limited to five (5) minutes. Unscheduled requests will be limited to two (2) minutes. For unscheduled requests the public comment request sign in sheet is located at the entrance. Please limit your comments to a specific issue. If the request or matter requires investigation the Chairman will refer to staff to follow-up with the person making the request. Citizens may contact Rainbow Lakes Estates Administration **by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the meeting** at 352-489-4280 to request to speak.

1A. Michael Hassenfelt - Garden Club Presentation (attached)

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DATE: March 21st, 2024

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2A. February 15, 2024

3. Advisory Committee Member Reports

- Chairman: Dallas Seveland
- Vice Chairman/ Public Safety: Allan McKay
- Levy County Representative: Dan Wilshusen
- Roads: Gary Levit
- Building & Grounds: Kathy Bryant
- Code Enforcement:
- Recreation: Paula Gawlik

4. Special (select or ad hoc) Committees/Guests:

- Lieutenant Mike Mongeluzzo, MCSO
- Chad Wicker, MSTU Director
- Katie Freeman, Operations Manager MSTU
- Katy Burton, Recreation Manager
- Dana Olesky, Chief Assistant County Attorney

5. CONSENT: A motion to approve the Consent Agenda is a motion to approve all recommended actions. All matters on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion unless desired by a Board Member.

6. Old Business:

6A. RL Blvd. Median
6B. Crime Watch
6C. Broadband
6D. Clubhouse

7. New Business/Board Items:

6A. Splash Pad
6B. Communicator
6C. New Garden Club

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT: Scheduled requests will be heard first and limited to five (5) minutes. Unscheduled speakers will be limited to two (2) minutes. Citizens may contact Rainbow Lakes Estates Administration **by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the meeting** at 352-489-4280 to request to speak.

9. Announcement.

Advisory Board meeting April 18th, 2024 6:30pm in the Community Center.

The February 15, 2024 meeting of the Rainbow Lakes Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairman Dallas Seveland. Other committee members present were Gary Levit, Allen McKay, Katherine Bryant and Dan Wilshusen. Guests present were Chad Wicker, MSTU Director, Katie Freeman, Operations Manager MSTU, Katy Burton, Recreation Manager and Dana Olesky, Chief Assistant County Attorney. There were 16 people in attendance. The meeting was opened with invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item Public Comment (1):

(1A) Brian Chase (2 minutes) – SW Nautilus – Crime Watch – I think the Crime Watch should return to the way it was immediately for Rainbow Lakes Estates residents. Crime watch was working perfectly. A separate proposal dedicated solely for Levy County. It would ensure that Marion County residents taxes would not increase as a result of anything related to current or future Crime Watch. Seveland responded the sheriff's office disbanded the Crime Watch. McKay responded there're C.O.P.S. I patrol for them. We can not take a sheriff's department car into Levy County. Discussion followed

Approval of Minutes (2A) April 21, 2022:

Motion made by Bryant, seconded by Wilshusen to accept minutes January 18, 2024 (2A). Motion carried.

Committee Reports (3):

Building & Grounds: Bryant reported no progress on the Clubhouse. Fire Station II waiting on decision for a new purpose for the building. Dedication of George Pugliese Field at Sea Cliff Park for March 26, 2024 at 10:00am. Residents expressed concern that they were not aware of Advisory Board meetings. Maintenance staff have been cutting weeds along the roads.

Code: No liaison for that position.

Levy County: Wilshusen reported code enforcement still has four (4) open code cases. SE 125th CT pot hole patched. Public safety is still an issue no law enforcement assists.

Public Safety: McKay reported MCFR statistics for the month of January. Urgent medical twenty-nine (29); life threat three (3); urgent fire three (3); omega fire two (2); immediate medical assist fifteen (15) routine medical three (3); routine fire two (2.)

Recreation: Gawlik absent

Roads: Levit reported Marine Blvd pot holes have been fixed. Highway forty-one (41) left turn lane pot hole has been fixed. Trout and Soundview roads have been widened.

Committees/Guests (4):

Chad Wicker, MSTU Director - Stated he has been with MSTU for twenty-one (21) years and I'm excited serve and work with you in the future.

Consent (5): None

Old Business (6):

(6A) RL Blvd Median– Seveland, asked has a bid gone out for contracting the landscaping and maintenance of the first island and the brick entrance walls. Freeman, addressed that they have received a contract for the main entrance and RL Blvd median. We are going to set up and add it to an additional contract that we have for another MSTU with the county. The contract is for four thousand dollars (\$ 4,000.) The total line item is ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) with a remaining six- thousand dollars (\$6,000.)

(6B) Crime Watch– Seveland, asked any updates on plans for creating an independent RLE Public Safety Services organization and citizen patrol? McKay, stated yesterday I conducted a workshop. Eight (8) volunteers were present and two (2) concern citizens. I gave a history and what we have done since the RLE Crime Watch was disbanded. I asked if they had any concerns. Their concerns were that the Advisory Board is not accountable to the residents, the Advisory Board seems arrogant and aloof, they do not trust the Advisory Board, they have little use for the RLE office and the lack of response and respect received from it. The communication with residents is terrible and the "Communicator" must be mailed on a regular basis and with monthly supplements that are single pages with current events highlighted and important updates not only from the office but also from the Advisory Board. Would like to make a motion that a newsletter be mailed every month. We do have patrols going into Marion county. Levy County has nothing. Our proposal is purchasing and or obtaining from the sheriff's department surplus cars and be able to maintain and run our own Crime Watch where we can patrol Levy County and Marion County. Seveland, asked Spicuzza how much do we budget a year for patrols? Spicuzza, responded we budget thirty- thousand (\$30,000) a year from general government for FHP, FWC and MCS. Levit,

asked would this include wellness checks? McKay, responded yes. Olesky, stated that she wants to take a step back and clean some concerns from a legal stand point. RLE is MSD it encompasses both Marion County and Levy County. There's a small portion of Levy County you are taxed differently between Marion County and Levy County, but you all are both under Marion County Board of County Commissioners. This Advisory Board is an Advisory Board you can have the greatest of ideas but ultimately it has to be approved by Marion County Board of County Commissioners. I'm legal counsel to them. I have legal concern of a proposal Crime Watch. The statute authorizes a sheriff's office and a police department to authority to operate a Crime Watch. They did not authorize an independent home owner association community association to develop Crime Watches. Discussion followed.

(6C) Broadband– Levit, reported Comcast has been extending and saw lines going in. Wilshusen, stated based on the grant information broadband is estimated to reach the county line and include all of RLE but not on Levy County side. Burton, Spectrum will be starting to lay down lines out here in RLE. There are also grants for Levy County side.

(6D) Clubhouse Roof – Seveland asked any update on engineers report and cost analysis for the building to bring it completely up to standards and code including asbestos removal as well as consideration of demolishing the building and the costs that would incur. Wicker, stated he just took a tour of the building. I reached out to facility department to help assist me to do an assessment of the building.

New Business/Board Items (7):

(7A) Splash Pad and Main Entrance – Levit, stated he would like to make a motion regarding a splash pad for the community and a garden. Would like the front entrance walls to be more inviting. Seveland, the bid just came back regarding maintenance of the front entrance. Freeman, stated it will be a separate contract from the general maintenance that I spoke of. This contract will take care of the general maintenance of the front entrance. We have a separate contract of the revamping of the entrance between ten-thousand (\$10,000) and thirteen thousand (\$13,000) for next year budget after October. Discussion followed. Seveland, asked Spicuzza to put discussion of the Communicator on next agenda.

(7B) Road Maintenance – Wilshusen, stated he hasn't received any documentation from the District Office regarding an agreement between Marion County and Levy County road maintenance. Pacifically county road 125th. Spicuzza, responded no it was a verbal from Devensentis.

(7C) Revenue – Wilshusen, asked for the posting of revenue for different events. For general government and recreation revenue. Freeman, responded I did some diligence and was able to locate that money. The account and the money have been rectified and going to the correct account.

General Public Comment (8):

(8A) Theresa Rimar – Begonia CT – I would like the speed limits to drop down to thirty- five (35) mph. I'm being passed and ran off the roads. Seveland, responded we have had several months of more presents of patrols from the sheriff office. McKay, if you get the license plate you can report it the Marion County Sheriff's Office. Discussion followed

Announcement (9):

Advisory Board Budget Workshop March 13,2024 10:00am in the Community Center

Seveland announced the next meeting will be on March 21, 2024 at 6:30pm in the Community Center.

Dedication of the George Pugliese Field at Sea Cliff Park Tuesday March 26, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.

1A. New Garden Club- Michael Hassenfelt for Public Comment

For every community to grow and thrive, there must exist a representative portion of the population willing to be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the lands and community in which we inhabit. Responsibility for community includes taking care of the natural resources present within our neighborhoods and community areas, assisting those who would like a more aesthetically pleasing yard, and maintaining community gardens.

None of this can be accomplished without the efforts of those representative few who are willing to be responsible. Based on the size of the audience, I see the first of those who would be willing to be responsible. This representative few are quorum. Therefore, I, Michael Lee Hassenfelt, Address 21046 SW Peach Blossom Street, propose the formation of the Rainbow Lakes Estates Quality of Life Club. The RLE QLC will exist to support and sustain the naturally aesthetic environment of Our community by taking care of Our own Citizens and Community Areas through shared hardship, hard work, commitment, and a sense of civic responsibility.

The QLC shall:

- Manage the community garden plot allocation, maintenance, upkeep, and establishment.
- Provide and manage Roadway Litter Teams including scheduling, sustainment, safety, and task completion.
- Provide and manage Area Beautification Teams including scheduling, sustainment, safety, and task completion.
- Aid and support those who would benefit from the QLC's Individual Yard Beautification initiatives.
- Serve as an ad hoc delivery system for hand bills or other such measures to communicate to each home.
- Serve as the operational arm of other clubs that would benefit from the QLC's mission.

The QLC can:

- Foster teamwork and encourage neighbors to communicate positively.
- Create "Good News" stories for social media and community newsletters.
- Provide a sense of accomplishment and pride in community.
- Encourage floral and fauna biodiversity.
- Increase pollinator productivity.
- Be a great source for science projects and other school related tasks where biology, conservation, and preservation take center stage.
- Work with local and state entities that could support the QLC effort or even benefit from it.

Return on Investment:

Startup financial costs would be minimal. Most cyclical tasks listed above already have funded systems in place (i.e. – roadway litter patrol). Clearing the land for the Community Garden will be a significant cost; however, the construction of the community garden can be accomplished through the work efforts of those within the community. Additionally, it does not cost a dime to be a good neighbor. Time and commitment are the true cost. Thus, the ROI could include:

- Flowers to Residents during special occasions.
- Bee Hives on site at the community garden.
- Neighborhoods filled with the colors, sounds, and smells of nature.
- Abundant biodiversity right in the middle of Our rural community.
- Clean and visually striking community areas and private lawns.
- An increase in participation during community activities.
- A community that takes care of itself and those that live here.
- A community that is involved.

In conclusion, Our community is what we make it. Not everyone will agree or be onboard. Initially most will not. But there will be a few. Those few will plant seeds. Those seeds will flower and others will see tangible results. The club will grow, the garden will grow, the yards will grow and so will the community.

Mr. Chairman, Counsel Members, Distinguished guests, and most importantly, you precious few in the audience; pending your questions and comments ... this concludes my proposal.