

President's Report: President Bonner discusses POA priorities

In keeping with his pledge to provide communications and transparency between the POA Board and Canyon Lake residents, President Randy Bonner delivered a comprehensive Power Point presentation Tuesday night at the Regular Board Meeting.

He first discussed the Long Range Planning Committee and emphasized its importance to the community since it “tells us where we are going.” The committee meets monthly along with Board liaison David Johnston and POA staff liaison Paul Johnson.

A priority of the committee presently is the Gate Entry Program, a computerized system that could save the Association \$60,000 a year. However, Randy reminded people that, in the past when similar gate entry projects were put into place, traffic backed up on Railroad Canyon Rd. and, therefore, were soon abandoned. “Traffic control must be effective in order to work – especially during rush hours and holidays,” he said Tuesday night. Also important is a study on the return of invested capital for such a venture to see how long it would take to see a return on the investment.

The Long Range Planning Committee also is investigating Indian Beach playground equipment, with the help of the Parks and Beach Committee, which is actively reviewing various equipment. Perhaps, Randy said, Canyon Lake could receive funding support from the EVMWD or through community fundraising for the playground. He mentioned the success of the Jr. Women’s Club’s efforts to fund the equipment at Sunset Beach by holding a Bill Medley concert and tile-painting activities.

Lake maintenance and water quality also are important items being studied. Cost for these amount to \$6.076 per member/per month, which brings in \$350,000.

Dredging, aeration, Solar Bees, circulation pumps, etc. are being studied and financial solutions would come from the Repair and Maintenance Reserve Account, not the Community Facilities Development Fund.

Randy also explained the Monetary Agenda Process Flow Chart and how various committees study expenditures before these items are brought to the Board.

When discussing the ACC, the President noted concern that applying for a variance can be very costly – from \$500 to \$1,000 in some instances. He says he believes the ACC should be able to pre-approve variances, such as for 6-ft. fences, roofing materials and water fountain heights in front yard setbacks and that a fee of \$25 would seem more appropriate. This would constitute a more timely process and would keep many of these projects from coming before the Board. He presented an ACC Process Flow Chart to illustrate this.

Similarly, his Power Point presentation included a chart describing the Community/Marine Patrol Process Flow, and residents were told that many issues could be handled by the Community Patrol Committee, saving time for all involved.

Randy also touched on communications and said he meets weekly in a one-on-one meeting with General Manager Clint Warrell as well as once a week with Senior CLPOA Management Staff.

The President endorses digital technology and praised the POA's website, www.canyonlakepoa.com. He recommends communicating electronically with POA members via the website and through e-mails, which would present current and timely information and data. However, on the advice of counsel, Members would have to agree to that method of delivery, so Randy encouraged Canyon Lakers to go online and provide their e-mail addresses.

While discussing communications, Randy said every member's e-mails are answered and telephone calls are returned and that all five Directors are copied on each e-mail communication.

"The better job we do in communicating," he said, "the less people would need outlets such as Letters to the Editor."

As for the issue of the Setback, Randy said the Board had one questionnaire and one election advisory vote to guide them. Being studied is a 4 ft. recommendation, one that suggests anything in excess of 7 ft. at any point be eliminated, a grandfather clause, and a one-time replacement of existing boat or RV, etc. Now we have to discuss how to implement and enforce a setback rule, Randy said. "Or should we do nothing and enforce the rules we have and get rid of rules that are no longer applicable first?" he asked.

Randy said there would be a new task force to look at all Canyon Lake's Rules and Regulations. Each rule would be studied to see if it should be left as is, modified or thrown out.

Randy sees the City and the POA as civic partners, he said. The two groups meet quarterly to discuss finances. On this committee are Barry Talbot, Lori Moss from the City and Steve Salazar and Ron Phipps of the POA.

In addition, there is a City Water Subcommittee which is attended by Nancy Horton, Barry Talbot and Lori Moss from the City; Randy Bonner, Michelle Gordon and Paul Johnson from the POA and Ron Young, Judy Guglielmana and Ben Wicke from the EVMWD.

There is a City/POA/EVMWD monthly meeting, as well, that includes Mary Craton, Lori Moss and Bob Bohan from the City; Randy Bonner, Clint Warrell and Paul Johnson from the POA and Ron Young, Norris Brandt and Ben Wicke from the water district. Yet another form of joint cooperation is the City Public Safety Committee with Barry Talbot, Jordan Ehrenkranz, Bob Bohan and Lori Moss in attendance for the City, as well as representatives of the Canyon Lake Police and the Canyon Lake Fire Company. The POA members include Guy Kestell and Vince Schiavi. "We work together to make things work for all of us," said Randy.

The issue of Quagga and Zebra Mussels is a concern for everyone, the President reported. Because of this, three Directors attended the training at the Lodge recently, flyers were distributed at the gates over the 4th of July weekend and additional information has been placed on www.canyonlakepoa.com. "These mussels affect more than public recreation," said Randy, noting that if they invade the water supply there could be an increased cost to homeowners. Electricity, agriculture and all areas of commerce could be affected, he said. A boat ramp inspection plan is being developed to deter the pests.

Randy concluded his presentation by stating that the Board and staff are making things happen in the community – in a streamlined and timely fashion. He pointed to the recent problems with piles of dirt on Longhorn Dr. caused by a break in the water pipe. Operations was able to combat the problem almost immediately, he said. In addition, the East Gate paving project was culminated three days earlier than expected. “We’re making decisions quickly when the circumstances merit our immediate attention,” he said, indicating that this process is good for homeowners and the community as a whole.