The Daily News-Sun

OPINION

My View

"RCSC board acts without member ratification"

by Anne Randall Stewart Spokesperson for The Sun City Formula Registry Publisher of <u>http://www.annereport.com</u>

The Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc., is at it again: more bylaws and board policies without member ratification.

The newest ones are humdingers!

Legal Committee gone; Government Affairs Committee, instead.

"Grandfathered" spouses on committees.

Approve \$49,638 to repair the Sundial Monument without the bids in.

Sounds innocent enough to the uninformed; but here's what we know:

1. At the May 27, 2010, board meeting, Judge Jim Treece complained that there had not been a legal committee meeting about the quorum increase issue. Craig Brown said there hadn't been a legal committee meeting since the previous fall. Treece stated that Mr. Brown warned the committee that if they didn't go along with him there wouldn't be any more meetings, and Judge Treece wanted to make sure the minutes showed he was a dissenter.

2. Increasing a membership quorum by the board is illegal.

3. We have been complaining that the RCSC should obey The Planned Communities Act, affording Sun Citians the same protections as others living in planned communities. We want open meetings, open records, the ability to recall with 1,000 signatures, and more.

4. The RCSC gets the "common area" tax exemption for planned communities.

5. They claim the definitions for the two statutes don't conform because one has "or" and one has "and". "Word-smithing."

6. Instead of obeying the law, the RCSC is paying a lobbyist and establishing a Government Affairs Committee to keep from obeying the law.

7. The "grandfathered" married committee members are "Word-smithing Champions".

8. Then, there's the approval of \$49,638 for the repair of the Sundial Monument with only one bid in; from the same contractor who is chronically employed here and did the \$450,000 Bell Lawn Bowling Clubhouse. Jim Wellman couldn't even remember the names of the other contractors who he said were "new".

9. We saw the board approve \$435,000 for the Willowcreek streams and when we brought in a bid by Pacific Aquascape, the Del Webb choice, for \$308,000, we were greeted by rolled eyes instead of gratitude and their surprising revelation that it was "really going to cost" \$279,000!

So, what's the Sundial Monument "really going to cost?"

By the way, Board Policy No. 15.A.2.c requires resubmission of the bid only if the work goes over the amount approved, not under.

Board votes unanimously on these motions at 9 a.m. March 31, Sundial Auditorium.

As a sidebar, the Long Range Planning Committee is touring the rec centers to determine which one they will close.

But, it's only intended to "calm down the members."

They are "really" planning to remove Oakmont, not caring that it will reduce the surrounding property values. So, if they tell you they haven't talked about it, then they are lying to you.

Instead of removing Oakmont, they should remove the committee members who obfuscate facts to keep the members "calm".

Also, "per-person" grandfathering is going; a 100 percent increase for the RCSC's victims on pensions.