

PINE MOUNTAIN CLUB PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
BEAR AD HOC COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – January 6, 2025 – 5:00 p.m.
APPROVED

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:01 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Madison Bottorff, Chair; Lynn Stafford, Vice Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; John Caulfield; Jennifer Emmett, Board Liaison; **ABSENT:** Jose Camronero;

GUESTS: In person: Penny Caulfield. No Zoom guests signed on.

1. Roll Call
2. Agenda approval: Lynn moved to approve the agenda. John seconded. Agenda was unanimously approved.
3. Madison reminded guests of guidelines for in-person and zoom guests.
4. Old Business:

a. Review of CDFW presentation by Sophia Cortez at December 2, 2024 meeting. Clarified that no bears have been euthanized at PMC and there was one approval for bear removal. PMC can't rely on CDFW for criminal prosecution of intentional bear feeders due to insufficient staff to meet the heavy burden of proof. Obtained valuable information from Sophia for committee consideration regarding deterrents.

b. Bear Feeder Citations: Patrice reported via email the following fiscal year citation data: 07/01/22 – 06/30/23: 22 citations were issued for Rules 7.04 & 7.05; 1 citation for Rule 7.09; 1 for Rule 7.10; 07/01/23- 06/30/24: 1 Citation for Rule 7.03 and 11 citations for Rule 7.04. Patrice's response to the evidence necessary for issuing a citation is unclear. Jennifer will ask Patrice to (i) clarify her evidence statement and how that policy was created; (ii) the reason for the reduced citations issued from 2022-23 fiscal year to 2023-24 fiscal year; (iii) is there sufficient patrol staff to issue citations for bear feeding during peak roaming periods to enforce a zero tolerance policy.

c. Jennifer reported since her term on the board there have been 4 bear feeding citation appeals for Rule 7.04: 1 appeal denied 09/2024; 1 appeal in abeyance for 1 year 12/2024; 1 appeal in abeyance for 60 days 08/2023; 1 appeal in abeyance for 6 months 08/2023. Jennifer explained the appeals and abeyance process and will investigate how long a bear feeding citation remains on a property owner's record to determine a 2nd or 3rd violation.

d. Suggested there should not only be zero tolerance for issuing citations for bear feeding and but also use same standard for appeals in order to send a strong message of enforcement. May need to consider hiring additional personnel to help Patrol during peak bear roaming months.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Deterrents to minimize bear break-ins: Carolyn volunteered to research home hardening; John volunteered to research repellents; Madison volunteered to research garage and sheds and hazing; Lynn volunteered to research causes of human/bear conflicts.

b. Continue to pursue creating an educational video for members and propose other effective outreach and communication methods to reach all the types of people who live, visit, and work at PMC.

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Carolyn, seconded by John, unanimously approved at 6:39 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: February 3, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.