

FIVE-YEAR PLANNING COMMITTEE PRELIMINARY REPORT

These are the edited logs of the starship MEHOA, whose five-year mission is to boldly go where no committee has gone before ...

With apologies to Gene Roddenberry, this report is a summary of the deliberations of the Five Year Planning Committee. The Committee is made up of Elaine Brigman, Chair; Nora Gray, Jurgen Haedicke, David Leeman and John Steward.

Our initial meeting was held on April 3, 2014. At that meeting, we discussed, in very general terms, the mandate of the Committee and what our approach would be. It was decided that we would develop a Vision and Mission Statement that would be our guiding philosophy in looking at Mobile Estates' needs and wants for the next five years.

Vision Statement: A 55-plus community offering sustainable recreational and social activities to our residents in a safe and friendly environment.

Mission Statement: Mobile Estates is a progressive 55-plus community located near Siesta Key in Sarasota, Florida. Our residents work together to provide an inclusive and supportive environment where each can enjoy an individual lifestyle with access to social and healthy communal activities. We encourage our residents to participate in the life of our community, to provide constructive comment to the decision-makers and to be proactive in resolving matters of concern to all. We endeavor at all times to be financially prudent and focus on the goal of maintaining a sustainable and affordable place to call home.

Our next task was to engage our community in offering suggestions to things they would like to see accomplished during the next five years. We invited all to participate at our meetings and set up a suggestion box.

As can be imagined, the suggestions were varied and most seemed unfeasible due to the fact that they attracted significant costs. During our discussions, it became obvious that we needed to differentiate between near-term and long-term suggestions, and to always consider cost factors and previous community discussions on proposed changes. It should be mentioned that some suggestions were of a more immediate nature and, while on the Board's agenda, were included as part of a multi-year plan.

One of the hotter topics concerned improvements to the existing clubhouse and the longer-term need for additional meeting/function space. Nothing was ruled out, but more immediate, less costly suggestions would be considered early in our planning goals.

After much debate, the Committee decided on the following planning goals and timeframes that we would research and present to the Board.

Goals:

Update roads, water, sewer	1-2 years
Place utility lines beneath grade	5 years or greater
Solar water heating system for the pool	1-2 years
Better acoustics for the clubhouse <i>(This includes speakers, audio-visual upgrades and an outdoor speaker for the pool/patio area.)</i>	3-5 years or as required
Replace clubhouse windows	Completed
Internet service for the whole park	3-5 years
Renovate bathrooms	1-2 years
Renovate kitchen	1-2 years
Sound barriers <i>(along Sun Home)</i>	3-5 years
Additional recreational/meeting spaces	>5 years
Improve entrance on Hwy 41 <i>(Primarily the installation of lights and curbing to minimize the sharp turn into Mobile Estates)</i>	1-2 years
Improve laundry, storage facility	3-5 years
Explore means of increasing revenue (fees, rentals, etc.)	Budget Committee
Improve appearance (landscaping, signs, etc.)	Ongoing

As you can see, the timeframes are somewhat arbitrary and many of our goals can be linked together and may become higher priority, depending on circumstances.

Current Status (ex, completed, in progress, replace, renovate, etc.): Given that priorities of MEHOA may change, this part of our plan will always be subject to adjustment.

Update roads, water and sewer: This is in progress, ongoing and mostly funded.

Place utility lines beneath grade: This will be expensive and low-priority, and will be deferred indefinitely.

Solar water heating system for pool: We are in the process of getting quotes and will make a proposal to the Board shortly.

Better acoustics for the clubhouse: This means updating the sound system and audio-visual technology as necessary or required by breakdown.

Replace clubhouse windows: Completed.

Internet service for the whole park: Not recommended at this time beyond extending Wi-Fi coverage to the pool/patio area.

Renovate bathrooms: Completed but will revisit vis a vis shower facility.

Renovate kitchen: The Committee will undertake a feasibility study to determine costs and viability.

Sound barriers: Not recommended at this time.

Additional recreational/meeting space:

Improve laundry/storage facility: These can be combined. As our population appears to be becoming more youthful in outlook, there will be greater demands on recreational activities and spaces to enjoy them, a worthwhile planning goal in the two- to three-year range.

Explore means of increasing revenue (fees, rentals, etc): Belongs with the Budget Committee.

Improve appearance (landscaping, signs, etc):

Improve entrance on Hwy 41: Improve the accessibility and appearance of the Hwy 41 entrance. Should be a short-term priority and the maintenance should be followed up with the Beautification Committee.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the Committee members and our residents who have taken time to express their views. While this document is the Committee's first summary, our function is to keep the planning priorities evergreen. In this regard, we would like to change our name to the "Multi-Year Planning Committee". Our role will be to continue to solicit our members for input and, within our mission framework, recommend to the Board long-term planning priorities.