

August 24, 2011

Dear Venetian Shores Homeowner:

The Venetian Shores Homeowners Association Board of Directors is pleased to communicate its recent activities. These activities are consistent with the purpose of the Association as stated in the Articles of Incorporation – to “maintain and improve Venetian Shores”.

The Board oversees the landscaping projects. We are aware that the beauty of our median brings prestige to our community. We take this job quite seriously and money is always allocated in the budget for this purpose. However, the VSHA Board is not just a landscaping committee; it is committed to the overall improvement of the Venetian Shores subdivision including, but certainly not limited to the foliage. **Maintaining and improving the quality of life of our residents is of utmost importance.**

The Board recently made a decision to join the Village of Islamorada in a lawsuit in which the Village’s position is that the roads in Venetian Shores that are currently public should remain public. The Board felt strongly that the majority of homeowners believe the roads that are currently public should remain public. The Board believes that to make the roads private would cause an undue financial burden on the residents of Venetian Shores. The Board would have preferred to enter the suit without legal representation but were advised that such representation was mandatory. Several Venetian Shores homeowners have indicated that they would also like to participate in this matter. Individuals can do this without legal representation. If you would like to intervene on the Venetian Shores Homeowners Association side, a letter similar to the letter enclosed in this mailing can be sent to the Monroe County Clerk of the Courts with copies as indicated. You may also download a sample letter from the website at www.vsha.net under heading Updates.

One of the foremost goals of the VSHA Board is to maintain the safety of the Venetian Shores residents. The Board coordinates with the Village of Islamorada and the Florida DOT to address our residents concerns for traffic flow. One example is the traffic revisions that were implemented at the entrance of Venetian Shores. This action was especially important because it involved our children’s safety at the bus stop. Although not all of what we had proposed to FDOT was implemented, most of the improvements would not have occurred without the persistence of the VSHA Board. This project was a major undertaking in time expended and the resultant changes in the entrance area have significantly improved both **traffic flow and safety.**

As Keys crime rates have increased, many Venetian Shores homeowners have expressed concerns about crime within Venetian Shores. There have been

suggestions from homeowners to install a camera surveillance system. The sheriff's department advised us that cameras do deter crime and may help apprehend the offenders. The Board responded to these concerns by researching, purchasing and installing a video surveillance system. Since the system does not require monitoring, there is minimal ongoing expense. The system was installed in April and has already been utilized several times. The response from homeowners has been positive. The Board believes that any aid in **detering crime improves the safety of VS residents.**

The Board monitors Village activities influencing our subdivision such as the ongoing plans for a centralized sewer system. As the situation dictates, the Board has been available to interact with the Village on behalf of our residents. A board member was instrumental in the Village's repeal of a non-equitable sewer assessment and in implementing a more equitable wastewater assessment. The new assessment treats all homeowners (both single family homes and condominiums) equally; the repealed non-equitable assessment charged single-family homeowners, such as those in Venetian Shores, significantly more than condominium owners. The Board will continue to monitor the progress of the wastewater system's impact on our Venetian Shores residents.

The VSHA Board of Directors continues to **improve communications** as to activities impacting our Venetian Shores subdivision. With this goal in mind, great effort has been undertaken to update e-mail and standard mailing lists, and to circulate a Venetian Shores newsletter. The VSHA website has been completely reorganized and modernized. Please take time to go to www.vsha.net and see what this resource has to offer for the Venetian Shores residents.

The Board is very proud of all of these accomplishments and will continue to work to maintain and improve the Venetian Shores subdivision. The nominating committee is accepting for nominations. All members of the Venetian Shores Homeowners Association are eligible to serve on the Board. If you would like to be a nominee for the 2012-2014 Board, please e-mail sbrown@vsha.net

Sincerely,

The Venetian Shores Homeowners Association, Board of Directors
Stan Margulies
Jack Butler
Diane Ziomek
Suzanne Sigel
Tom Bray
Susan Brown
Rick Dupuis