



**Hilton Head Plantation
Property Owners' Association, Inc.
Security and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – February 2024**

Call to Order:

Keith Schlegel called the meeting to order at 8:59 am on February 8, 2024 in POA Offices.

Attendance:

Members Present:	Absent with Notice:	Absent without Notice:
<i>Keith Schlegel, Chairperson*</i>	Dean Morrison	None
<i>James Doherty*</i>	Bob Clemens	
<i>Mike Dreuth*</i>		POA Staff:
Tim Henderson	Ex-Officio Member:	Captain Vanessa Green
<i>Paul Underwood*</i>	<i>Peter Kristian*</i>	
<i>Betsy Weppner*</i>	<i>Major Warren Gaither*</i>	Guest:
<i>Fred Brunk*</i>	<i>Ed Schottland* (15th meeting only)</i>	None

* - Attended Emergency Meeting on February 15, 2024 in POA Offices.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes from January 2024 were reviewed and approved with amendments.

Announcement from the chair:

1. Keith Schlegel welcomed committee members, thanking members for serving our community.

Old Business:

1. Committee noted that Security Department Activities Report for January 2024 were not correct and had not been updated properly. Committee was told that IT support was limited and not available to update routine POA reporting spreadsheet due to other higher priority activities.
2. Major Gaither reviewed several HHP Incident Reports noting that BCSO reports would be provided soon. Committee appreciated improvements in incident report details.
3. Committee discussed recent incidents and services which Security provides. Keith recommended that Peter review Security services provided to residents including social services at the next *Coffee with Peter*.
4. Major Gaither reviewed several items including all vehicle cameras have been repaired and retuned for installation, weapon replacement budgeting is being developed for 2025 budget, and Body Worn Cam SOP is in final draft.
5. Security is currently down 1 officer.

New Business:

1. Major Gaither noted that new radar unit was purchased and is being placed into service.
2. Committee discussed methods of payment for gate fees. Committee was told that gate fees can be paid over the phone by credit card. Committee recommended wider communication about this payment method as several members did not know about this recent improvement.
3. Committee discussed gate pass colors including changing the color of golf gate passes to improve golf gate pass visibility and identification by residents and Security patrols. Currently only commercial gate passes are a

different color. Changing golf gate pass color was not recommended at this time due to low number of actual trespassing events and costs associated with purchasing a different color gate pass. Use of a golf pass to access any area other than stated golf course (i.e. - POA facility, a residence, etc.) is considered trespassing and a ticketable offense with associated fine.

4. Captain Green reviewed officer training stating that 9 officers had been assigned online training in Lexipol's PoliceOne Academy.

General Manager's Report:

Peter Kristian reported on numerous items including:

- *Plantation Living* March edition will include Officer Michael Howard being selected as Chief's Association Officer of the Year.
- Pine Island Beach – permitting is on track.
- Dolphin Head Project – two (2) additional parking lot lights will be installed.
- Resident Survey has been reviewed by POA Board and will be distributed and opened for residents in April.
- 2023 Annual Audit is in progress.
- Hargray is installing fiber to enhance POA's facilities telecommunications.
- Coffee with Peter will be February 22 at 10:00 am at Plantation House.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made and accepted at 10:12 am at POA offices.

Amendment to minutes for emergency meeting:

An emergency meeting was held on February 15, 2024 at POA Offices to discuss 'Low Speed Vehicle' and Velomobile usage within HHP. Members attending are denoted by * in the above Attendance section. Remaining members voted on issues by email to chairman.

Keith Schlegel called meeting to order at 2:00 pm on February 15, 2024 in POA Offices.

Ed thanked committee members for their support and service of our POA.

Major Gaither and Peter reviewed HHP access requests for low speed vehicles and Velomobile including information about previous history.

Velomobile discussion and committee recommendation:

Committee reviewed multiple pictures of Velomobile including web links. Both Major Gaither and Peter had viewed Velomobile and discussed safety issues with limited visibility of driver due to external body on Velomobile (especially rear and sides). Committee was concerned about Velomobile safety due to both Velomobile's limited visibility and other larger vehicle's being able to clearly see a Velomobile at turns and intersections (as Velomobile is low and can be in vehicle's blind spot on either side). Due to Velomobile size and limited visibility, Velomobiles can not utilize leisure paths (Velomobiles are too long for many tight turns and are not safe for other leisure path users).

Committee voted unanimously to recommend that Velomobiles NOT be allowed within HHP due to safety concerns for both drivers and residents.

Low Speed Vehicle discussion and committee recommendation:

Committee reviewed South Carolina Code § 56-2 Article 1 – Low Speed Vehicles in detail.

Major Gaither discussed safety concerns with low speed vehicles including traffic backups on major HHP roads as a low speed vehicle's speed reduces with usage and there is potential for unlicensed drivers. Committee noted there are no minimum speeds on HHP roads, so low speed vehicles could go much slower than posted speed limits.

Committee discussed recent SC accidents involving low speed vehicles including numerous roll-over accidents where passengers were injured and a car-low speed vehicle accident on a neighboring island where a passenger fatality occurred. Committee agreed that low speed vehicles can not be used on leisure paths.

Committee discussed recent HHP incidents involving HHP driver's lack of attention which resulted in accidents and which also have to potential to involve low speed vehicles resulting in significant bodily injury. HHP roadways are not all straight and have numerous curving sections.

Committee discussed the lack of adequate shoulders on several roads within HHP (example Whooping Crane Way) where low speed vehicles could not safely pull off roadway to allow traffic to go around or potentially result in a roll-over accident. Additionally, this lack of road shoulder could be a liability for HHP.

Committee discussed potential for SC to change/amend SC Code 56-2 Article 1 – Low Speed Vehicles to include other types of low speed vehicles like UTVs (Utility Terrain Vehicles) or ATVs (All-Terrain Vehicle).

Committee voted unanimously to recommend that low speed vehicles (including street legal) NOT be allowed within HHP (except for within The Cypress of Hilton Head and on golf courses) due to safety concerns for drivers, passengers, and residents.

Committee recommends prompt distribution of low speed vehicle restrictions to residents to clarify usage of golf carts within HHP.

Committee agreed to work with Covenant Committee to develop low speed vehicle rules for incorporation into HHPPOA Rules & Regulations and recommended that these rules not be directly linked to SC Code for Low Speed Vehicles due to potential future additions to SC code.

Committee discuss need for a formal review process for Security issues like these (similar to ARB process) to ensure consistent review and application.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.