

## **Board President's Report**

**January 19, 2026**

A momentous (my dad loved to use the word momentous!) occasion took place since our last open meeting.

The Deeds of Dedication to transfer the athletic fields at Noma Drive, playgrounds and ballfields at East Rec, the Twin Lakes recreation area, the Community Center with adjacent parking, the public works maintenance yard, the Airstrip and the stormwater drainage lots, were approved and signed at a Special Called Meeting of the Board of Directors on Monday, December 29, 2025 after the same action was taken on the same day by the Diamondhead City Council. The Deeds outlined all conditions (parking at the amenities, properties remaining available to the public, maintaining the use for the same or similar purpose at the same standard as currently operated, leasing portions of the public works yard for a nominal fee, and assisting with legal fees) that were required for each amenity. Because I was out of town on that date, the POA Board formally approved Vice President Giarrusso to sign the Deeds (and his name now goes down in history ☺). They were recorded with the Hancock County Chancery Clerk on December 30, 2025.

This action took persistence and dedication by all involved and they are owed a big thank you! Those involved were City Council Mayor Anna Liese and Council Members Gerard Maher, Shane Finley, Ricky Sheppard, Jesse Harwood, and Austin Clark; City Manager Jon McCraw and City Counsel Derek Cusik; and the members of the Property Owners Association Board including Vice President Trey Giarrusso, Treasurer Brice Howard (and former Treasurer Bill Blackwood), Secretary Pat Burgoyne, Ex Officio Gary Becker, and Directors Ken Griffey,

Ronald LaFontaine, Ernest Lee, Stewart Nutting, Bob Pineau, and Michael Tubbs; POA General Manager Rick Goldstein and the POA Legal Counsel of Rick Tubertini and Eric Granberry.

Another Special Meeting of the Board was held last week on January 13, to continue the study of the financial position of the organization and to begin the process to determine a viable way to support the Golf Courses, the County Club building and grounds, the marina and 3 pools throughout the community. Our legal counsel has provided option for legally managing these remaining amenities and that recommendation was considered at the meeting. There is much more work to be done to determine where to go and how to get there while we continue to maintain our remaining amenities in the best condition we can afford.

We also authorized the GM to explore the sale, to a tennis professional, of the Tennis Club with conditions that the office space be leased to the purchaser, and that deed restrictions ensure that it remain as a tennis facility, including the right of first refusal by the POA if the purchaser offers the tennis facility for sale. Such a sale could assist the POA with its financial deficits while retaining a tennis presence in Diamondhead and benefitting current members of the tennis club.

Very challenging times are ahead.

Your support and understanding will help us prevail so the goal of a wonderful Diamondhead can be achieved.

We all thank you for the opportunity to serve this Association and its amenities.

**Nancy Sislow**