

Opinion

Imitation is the Highest Form of Flattery

Four years ago when Resident Voice was first begun, the primary objective was to provide the residents, and *BOARD MEMBERS*, with information that they wouldn't necessarily get from the average Board Meeting. PCM and our Boards have a tendency toward hiding information by classifying it "Confidential," regardless of the fact that it is actually Non-confidential and should be made available to all owners. This information was initially made public and distributed at the Residents Voice bi-monthly meetings, which still holds true today.

In April 2008, the first formal edition of "The Voice" was published and made available to anyone who wanted a copy of the newsletter, free of charge, through the courtesy of those members who attended our meetings and donated money toward that objective. The demand for this newsletter is high and the information is pertinent to the operation of our community. All of the past publications can be found on the RVOICE website and there is a link on the opening page (www.rvoice.org) to each newsletter.

Since then, a number of imitators have arisen and we now have publications by such groups as Positive Solutions, The Friends of the Village, The United Mutual Newsletter, Full page articles in the Globe by GRF, and other miscellaneous articles by CCA, etc. Who pays for these publications? Many are paid for by the residents. What is the reason for the proliferation of these publications? Apparently, "The Voice" was hitting a nerve and the authors felt that it was necessary to justify their lack of action in addressing the articles in The Voice. The source of the information that is in "The

Voice" comes from corporate and management documentation. You can argue on the interpretation of the information, but you cannot argue on the facts; credit card expenses, employee reimbursements, Bonus/Incentive payouts, questionable use of our mutual funds, priorities of our Managing Agent, etc.

It is interesting that none of the other publications publish any of the documentation that you will find in The Voice. The information in these publications is a repeat of what PCM and the Boards have been telling us for the past 34 years. No one has acknowledged or addressed the information that is in "The Voice," but then if they did, they would have to justify their lack of oversight when they ignore these facts.

Even with all the information that is being distributed, Residents Voice is still the only place in town where you can find criticism of how our money is being spent. A few Directors are willing to ask pertinent questions, but the majority of Directors and PCM would much prefer to ignore that and let the Managing Agent make all the decisions, even when they know that we are his lowest priority and his boss and employees come ahead of the owners/residents.

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