



TAMPA PALMS NEWSLETTER

Oct - Nov 2020



Tampa Palms' Businesses Shine



Celebrating 40 Years in Business

Last month Councilman Luis Viera presented a plaque commemorating 40 years of business service on behalf of the Tampa City Council to Don Oneal of **Travelworld**.

Travelworld Inc. which is headquartered in City Plaza, has grown from a two-person office started by owner Donald Oneal Jr while he was attending USF to a \$21M company with four offices located through-out Tampa Bay in 2020.



Don noted **Travelworld** has prevailed during several economic downturns, the tragedy of 911, and now the COVID 19 pandemic. **Travelworld** has been there to assist clients with planning and executing their vacations and business trips and continues today ... looking forward with their clients to 2021 plans.

Drop in and say hello... **Travelworld** is open!



Cappy's Pizza - Hangs In There Despite ...

As if the pandemic wasn't enough of a problem for our very own "pizza parlor", a nasty thief targeted Cappy's in a most unusual way.

Cappy's maintains a very nice and comfortable seating arrangement outdoors.

Part of entry is a display of plants and flowers, changed frequently to provide seasonality and a beautiful look.



Some ridiculously self-centered individual actually sneaked into the seating area and stole the plants and even containers. As if that wasn't insulting enough, he then went around the back where spare containers and plants were waiting and stole them.

When this was reported on a local Facebook page, 6,772 people were reached and a common comment was "Let's show them some love, **Cappy's** tonight!"

Chicago deep dish or NY thin crust, **Cappy's** is Tampa Palms' pizzeria. Drop in and say hello.



News From The TPOA

It Is Hard To Believe But ... Winter Is Coming

Winter hours begin November 1st for Hampton Park and the facilities at Compton Park.

Winter Hours

8 AM - 9 PM*

Mon - Sat

8 AM- 8 PM

Sunday



* Compton will continue to have late night events in the clubhouse Friday and Saturday evenings until 10 PM.

Compton Pool Opening Rules

The Compton Park Pool opens at 9 AM everyday weather permitting if there are residents wishing to swim.

1. The pool is covered each night with a heat-saving cover.
2. The pool will not open until the outside air temperature, measured at Compton Park with an outdoor thermometer, reaches a minimum of 50 degrees.
3. Even if the temperature reaches 50 degrees, the pool cover will not be removed unless residents have indicated that they wish to swim at which time the park attendants will open the pool.
4. If it is raining, stormy or windy, the pool cover will not be removed.

Opening the pool during the winter months is time consuming due to the pool cover. To do so safely requires about thirty minutes. It is suggested that on cold mornings any resident interested in swimming do the following:

- Call Compton Park to inquire as to if the temperature has reached 50 degrees.
- Advise the park staff that they wish to swim and ask to uncover the pool.
- Residents should expect that the pool will be open within 30 minutes of their call.

The Budget & Annual Meeting

The TPOA combined Annual and Budget Meetings was held September 17th as a “virtual meeting”.

Those present on Zoom and teleconference represented 2,057 owners, certainly a respectable turnout under what were very unusual circumstances.

The 2020 Board was confirmed

Tracy Falkowitz, Pres	Jake Schoolfield, Treasurer
Maggie Wilson, VP	Debbie Libertiny, Secretary
Bob Hardman, Director	

See related articles on pages 4 & 5.

Political Signs Are Back

With the General Election looming in November, Tampa Palms and the whole nation, is set to experience another wild and crazy season with both local races and the general election.



Enthusiastic candidates and their supporters are more than eager to place signs at every single location where signs can possibly be stuck.

CAUTION: There are limitations on political signs placed in yards in resident properties in Tampa Palms and no signs allowed along streets.

Many upscale communities similar to Tampa Palms do not allow any political signs in owner yards.

The TPOA leadership is sensitive to the desires of some of its members to express political opinions and the following are approved.

- One sign per yard (candidate or issue)
- Removed promptly the day after the election

The Tampa Palms



Professional Staff



2020 Elections Are Here

How To Participate



Dates and Times - 2020 General Election

There are three ways to vote in the 2020 General Election:

1. Vote By Mail - see right column for information →
2. Early Voting - see below for dates and info
3. Election Day Voting - see below for dates and info

Early Voting: October 19 - November 1, Time 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

If you are registered to vote in 2020 in Hillsborough County, you can vote at any Early Voting site, one close to home or conveniently close to work.



This is different from Election Day voting when you must vote in your precinct.

The New Tampa Library is an early voting site and less than 5 miles from Tampa Palms.



1001 Cross Creek Blvd

For more information including other sites, go online to <https://www.votehillsborough.org/VOTERS/Early-Voting>

Election Day: November 3, 2020 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

On Election Day you must vote in your precinct. There are two precincts in Tampa Palms and the locations changed in 2020.

To verify your precinct or for more information about Election Day Voting go online to <https://www.votehillsborough.org/VOTERS/Election-Day-Voting>



Precinct 357
Grace Episcopal Church
15102 Amberly Drive



Precinct 358
Compton Park Ctr
16101 Compton Drive

Mailing A Ballot? You Can Track It

Vote By Mail is a convenient way to cast your vote; you simply request a ballot; it is mailed to you.



1. Online: <https://www.votehillsborough.org/VOTERS/Vote-By-Mail-Online-Request>
2. By Phone: (813) 612-4180
3. By Fax: (813) 744-5843
4. In Person: at the Supervisor of Elections Offices
5. In Writing: voter@hcsoc.org or Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections, 2514 N. Falkenburg Rd, Tampa, FL 33619

The Supervisor of Elections suggests if using the US Mail, return it at least a week before the elections or drop it off... see below.

For more information about “vote by mail” go online to <https://www.votehillsborough.org/VOTERS/Vote-By-Mail>

Drop Off Your Mail-In Ballot

There are secure, curbside ballot boxes for your convenience. No need to stand in line or even get out of your car.



There are 26 drop off locations and the New Tampa Library is one, 1001 Cross Creek Blvd

Drop Off Available

- October 1 – 18, 8 AM - 5 PM, any of the four Supervisor of Elections offices
- October 19 – November 1, 7 AM – 7 PM, All 26 Early Vote sites
- November 2 – 3, 7 AM – 7 PM: any of the four Supervisor of Elections offices

Track Your Mail-In / Drop Off Ballot

Did you know that you can track your mail-in or drop off your ballot? There is a simple form to fill out that will make the tools available to you to track your ballot.

After your ballot is received it will show “received” until then indicate “counted” after the voting closes. Simply go online to <https://www.votehillsborough.org/VOTERS/Track-Your-Ballot>



Covid 19 & Tampa PalmsAdapting To Safer Living



Getting Through It Together

The Covid 19 crises has had and continues to have a major impact on Tampa Palms in a multitude of ways, not unlike the City of Tampa or country in general. There are known cases of Covid in many, if not most, Tampa Palms villages.

Every family makes its own decisions on how best to protect its loved ones. The Tampa Palms community supports residents' health and safety in a number of ways:

- Reasonably making recreation amenities available for resident use:
 - ◊ The playgrounds in the parks - Compton, Hampton and Amberly are open. A place to get out and play is important for the children and parents alike. To the degree possible, groups from different families are encouraged to practice separation on the playgrounds.
 - ◊ The pools, tennis, racquetball, pickleball, basketball courts, along with the trails and picnic areas, are all open and in use community-wide.



- Opening Compton Park for meetings has been approved while limiting gatherings to less than ten attendees.
 - ◊ This allows boards and small groups such as sewing circles to meet.
 - ◊ Social distancing is required
 - ◊ The pavilions of Hampton, Amberly and River parks are also available for outings and limited to groups of 10 or fewer

Use limitations are re-evaluated monthly. The current ten person limitation was set 9/17 and will be re-evaluated on Oct 18 and adjusted if the situation changes.

Community Must Continue To Operate

The work of overseeing the community by transacting business in the absence of everyone gathering at the same time and location must continue for the good of Tampa Palms, even despite the interruptions caused by the Covid 19 pandemic.

Transacting business without large gatherings has been greatly helped by:

- The governor's Emergency Orders
- The emergence of conferencing applications (both video and audio) that are available to everyone.
- Working remotely, now becoming a new norm, is more comfortable as a way of operating due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- The CDD began to use Zoom technology in May for the monthly meetings. Some supervisors met at Compton, along with a few residents, and everyone else was "virtual".

Both the TPOA and the CDD have used Zoom for community meetings. A screenshot of the July 2020 CDD meeting is shown.



The TPOA Budget and Annual Meeting went the next step. The meeting was held via Zoom but for this meeting a remote camera was added, allowing those who were participating remotely to see those present at Compton.



Finishing The Tampa Palms Master Plan

New Water-Use Permit For Tampa Palms

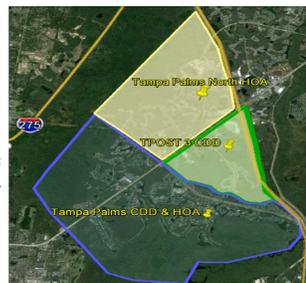
TPOST 3 Moves Toward Completion

Tampa Palms was developed under a Master Plan, accepted first by Hillsborough County and then later by the City.

Called a *Development of Regional Impact* [DRI] the Master Plan specified the type, and location of all land use, residential, multi-family, commercial and wetland or conservation.

The Tampa Palms DRI is in effect even today. It includes three major areas:

- Tampa Palms
- Tampa Palms North
- TPOST 3



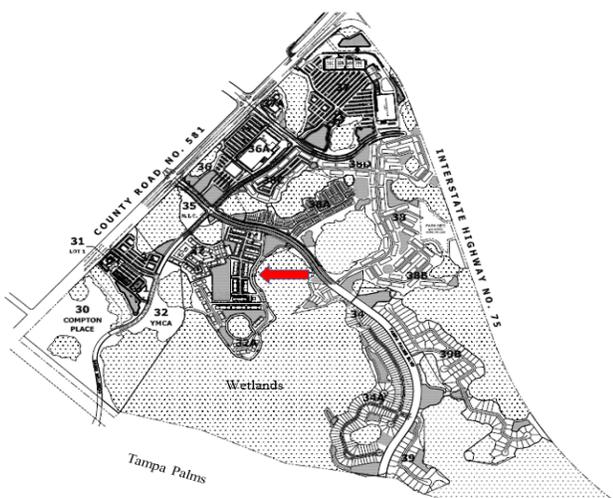
In the early 1990's, when the original developers lost their funding, TP North and TPOST 3 were separated from original Tampa Palms.

TPOST 3, located north of Tampa Palms and east of BB Downs, has been the slowest to complete development.

The developer is now proceeding with a 400 unit apartment complex off of TP Blvd, behind the Promenade Apts. and opening onto Tampa Palms Blvd.

There is an application for a standard variance for tree removal at the site of the construction. No application for impact on the conservation / wetlands is in play and the type and quantity of units has been in effect for decades.

The diagram below from 2013 displays the locations for approved development for TPOST 3. The new apartment space is indicated with a red arrow.

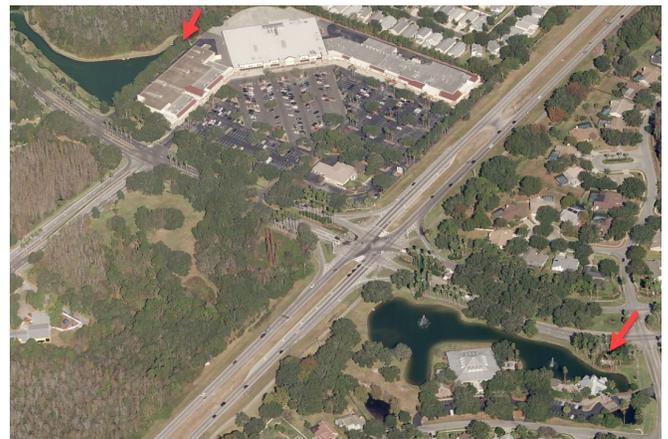


Ten Year Permit Renewed

The boulevards and parks in Tampa Palms are irrigated using systems located beside Fla Executive Realty in Area 1 and behind Publix in Area 2.

These systems:

- Add water from wells to the adjacent ponds
- Use water from the ponds for irrigation



This process reduces the demand for City potable water to be used for irrigation and now with the increases in water rates, saves the owners in Tampa Palms more than \$500,000 a year for the cost of potable water.

Tampa Palms is limited in both the quantities of water it may use by permit and the types of use.

- The water withdrawn from the aquifer and water used for irrigation are measured and reported each month.
- Water from the irrigation systems may never be used to augment ponds for aesthetics purposes.

Tampa Palms use numerous strategies to minimize the water use, from leak detection to low-volume irrigation devices. The SWSFMD chart below shows the actual water used from Sept 2018 thru May 2020.



Inquiring Minds Want To Know

FAQ's For Living In Tampa Palms

FAQ What is the situation with the path/trail located along portions of the Duke Energy easement; do the TPOA and CDD oppose improvements to the path/trail?

This path extends from Wareham to Compton, stopping at the road crossings, was created or at least paved by the original developers more than 33 years ago.

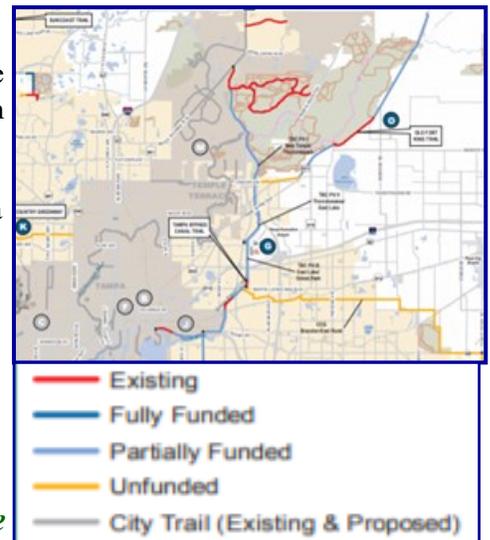
The power corridor is not within the boundaries of Tampa Palms and is on private property. The TPOA is a traditional HOA and the CDD is a unit of special purpose government, unlike cities and counties which are general purpose governments. **Neither the TPOA nor the CDD opposes improvements; as organizations both are simply not legally able to fund or directly participate in improvements.**

FAQ What is the situation with regards to county / city plans to connect to and expand the Tampa Palms corridor trail?

The currently published plans do not include any connections between the very comprehensive Hillsborough County Trail Greenways Trail System and the private path/trail on the power corridor.

The current 2020 version (picture to the right) does not mention the Tampa Palms path/trail/ trail. See related article page 7.

To view the specifics and history of the public plans go online to:
Hillsborough County Greenways - History & Current;
<https://hillsborough.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=6fb7982c706943b0acc2d706cf7218e2#>



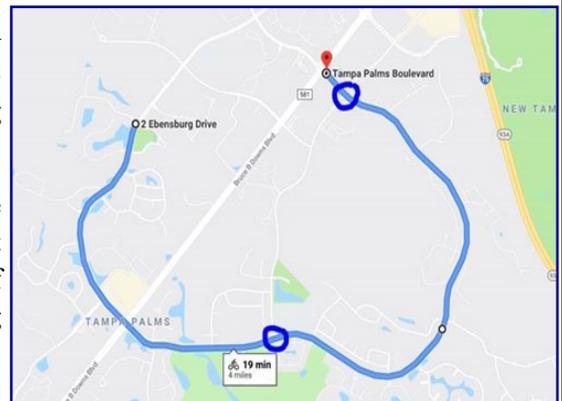
FAQ Since the path/trail along the power corridor is on private property can the City or County make improvements?

That is a question that only the City of Tampa or the county can answer.

FAQ Is Tampa Palms Blvd scheduled to be repaved in 2021?

The project plan released by the City earlier this year showed the design for a Complete Streets repaving of Tampa Palms Blvd in the FY 2020-21 Budget, and construction in following fiscal year. Hopefully the schedule will remain on target.

The project covers Tampa Palms Blvd from the NW boundary (the power corridor adjacent to Wellington & Hampton Park) and runs east including Tampa Palms west of BB Downs and Tampa Palms east of BB Downs and continues making the circle through TPOST 3, ending at BB Downs across from the Post office.



Major Trail Closer To Happening

A Major Greenways Trail For New Tampa May Be A Step Closer

For nearly 30 years the Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa have worked jointly to create a system of interconnected greenways that would provide new opportunities for outdoor recreation, as well as, routes for use that do not involve motorized vehicles.

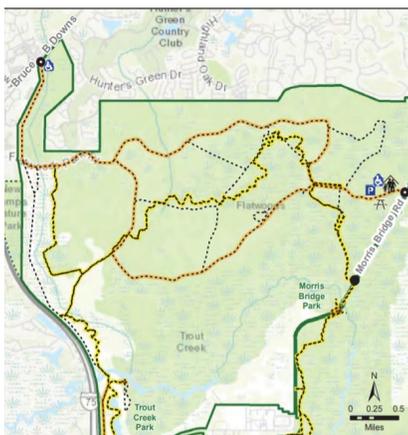
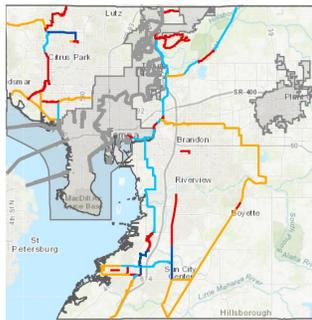
The Tampa Bypass Canal Trail is planned to connect New Tampa starting from the Flatwoods Park Trail off of BB Downs and moving south to include the Old Fort King Trail, the Cross Country Greenway, and even the South Coast Greenway.



Ambitious, yes.

Is it here now?

Not quite, but a PD&E study that is underway for the gaps in the By-Pass Canal Trail between the completed (Flatwoods) and the partially funded segments.



Flatwoods is a New Tampa treasure with a seven mile paved trail that includes water kiosks every few miles.

The main trail is about four miles of single track trail that winds around the paved loop.

Online Hillsborough County has a link that displays the history and current status of all greenways. Go to: <https://hillsborough.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=6fb7982c706943b0acc2d706cf7218e2#>

Tampa Palms Women's Club

Still Making A Difference Even In A Pandemic

It takes planning and lots of work, something the Tampa Palms Women's Club members are very good at doing, but the show goes on, despite the limitations of the pandemic.

The General Meetings are *Zomming*. The first ever online general meeting was held last month with great success so the Oct, and November, will Zoom.



October's online meeting will include a trivia game challenge with prizes as well as a live raffle drawing for Stonewood Grill restaurant cards. "See" you virtually!

stepping Out In Style

Tampa Palms Women's Club Presents
Fashion Show 2021
Hopefully April 22, 2021

Where	Tampa Palms Golf and Country Club
Fashions	Accessories and More
Time	10:15 Doors open, raffle sales begin 11 Live Auction (Proceeds to OASIS) 11:30 Fashion Show Noon Luncheon Tampa Palms Salad w/ Scoop of Chicken Salad Rolls & Crackers Lemon Cake, Ice Tea & Coffee



The TPWC Fashion Show is just not going to make it this year. Tentative plans for October have been tabled as realistically even a phased re-opening will not be in time.

Same time next year....

Down but not out.

The Fashion Show will return in April of 2021.

Women's Club canasta is back, normally held every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at a member's home. Distancing practiced and masks worn for safety. For more info email Ginny Welch. (10/5 & 10/15)



President Purnima Kumar announced that the first ever TPWC/Freedom High School scholarship was awarded to Ms. Grace Nobles, who graduated in May 2020 with an amazing

GPA of 6.69 Ms. Nobles is attending USF and is majoring in Psychology.



Wastewater / Sewer Overflows Hit Tampa Palms



Overflows Are A Serious Problem

Sewer back-ups are occurring with more and more frequency. One village in Tampa Palms recently experienced a back-up as sewer water bubbled up out of multiple manholes, flowing down the street and into the stormwater systems which empty into the ponds.



While the flows above appear to be minor, as the neighbors can attest, the stench was awful.... and this was a minor back-up, even though it affected 5 manholes.

The City responded to this situation, found a simple clog and cleared it quickly using one of their vacuum / jetter trucks.



Many times, especially if the pipes are aging, clearing clogs is not so simple as seen in the picture below from South Tampa.



From time to time Tampa Palms residents see City Wastewater staff along the boulevards and in the villages examining the sewer pipes with cameras to see if clogs are forming or pipes are disintegrating.

What Causes These Back-Up's

A neighbor asked the City workers what caused the clog last month and the answer was - as it frequently is - congealed fat, oil and grease combined with non-dissolving wipes creating a "fatberg".

Unfortunately the pandemic may have increased the incidence of this type of clog due to the greater use of and improper disposal of a variety of types of wipes. That is usually the cause in a location such as Tampa Palms where the pipes are not aging.



The cartoon is funny but the problem isn't. Many products from baby wipes to sanitized handwipes to even moistened toilet tissue, claim that they are flushable but they are not.

What About Your Home?

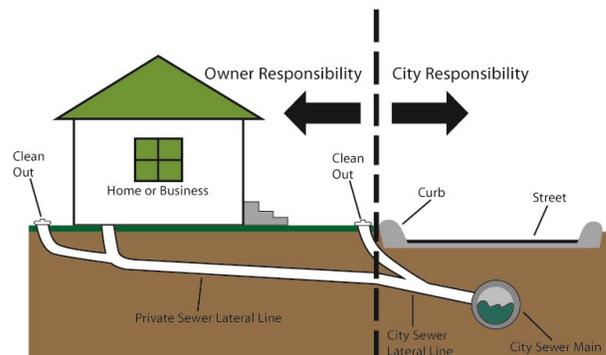
Homes may be more vulnerable to sewer back-ups due to the fact that the pipes are smaller and there is typically less flow.

Resident should act to protect their homes:

- Never allow grease to be washed down the drain. Use a paper towel and wipe excess grease from pans and dispose of the towels in the garbage.
- Never flush any type of wipe down the toilet, no matter if it says "flushable" or not.

A sewer back-up in the home or anywhere on an owner's property can be devastating and the owner is responsible for repair and restoration, not the City.

Who's Responsible When the Plumbing Backs Up?



Keep Safe Walking & Jogging

CDD Adopts Budget & More

Tampa Palms Is Modestly “Walkable”

Walkability is a measure of how friendly an area is to walking or jogging. Tampa Palms has 18 miles of maintained sidewalks and paths along its boulevards and parks PLUS sidewalks in all of the neighborhoods.



Pictured to the right is the path in Oak Park, constructed of a material that is tree-friendly.

The use of shoulders or drive lanes as a substitute for sidewalks is never a good idea (or legal) in Tampa Palms. It has been noted that some people are walking beside the medians on Tampa Palms Blvd and Amberly. They are risking their lives, as well as, the lives of drivers who may have to swerve to miss them.

To encourage use of the outdoor spaces and the enjoyment of our beautiful Tampa Palms scenery, the CDD provides seating at a number of locations along the paths throughout the community, including:

- Huntington Pond
- Asbury Pond
- Mezzo Pond
- Cambridge Pond
- Compton Pond
- Wareham / Yardley

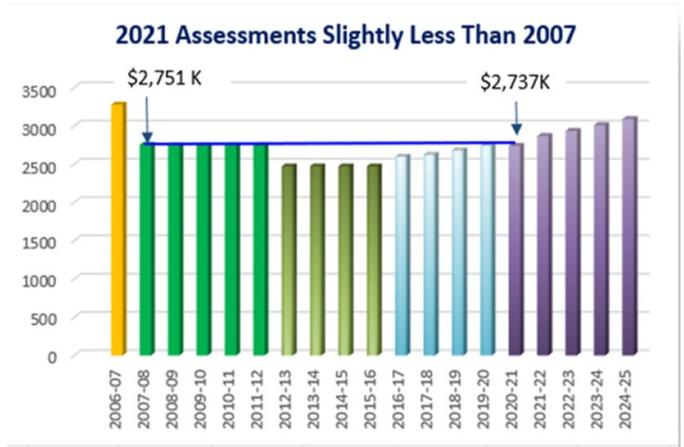
There is also ample seating in Amberly Park, along and near the pond and in Hampton Park.



No Increase FY 2020-21 Assessments

The Tampa Palms CDD approved the FY 2020-21 Budget and assessments. While the budget adjusts certain line items versus the prior year (for example the cost for water for the parks and city-owned cul de sacs increased for the CDD just as it did for owners, ditto garbage collection); no increase was approved for owner assessments.

The adopted budget and assessments may be viewed online at <https://www.tpoa.net/Financials.html>. The 2020-21 assessments are slightly less than in 2007. (2006 was the last year for bond payments.)



Covid-Based Election Snafu Hits CDD

CDD Supervisor Michael Gibson, long time Tampa Palms resident, TPOA committee member & HOA board president filed the routine paperwork to run for the CDD seat.

This year, due to Covid pandemic, the filing was by email but the filing fee had to be mailed; offices were closed and no drop-off available. Michael’s check was duly mailed by US Mail... and vanished. It never appeared by the deadline, even though mailed seven days in advance.

The seat will be declared vacant after the elections and the Board will appoint a supervisor to fill it.

The vacancy was announced at the TPOA Annual Meeting and will be discussed at the Oct and Nov CDD Meetings. Anyone wishing to be considered should simply email the CDD at CDD.Tampa@verizon.net.

What's New Around Tampa Palms?

Park Improvements

Despite the pandemic, Tampa Palms continues to improve and make safer the community amenities for the enjoyment of all of the residents.



New easy to walk on carpet and expanded tile "spill zones" were installed in all meeting rooms at Compton.

For enhanced safety, a shed with a fuel locker now is in place to store everything that might be flammable used at Compton.



River Park is getting a make-over. The bridge rebuilding is nearing completion.



Next steps which are commencing now include much needed improvements to the pavilion, mapping of the park paths and new park signs,



Freshening The Landscape

As Ms. Maney, former CDD Supervisor and past president of Hill County Growers Association, often says *plants have a definite life span and they should be replaced when they have passed their prime.*



For this reason, old entry plantings are routinely refreshed, not modified, just provided with new and different plants.

Stonington's project began last year the very aging ligustrum trees were replaced.



Now that the trees are settled in, the entry plantings were upgraded. The final phase, along the frontage fencing, is in progress now.

The CDD budgets for these replacements annually and maintains a log of what entries will require attention when.

The next entries scheduled for attention are Wyndham and Palma Vista.

The Fall mums have arrived at the main Tampa Palms entries. They will bring cheerful color to owners and guests as the seasons change.



An integral part of the Tampa Palms community, the Tampa Palms Country Club has weathered the pandemic with the rest of us, keeping members and staff safe and even assisting with food donations for shut-in's.

Today General Manager Steve Furman announced new Club hours.

Hours of Operation Update

TP FIT : Fitness, Pool & Tennis

- Monday - Friday: 7:00am - 9:00pm (Tennis starts at 7:30am)
- Saturday & Sunday: 8:00am - 6:00pm

Fitness & Pool (Based on Social Distancing & Capacity)

- No reservations required
- No time limit
- Wipe down equipment before and after each use
- Staff will sanitize in between workouts as needed
- Classes are still reservations only (6 Members + Instructor)

KIDS CLUB (Based on Social Distancing & Capacity)

Monday - Saturday: 9:00am - 1:00pm (5 max)
 Tuesday - Thursday: 4:00pm - 8:00pm (5 max)
 Friday: 4:00pm - 10:00pm (20 max)

*Reservations required! 2-Hour limit applies - ratio still applies (Infants 6-23 months count for 5) ** Exception for Friday PM, no limits on hours***

Elements Dining & Club Eats To Go

Monday - Closed
 Tuesday & Wednesday: 11:00am - 7:30pm
 Thursday & Friday: 11:00am - 9:00pm
 Saturday & Sunday: 11:00am - 5:00pm



Senior Property Manager: Bonnie French
Senior Property Manager: Brian Koerber
Park & Facility Supervisor: Patrick Van Hoose

16101 Compton Drive M-F 9 AM - 5 PM
 Phone: 977-3337
 Fax: 978-8067
 E-Mail: tpoamail@aol.com
 Web Site: www.tpoa.net

Board of Directors

Tracy Falkowitz, President 977-3337
 Maggie Wilson Vice President 977-3337
 Debbie Libertiny, Secretary 977-3337
 Jake Schoolfield, Treasurer 977-3337
 Bob Hardman, Director 977-3337

CDD

16311 TP Blvd. West
 Maggie Wilson, Consultant
 Phone: 977-3933
 Fax: 977-6571
 E-Mail: cdd.tampa@verizon.net

CDD Board of Supervisors

Gene Field (Chair) 977-1162
 Jake Schoolfield 977-3933
 Jim Soley (Vice Chair) 220-3200
 Jessica Vaughn 977-3933
 A. Michael Gibson 977-3933

One Source (Landscaping)

Joe Laird, Project Manager 267-1756

Tampa Palms Parks

Compton Park 972-0897
 Hampton Park 972-5699
 River Park 971-6241

Police & Fire

911
 Non-Emergency Police 231-6130
 Non-Emergency Fire 223-4211

Local Schools

Tampa Palms Elementary 975-7390
 Lawton Chiles Elementary 558-5422
 Liberty Middle School 558-1180
 Freedom High School 558-1185

Miscellaneous

Street Repairs 274-3101
 TECO 223-0800
 Progressive Waste Solutions 248-2820
 Water Department 274-8121
 New Tampa Rec Center 975-2794
 Councilman Viera 274-7073
 Commissioner Hagan 272-5452



Tampa Palms Owners Association
16101 Compton Drive
Tampa, FL 33647



Tampa Palms CDD Meeting

October 14 at 6:00 p.m.
Compton Park Recreation Building
16101 Compton Drive, Tampa, FL 33647
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2539344102>

Meeting ID: 253 934 4102

Roll Call & Opening

1. Strategic Planning
4. Public Comments
5. Board Member Discussions
6. Updates & Information
 - Signature Projects
 - Community Appearance
 - Meeting Protocols
 - City Budget
7. Misc. Board Business
8. Public Comments
9. Board Member Discussions
10. Adjourn

Tampa Palms Resident / Candidate Made The Play-Off's

Neither of the community organizations in Tampa Palms, not the CDD nor the TPOA, takes a position endorsing candidates for office. Voters make their own decisions.

That said there is no candidate more available for residents to get to know than one who is a neighbor, so beginning many years ago with Joe Caetano, to Shawn Harrison and Curtis Stokes, the newsletter announces the candidacy of owners in Tampa Palms.

Jessica Vaughn of Cambridge II is a candidate for the Hillsborough County School District Board, Seat 3 . She beat out six other candidates in the primary and is in a two person race in November. www.jessicavaughn.us

