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November 8, 2016

## Whither an HOA at OSP?

Some residents would like to revisit the vote on increasing the number of seats on the HOA Board from three to five. Even if the measure succeeded, members may remember that the *draft minutes of the July 21, 2016 meeting* indicated those new members would be appointed, not elected. With a five member Board it only takes three to control the proceedings instead of two. A determined HOA President need only enlist one additional supporter. Over the last twelve years this author has observed that five person Boards act no different from the three person. Two Board members can legally discuss business in private when there are five Board members. But they do it anyway in the smaller Boards with little to no consequences.

So I am coming to the conclusion that here in Old Sebastian Point the smart play is to do away with our 88 member HOA. My reasoning is as follows:

- The HOA has scant property assets; what we have is of minimal value.
- Most of the common areas could become nature preserves requiring no care.
- Our streets and about ten feet on each side are already owned by the COSA.
- We have a history, before Turnover, of the Developers ignoring HOA documents.
- Since Turnover, we have been ineffective at enforcing existing Rules and Regulations.
- We seem to get along with each other much better as neighbors than as joint owners.

Those homeowners that border on the ponds may want some communal ownership of those ponds — perhaps our HOA could morph into a much smaller entity: The Lakes of San Sebastian HOA. The rest of us could save \$300 per year and the bad feelings that HOAs tend to generate. Getting the details right will be necessary to have broad support. Isn't it at least worth thinking about?