

March Ask the Board Questions:

Q: Why does the sign on 55 not mention Fairfield Harbor! I am paying for it even though I don't play golf... There's something wrong with that I believe.

A: The billboard on Hwy 55 is to advertise Harbour Pointe Golf Club and the Pointe Restaurant. The golf course is our major revenue-generating resource in FH. It is a public course, and we are trying to draw new players to the club. Many people don't know that it is public, and many people don't even know there is a golf course in FH. We started advertising HPGC in County Compass, Taberna, Greenbrier, and New Bern Magazine. These ads have paid off, and "reciprocal plays" have increased. The billboard is part of a planned budget and long-range advertising campaign to increase players and membership. You might not play golf, but you live in FH; of course, you knew there was a golf course here when you bought a home in FH. Golf courses can increase your property value and offer views of beautiful, sprawling green vistas. The Pointe Restaurant offers dining (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) and fun events for all FH residents to enjoy.

Thank you for your response! I moved to Fairfield harbor when it was advertised as one of the best senior communities in the US. It was secure. It had a fire department and an ambulance. It was welcoming and seemed to be a perfect long-term place to retire. I realize there is a golf course here, but it has not been a money making business venture in all the years I have lived here. I don't care that my house is worth more, I simply want a safe and friendly environment, not a marketing opportunity. I realize that at my age I have no say in what is going on, but I wish we could stop inventing these inappropriate and expensive ventures. Maybe you should consider that the senior citizens in Fairfield harbor provide a stable economic value to the community, even though we may live on a fixed income.

Q: What is the process to attend a poa board meeting? Are they willing to discuss the ongoing projects in detail not necessarily related to cost, but as to construction process and procedures, if not in a board meeting, I can meet one on one at your convenience. I appreciate all the time and work you do. Just as a side note I am a member of the storm water committee which is also presents challenges due to the high-water table and low elevations of the area. Thanks again and look forward to hearing from you.

A: Yes, you can attend board meetings by signing up in advance through the POA office. And a board member can meet with you next week. I need to check availability and will get back to you.

We can do that! I'll get back to you before Thursday about the time and place. Meanwhile, which projects are you interested in learning more about? I'll try to make sure I have the information when we meet.

You can find the budget on our FrontSteps website, www.FH-POA.com. Log in under resident. If you have not registered before, you must do that first. If registered, enter your password. Once in the resident's section, you can look under the document on the left-hand panel. From there, I enter "budget" under the search bar. Then, scroll down, and you'll see the 2024 Budget.

Let's meet on Thursday at 2 pm, in Jennifer's office. Please confirm.

Q: In the special meeting announcement, it says the names of members are equal to at least 10% of the poa members. Is that 10% of "Members" as defined in the bylaws - as in one vote per lot? I'm a bit confused as to why owners get one vote per lot but petition seems to list more than one per lot. Appreciate your clarification.

A: You are right, the petition did have multiple names for the same lot, but it only counts as one vote. The multiple names will be not be counted. Our by-laws allow one vote per lot.

There will be a community-wide vote for the removal of board President Phil Hewett and Vice President John Rothengast without cause (their words.)

The vote will be electronic and go out on April 22 with a deadline of May 6 by 4:30 pm. The votes will then be verified by the public accounting firm of Carr, Riggs, & Ingram, L.L.C.

The results will be announced on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 1:00 PM. Place: Harbour Pointe Golf Club, 1105 Barkentine Drive, New Bern, NC.

We would appreciate your support NOT to remove our president and vice president. Thank you for your question. Please feel free to reach out anytime!

Q: My question is more of the "leading question" type - I would ask that the board members completing their term please make themselves available to stand again. I voted for the current board members and believed that our community has prospered and improved under their competent leadership. Our financial affairs have never been more sound and we have seen the results of their planning and implementation - the various projects reaching fruition are plain to see.

Please don't be discouraged by the "armchair coaches" shouting from the bleachers - they clearly haven't been fruitfully engaged in the community or the various clubs because their ignorance is causing unnecessary drama and dividing the community with all kinds of conspiracy theories.

I have walked, run, swum, sailed, cycled, paddled and driven extensively through our community and love all the improvements that have enhanced my experiences and raised the quality (and property values) of our lovely community.

Bill Cosby said: “I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody!”

Keep up the great work and know that most love it here, what has been achieved, and believe you (the board) make it even better!

Q: When I inquired about this in the past, I got the impression that a resident can apparently arrange for the installation of their own street lamp at their residence by contracting directly with Tideland Electric. Two homeowners on Cardinal Drive have apparently done this. My question is has the board considered implementing controls over this situation?

My opinion is that allowing this, without control, may result in too much lighting that adversely affects other neighbors, and creates an urban lighting problem. Your thoughts on this will be much appreciated.

A: Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Yes, we are looking at this as a board. This falls under the PCC (Property Control Committee) guidelines. The chair of this committee will drive by to examine the lights. Meanwhile, all streetlights should go through the POA and the PCC for approval and permit. We will keep you posted on the next steps and a decision.

Q: Can you tell me if with the new fiber network company coming will the Optimum service go away after a certain time?

Yes, you will be able to keep Optimum if you wish. However, we are hoping residents will go with Fairfield Harbour Fiber because Hosted America will be offering what we anticipate a customer savings and a better product over Optimum. Here are the basic costs:

- Basic Package - \$119.99 per month, *Plus taxes and government fees
 - Internet speed of 300 Mbps
 - True symmetry. This means BOTH down and uploads. No more throttling at peak times and inconsistent speeds
 - 70 Cable Stations on the Dish Network
 - Beamed to the central location on campus No dish on your house
- Unlimited Calling
 - In the event of emergency responders, have your location.

- Any Increase will be capped at 4% per year
 - This private network hasn't exercised this in a decade
- Extras like ESPN, HBO, and Premium Channels are a la carte
 - Partnering with a private company to build our own Fiber Network
 - All network equipment will be on our campus.
- Provision for CCTV at key entry points and common areas
 - Enables RFID technologies.
- This partnership has the potential of \$250,000 annually
 - If the entire Community gets on board and supports your OWN network, the number will be north of \$600,000 annually.

For more information on Fairfield Harbour Fiber:

<https://www.fhbeacon.com/post/are-you-tired-of-optimum-ready-for-an-alternative-coming-soon-fairfield-harbour-network-fhn>