Budget Advisory Committee Meeting – February 2, 2023 Called to order at 4:00
Attendees: Management - Ron Beard, Judy Kinney, Linda Brookner,
Committee Members – Mark Canfield, Ned McElroy, Dave Spinney, Denise Bujalski
Zoom – Maureen Patti

Mr. Canfield called the meeting to order at 4:00 and asked for a minute taker. Ms. Bujalski volunteered. Reading of the January 26, 2023 minutes was waived; Mr. McElroy motioned to accept the minutes as written, Mr. Canfield seconded, and the motion carried.

The committee moved on to the current budget draft. Ms. Kinney made the committee aware of some minor line changes and made note of the $100 placeholder for CIF in the income section.

The current budget draft shows an $878,000 budget deficit. If this is to be funded by taxes, that would be a $9/$1,000 increase. The recreation portion of the budget represents the majority of the increases in the budget with the District taking on more of the expenses associated with recreation. This is not a budget that the committee feels they can recommend to the commissioners. Mr. McElroy suggested putting the recreation portion of the budget in a warrant article to be voted on separately from the budget.

Discussion followed on how to close this budget gap. Suggestions of cutting hours of operation for the community center and/or concentrating recreation use to one building versus two were made. The committee felt two options need to be explored; raising WEA dues and/or opening the recreations facilities to either Owl's Nest residents and/or the general public for a yearly fee. These options are not in the District's control and would have to be addressed by the HOA. There is a question on whether the district can deliver the level of service that WEA has planned.

It was decided that committee members would bring further ideas to the next meeting to address the budget deficit. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2023 at 4 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Bujalski