

has been underway for some time. She made the following suggestions and observations:

- Administrative staff, which currently reports to the town manager, should report to a supervisor instead.
- Job descriptions should be added to the municipal code.
- Overlap between departments should be eliminated, and lines of reporting should be clear.
- There are too many citizens' groups, and some have nothing in writing.
- The Fire Committee was formed verbally to explore Fire Department is-

sues and has no clear line of communication.

- The Planning Commission is well-designed.
- The Board of Adjustment is well-designed by statute.
- Temporary committees should be formed to address issues and then dissolved when their work is done
- There should be an advisory parks committee with five voting members that works with the town's departments.

Cressman said he liked the suggestions, and a voice from outside is valuable. Schuler suggested waiting until the

new board is seated to make the suggested changes. He added that Collins was hired to do this and didn't need the approval of the board to move forward. Miner said it would be a gift to the new board to give them a clear structure.

The consensus of the board was that Collins proceed with the suggested changes.

**Two business licenses approved**

At the Oct. 8 meeting, Hector and Erika DeAlmeida told the board about their business,

The Drum Set Coach Academy at 790 Highway 105, Suite C. The business will offer drum lessons taught by their lead instructor Dennis Sanderson, the DeAlmeidas said. The board voted unanimously to approve their license.

At the Oct. 22 meeting, Shelton Segrest requested a business license for The Perfectly Elevated Café and Gallery, which will move into unused space at 11 Primrose St., the location of Wild Bills Buffalo Wings Too and The Ugly Mug. Segrest said his plan

was to roast his own beans and provide a range of coffee drinks. He is also considering adding a drive through.

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The Board of Trustees is scheduled to hold one meeting in November, on Nov. 12 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent. Meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Information: 481-2953.

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Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Oct. 12

Lake trails' closure causes community concern

*By James Howald*

An unusually high number of residents attended the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) board's October meeting. The residents, many of them from The Dunes at Woodmoor, wanted to give the board their feedback on its recent decision to close the trails that surround Lake Woodmoor to walkers, hikers, and others. JVA Engineering gave the board an update on the district's capital improvement projects, and the board discussed a draft of the budget for 2021. Finally, the board heard operational reports.

**Many ask board to reconsider closing trails**

Shortly before the October meeting, the board began enforcing a ban on use of the trails encircling Lake Woodmoor. The trails are on private property owned by WWSD, but have been used, without permission, for recreation by residents for some time.

Bob Fryling, who moved to the community about two years ago, was the first to address the board, pointing out that the trail on the west side of the lake was especially useful to seniors because it is level and easy to walk. Fryling said he and his wife had been walking by the lake when a WWSD employee approached them and said they were not allowed to walk on the trail. Fryling told the employee his family had used the trail for two years and pointed out that signs by the trail indicated walking was permitted.

Fryling said he called District Manager Jessie Shaffer, who told him that the change in policy had been prompted by the district's participation in the Safe Routes to School project that will build trails allowing elementary and middle school students to walk to their neighborhood schools, by complaints of trespassing that had been brought to the attention of the district by homeowners on the east side

of the lake, and by concerns about legal liability for the district.

Fryling gave his reasons for asking the board to change its policy: the trail is a wonderful place to walk, especially for seniors and mothers with children; the trail is especially valuable now due to COVID-19 concerns; the trail is a good place to commune with wildlife; and access to the trail is great public relations for the district.

Fryling went on to propose signs on the east side of the trail forbidding pedestrians, so that homeowners on that side of the lake would not be subject to people trespassing on their property to reach the lake, and to propose that the board rescind its recent policy decision.

Fryling concluded by saying he and his neighbors didn't understand the reason for the change in policy.

In response to Fryling, board President Brian Bush pointed out that the trail was not maintained by the district and was in fact just a portion of the district's property.

Shaffer showed the attendees a map indicating the property owned by the district, which encircles the lake, and the property owned by homeowners, which surrounds the district's land on the east side of the lake. He pointed out that when the lake is full, some of the water is on private property. Shaffer went on to say the trails on the west side of the lake were in fact service roads used by district maintenance vehicles.

Bob Pimberton, who introduced himself as the president of the Dunes at Woodmoor homeowners association, seconded Fryling's remarks, adding that a social trail at the south end of the lake leading to the library had grown up over the last several years, indicating the frequency of use.

Several more residents

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