

Communications Committee Meeting Minutes
For January 21, 2026

Committee Members Mike Stropes and Patti Cummings were in attendance, along with Board Liaison Chris Kozak and HOA Manager Joyce Gillespie. Also, Rich Strout of the Grounds Committee attended the meeting. Absent committee members were Linda Lynch with an excused absence and Sandra Flanagan with an unexcused absence. Therefore, the Communication Committee failed to have a quorum.

- I. Approval of the December 2025 meeting minutes were deferred to the next meeting when a quorum is present.

- II. Rich Strout of the Grounds Committee was asked how we could assist them with their primary mission. He wants help with getting the message out to residents that the Grounds Committee tasks are not to be disliked by the residents, but they should be appreciated for the efforts at maintaining the community standards. It's the standards' compliance that ensure that Herons Glen is a desirable place to live. He'd like for the Grounds Committee to have more in-depth and ongoing exposure to the residents. To that end, we all agreed that:
 - a. The Committee will contact The Heron news magazine about having a monthly section of the magazine devoted to the Grounds Committee, the so-called "Grounds Corner."
 - b. The Committee will write an article for publishing in The Heron's March edition that highlights the Grounds Committee's work and the necessity for their efforts in maintaining standards.
 - i. Address use of landscapers and the differences that might exist in degree of maintenance performed
 - ii. Address Snowbirds dependence on contract landscape maintenance
 - iii. Will use a best-case picture along with a worse case picture.
 - iv. Include links to the community's landscape/grounds standards.
 - v. Patti Cummings is drafting the article and Mike is obtaining a worse case picture from a non-Herons Glen house.
 - vi. Keep Rich in the loop for the article and the status of space in The Heron as it will involve their monthly input.
 - c. Rich will confer with Joyce Forman (Grounds Co-Chair and Activities Committee Chair) regarding the upcoming Florida Landscaping seminar to ensure that the community's standards are highlighted as part of the content. They meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month.
 - d. Also, it was suggested that perhaps the ARC committee might benefit from similar exposure. More to come on this one as we will probably re-meet with ARC this year.

- III. There were no results from the recent HOA Activities Fair that have implications for the Communication Committee's involvement.
- IV. Regarding renters: Joyce says that it might be advantageous to have The Heron News Magazine link sent to renters. However, she believes that it would be only for those renters staying in Herons Glen for a minimum of 3 months. Joyce estimates there are about 70 renters currently in total. She will create a form for the long-term renters to complete for receiving the publication's link via email.
- V. There were no additional updates to the HOA/HGRD articles. Both Patti and Mike had previously reviewed but failed to alert Linda of no changes.
- VI. The items that Linda requested during the December meeting were mailed on Monday, January 20th.
- VII. Mike will ascertain Sandra's status.
- VIII. Next meeting is Wednesday, February 18th at 1 PM.