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FRONT PAGE STORY

RCSC board ups preservation fee to \$3,000

by Jeff Dempsey, Daily News-Sun

The Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors will vote next week on a \$500 increase to the Preservation and Improvement Fund fee.

“The PIF is just not building as rapidly as we thought it would,” said board President Warren Hoffman. “We are concerned, yes.”

The preservation and improvement fee is a one-time fee paid by homebuyers when the property changes hands. New homeowners are required to pay a \$2,500 preservation fee to the fund, which is used to pay for capital improvement projects such as building renovations. If the motion is approved, that fee will be raised to \$3,000.

And the board may not stop there.

It also is moving to make the proceeds from the insurance settlement received for the Sundial roof collapse available for use in Phase II of the Fairway renovation project. The money would be in the form of a loan to the preservation/improvement fund.

While Hoffman said the board does not anticipate having to spend that money, he said members are concerned enough to take the precaution.

“We are doing it precisely out of this concern,” Hoffman said. “That insurance money will be held in abeyance, and it will be there if we need it. I emphasize, ‘if’ we need it.”

Hoffman said he is confident the board is making the right decision. The only other option, he said is something the board hesitates to even say out loud.

“If we don’t do this, really, the only thing we could do is have a special assessment,” Hoffmann said. “Obviously, we do not want to do that. That’s the furthest thing from our minds.”

Vice President Gene Westmeier likened the plan to keeping money in both pockets.

“In my left pocket I’ve got money for Fairway, but in my right pocket I’ve got the insurance money just in case,” Westmeier said. “Now, I’m not committing to spending that money in my right pocket. But if I need it, it’s there.”

The regular RCSC board meeting will be at 9 a.m. Aug. 27 in the Sundial Auditorium. For information, visit www.sunaz.com.

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