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Concern for our Community.

Clearwood Community Neighbors,

I grew up, thankfully, in a time before social media platforms. It was a much simpler and less divisive time. The last part of the word "Community" is **UNITY**. My concern is that there are individuals within and outside our community who seek to divide our comm**UNITY** by posting misinformation and outright lies on toxic social media platforms.

The Mission of Facebook as stated by CEO Mark Zuckerberg is stated as **"To give people the power to build community and bring the world closer together"**. Unfortunately, it can also be used to divide communities and spread us farther apart.

Some complain that our Board lacks transparency, yet some create a private group that blocks members who might disagree or contradict their misinformation, disinformation, and outright lies. They allow inaccurate posts from individuals who are not verified members of the Clearwood Comm**UNITY** Association and post inaccurate information generated through AI. An outright lie recently posted on a private Facebook group stated that if Board Members approached an individual with any emails with complaints, those Board Members would be sued. **THERE HAVE BEEN NO SUCH STATEMENTS MADE TO CCA BOARD MEMBERS.**

As a former secondary science teacher, I required my students to test and verify all claims they, or their classmates, made by supporting their claims with actual verifiable evidence. I encourage our membership to verify any claims or information posted on any social media platforms and seek supporting evidence before accepting those posts as factual.

Positive change for the Clearwood Community does not come by posting misinformation and lies on social media platforms, placing blame or pointing fingers. My parents taught me that when you point a finger at someone, there are three pointing back at you. Positive change comes through proposing changes to the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and Covenants through Resolutions as described in our governing documents.

Clearwood Comm**UNITY** offers our residents several factors that contribute to our happiness and well-being. These include, among others, being a part of something bigger, access to greenspace, exercise opportunities, connecting with people, and opportunities to do things for others.

Clearwood Comm**UNITY** Association relies heavily on volunteer participation on various committees and the Board of Directors. Negative comments, misinformation, and lies on social media only discourage people from becoming involved in our Comm**UNITY**. Finally, thank you to all who have made positive contributions to make our Comm**UNITY** a great place in which to live.

Richard Houghton
President, Board of Directors
Clearwood Community Association

