

About the Sugarhill Website © built by John Doty

In 2018, I began developing a website as a subfolder of my existing domain, *pearlwood.com*, with the goal of giving Sugarhill a reliable source for community news and updates. At the time, many of us were deeply concerned about the actions of the existing board — including a dues increase of more than 20% (with additional hikes expected), the secretive hiring of Signature Property Management, the refusal to consider metal roofs (despite insurance mandates), aggressive actions against both new and long-time residents, and excessively slow project approvals.

The website quickly became a means for homeowners to communicate and expose these issues, culminating in a successful full-board recall supported by more than 65% of the community. Following that event, Dan Smith and I agreed that Sugarhill deserved its own dedicated website. Dan personally funded the hosting for sugarhilljensenbeach.com through the internet hosting provider *InMotion.com*, while I developed the HTML and CSS for the site as a no-cost service to my community. Dan continued to pay the annual hosting and domain fees for three years. We later proposed that the association cover these hosting and domain costs, and the board approved the change. I have continued to design, write, and code for the website as a volunteer service.

Over the years, the site has evolved into the main hub for community information and the rapid processing of owner project approvals. It also provides indexed, digital access to Sugarhill's covenants and bylaws — a custom feature I personally developed that included section indexing. The time invested in building and maintaining the website has been extensive. At an estimated 12–20 hours per week over eight years, the total professional value of this work would range from approximately **\$43,000 to \$56,000**, based on standard design and development rate of **\$70–120 per hour**.

Because of the site's highly customized coding, I retain copyright ownership of the intellectual property I created. While I'm proud to contribute the use of this work freely to the community I live in, I ask that it not be altered or overwritten without my permission and oversight. Although the Association holds the right to access the InMotion hosting account, the underlying creative and technical work remains my protected property.

One thing is certain: the website's functionality can be easily compromised in inexperienced hands.