



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association

The March 6, 2014 meeting of the MRT Board of Directors was called to order by President Domingo Cid at 5:31pm. The meeting was held at the Annie Beck house in the Middle River Terrace Park with 8 members present. It was determined that a quorum existed.

Present: Domingo Cid – President
T. J. Fiori – Vice President
Dick Eaton - Secretary
Joann Block
Jan Palmer
Steve Stahl
Charles Scheller
Tim Smith

The President asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6th meeting. All voted in the affirmative.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

The following reports were presented by Officers of the Board:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Tony Fiori presented the current treasurer's report that showed the following:

Beginning balance	01/31/14	\$3,192.14
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Income:

New memberships	1660.00
50/50 drawing	11.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1671.00

Expenses:

Florida Power and Light	10.06
Council of Civic Assoc. Membership	50.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 60.06

Final Balance	2/28/14	\$4,778.08
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The treasurer's report also noted that the association had received a \$25 donation via a check that was missing the signature. The check was returned to the sender, requesting his signature.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President reported on the meeting that he and Tony had with Code Supervisor Jeri Pryor and another representative from the City of Fort Lauderdale Department of Sustainable Development Code Enforcement Division.

He reported that they were informed that the City has instituted a policy to begin foreclosure proceedings against properties. Properties such as those in our neighborhood that are boarded would be prime candidates for foreclosure. This would not include any home that is homesteaded as it is protected by state law from foreclosure.

Domingo gave an update on the status of the south parcel park addition land. He said that per Commissioner Trantalis, the money is no longer available for the purchase due to the contamination on the property. Domingo had raised the issue of the City requiring the property owner to clean up the contamination and the Commissioner said he would look into. The issue had been raised previously about a concern that the contamination could have also affected the MRT Park. Domingo inquired of the City manager if there were any plans to test the park property and he reported that the City manager said there are no current plans. Domingo will consult with Commissioner Trantalis to see what can be done to pursue having the test done. Steve reported that he had called the EPA to express his concerns about the contaminated land as well as the possibility that it had leached into the park. He spoke with a Mr. Luwierzicki and expressed his concerns that nothing was being done to address the issue. Mr. Luwierzicki reported that the EPA will open a case and investigate the issue.

Domingo reported that the webpage should be up and running within the next couple weeks. All of the information requested had been submitted. The association cost to host the website will be \$13.00 a month. Steve and Dick have agreed to be jointly responsible for keeping the website updated and will be receiving training on how that is to be done. Dick expressed a concern that if we are unable to get the webpage up soon, we may want to consider a printed newsletter. The concern is that the webpage has taken much longer than anticipated and we have been unable to communicate with the neighborhood.

Domingo reported that all those who wish to participate in the Fort Lauderdale St Patrick's Day parade should arrive at the designated staging area by 11am on Saturday the 8th. The association will be entering Domingo's car which will be decorated and have Mylar balloons. Steve will look into making arrangements to get the balloons on Saturday morning. T-shirts will be completed by Steve and he will deliver them to the parade participants on Friday. He will also pick up the new MRTNA banner as well. Domingo presented a list of the costs for the t-shirts, banner, hats and decorations that will be used for the parade. Dick made a motion that the association pay for the cost of the banner only which came to a total of \$155.66. Domingo seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative. The participants will be responsible for the cost of the remaining items and it will be divided equally.

Domingo gave an update on the status of the crosswalks for Dixie Highway. He reported that Diana Alarcon reported that there has been a delay because the costs came in higher than what was budgeted. The job must now be put out to bid which will cause a delay to the project.

Domingo reported on the recent CRA meeting he attended. He said the main issue of the meeting was the desire to expand the boundaries of the CRA to include NE 16 St to the north, 15th or Federal Hwy to the east and I-95 to the west. He reported that he opposed the expansion however it passed on a vote of 5-1.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dixie Highway 100th Anniversary

Steve reported on a meeting that he and Laura attended as MRTNA representatives on 2/25 at the City office of Hal Barnes to discuss the anniversary celebration. Others present included Ryan

Henderson, Junia and Shery from Neighborhood Support, Daniel Katz from Fort Lauderdale High School, Leigh Ann Henderson, Wilton Manors Assistant City Manager and David Archacki, Wilton Manors Utilities Director. Steve reported that the City will assist in coordinating the parade. Wilton Manors will be joining with us and will be looking into using Equality Park as the staging area. It was also reported that this year was the 100th anniversary of the Fort Lauderdale High School and school officials would like to discuss ways we can combine the two events. They would like to have a ribbon cutting event at the school as well for their new campus. Hal Barnes advised that he would work on food trucks as well as food donations for the event.

Green Your Routine

Joann reported that our association ended up in 3rd place citywide in the air potato project. She also reported that if we ensure that we provide recycling opportunities at our Dixie Highway celebration, we would be able to get points for that. She reminded the association that we are required to use 20% of the funds we earn each year on sustainable projects. She will explore various options we might have for this. Dick expressed that he would like to see anything we do be in our neighborhood so as to keep the funds here.

NEW BUSINESS:

Steve reported that he and Laura recently attended an MPO seminar about the counties adoption of the Complete Streets Program. He said he felt that there were many ideas raised that should be considered in the adoption of the NE 13th Street project.

Joann expressed her desire that the association develop some type of program where we would have an official association t-shirt. She would like to see each new member given a t-shirt. All agreed that the idea had merit and we will discuss it further in the near future.

Upcoming Meetings:

Domingo announced the following upcoming meetings:
General Meeting – March 9th - MRT Park – 4:00pm

Dick made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Tony seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative.

The President adjourned the meeting at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Eaton

Dick Eaton
Secretary MRTNA