



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, July 10, 2014

**Middle River Terrace
Neighborhood Association**

The July 10, 2014 meeting of the MRT Board of Directors was called to order by President Domingo Cid at 5:32pm. The meeting was held at the 13th Street Police Substation with 12 members present. It was determined that a quorum existed.

Present: Domingo Cid – President
T. J. Fiori – Vice President
Dick Eaton – Secretary
Donna Fiori - Treasurer
Laura Croscenco – Past President
Charles Scheller
Joann Block
Jan Palmer
Ray Combs
Colleen Lockwood

Joann made a motion to approve the evening's agenda and Tony seconded the motion. All voted in the affirmative.

Charlie made a motion to approve of the minutes of June 15th and Tony seconded the motion. All voted in the affirmative.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

The following reports were presented by Officers of the Board:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

Beginning balance	05/31/14	\$4,688.06
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Income:

New memberships & 50/50 drawing	177.93
TOTAL INCOME	\$4,859.03

Expenses:

Gift Certificate to FL High School	200.00
FPL & Sticker expense (Steve)	48.24
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 248.24

Final Balance	4/30/14	\$4,610.79
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OFFICERS REPORTS: (Cont.)

GOVERNMENT LIAISON:

Laura informed the board that a new cycle was beginning for NCIP grants. She will be attending a meeting and submitting grant applications on behalf of our neighborhood. Everyone agreed that we would like to apply for funding for additional entrance monuments.

Laura announced that Diana Alarcon from the Department of Transportation and Mobility had informed her that she was able to secure additional grant funding from the FDOT for our neighborhood. It is expected that we will receive approximately 1 million dollars which will cover the balance of funding needed for traffic calming devices for the Dixie Highway improvement project to include raised paver intersections, stamped asphalt, lighting and the original two entrance monuments proposed.

Laura announced that the two temporary painted crosswalks previously approved for Dixie Highway are scheduled to be installed in mid July to early August.

Laura gave an update on her findings in regards to the issue of dredging the canal near the neighborhood dock. She had contacted the state and they advised that there are grants that the city could apply for to cover the cost of the dredging. Steve will pursue this issue with the city. She would like to have the association request that the city engineers check the dock to make sure it is structurally sound before any action is taken on repairs.

Steve made a motion that we request the city do an inspection of the dock to determine it's structural integrity. Once we get that report the association will determine what steps need to be taken in regards to addressing the current issues. He also asked that we request signage on the dock stating that it was closed after 9pm and that trespassers would be subject to arrest. Domingo seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative.

Laura reported that she had been looking into the possibility of having the aluminum utility boxes at the park painted similar to ones she had seen in the downtown and Las Olas areas. The city had informed her that in order to pursue that with the city, it must be a city owned box. Many of the boxes are owned by Broward County, FPL or other utilities. The boxes currently in front of the park are not city owned. Members will survey the neighborhood to identify their location and then we will make a determination whether it is feasible to pursue this project.

Laura had no new information on the Dixie Highway 100th celebration event at this time. She did however announce that incoming new board member Colleen Longwood would be taking over the reigns on this project and Laura will be assisting her.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Domingo announced that the joint event with Lakeridge to celebrate the fence removal and new landscaping between our borders has been delayed. The city has not completed work on the landscape. The city has informed him that they will be meeting on Monday to finalize the details of the landscape work and will advise him of their time frame.

SMARTWATER:

Domingo announced that we had a successful SmartWater distribution event on Sunday, June 29th. Many residents showed up to receive their free kits and to purchase additional signage. The association took the opportunity to share membership information with those in attendance and we were able to add some new members to the association that night.

There was discussion about additional distribution opportunities for the remaining free kits. Laura suggested that we distribute the kits to MRT residents at the next crime meeting at Warfield Park on Wednesday, July 23rd. She also felt it would be nice if kits were given to the association that we could distribute at our monthly meetings. All agreed that would be very helpful. Laura made a motion to send a request to police Chief Adderly requesting the distribution at the next crime meeting and each subsequent meeting until all kits are gone. Steve seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

Laura made an additional motion that the President of the association send a letter to police chief Adderly requesting 20 kits that the association would have to distribute at our monthly meetings. She also requested that the city manager and Logan from Smartwater be copied on the letter. Tony seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

CCRA:

Domingo gave an update on the work of the CCRA. He said at the last meeting Diana Alarcon from the city presented an update on the 13th Street improvement plan. Domingo questioned if there would be an opportunity for input from the neighborhoods on the plan. Diana said the city will prepare several prospective renderings which will be presented to each of the effected neighborhoods. He reported that she also announced that car counts would begin in the area, right after school is in session. There were concerns raised as to how car counts taken now would take into consideration the expected changes in the area with development etc. Domingo stated that Diana said they have a way to factor that into the results.

Domingo presented graphs to the board outlining the CCRA's long and short term goals. He also presented the tax increment analysis showing projected budget dollars and how they would be allocated.

Domingo announced that Al Battle will be attending our September meeting to answer residents questions in regards to the CCRA. Domingo asked the board members to submit any questions they have to him prior to the meeting so that he can forward it on to Al.

OLD BUSINESS:

Joann announced that the mini library had been installed near the entrance of the Middle River Terrace Park. Some of the board members were in attendance. Joann presented some stickers she had prepared that could be placed on the books advising they were free to borrow and encourage user to contribute their old books for others. Everyone agreed this was a great idea and she will pursue it. She also stated she had quite an inventory of used books and would change out the books from time to time. There was discussion of possibly having some types of chairs near the library where people could sit and read. The feeling was that lawn type chairs would never last there and would be a problem during severe weather with high winds. Dick had suggested we might pursue having a park bench placed in the area and could possible pursue and NCIP grant for it. Laura will speak to the city about the possibility of getting a bench.

Laura raised the idea of having a ribbon cutting ceremony for the mini-library at our meeting on Sunday. Everyone thought that would be a great idea and felt we should invited the Mayor and City Manager along with others from the city responsible for the placement. Our commissioner is out of town and would not be able to be present. Laura made a motion that we hold a small ribbon cutting event at the start of our meeting. Dick seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative. Laura will get the supplies needed for the ribbon cutting and will invite city officials to attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dick announced that Code Enforcement had recently gone through some re-structuring and our neighborhood now has a new code officer. Officer Cross, our former inspector has been reassigned and our new neighborhood officer is Mary Rich.

In closing Domingo wanted to raise the issue of a recent post that was put on NextDoor by someone from another association. The information in the post was misguided and he felt gave a false impression to residents. The post was alleging there are neighborhood groups meeting in private and not being accountable to residents. He informed the board that he was sure this was as the result of the recent informal round table meetings held among adjoining neighborhood associations. He said this was all done completely in the open. All agreed it would be good so that we can share some of our joint concerns and ideas. The meetings are informal and social in nature. There is no board, no officers and no decisions are made. The purpose is to find ways we can all work together for the common good.

Upcoming Meetings:

Domingo announced there will be no meeting in August for our summer recess. New officers will begin service as of August 1st. Following are the next scheduled meetings:

General Meeting – July 13th - MRT Park – 4:00pm

BOD Meeting – September 11th - Police Sub-station– 5:30pm

Charlie made a motion of adjournment and Tony seconded. All voted in the affirmative and the President adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Eaton

Dick Eaton
Secretary MRTNA