



## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, January 12, 2014

### **Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association**

The January 12, 2014 MRTNA general meeting was called to order by President Domingo Cid at 4:01 pm at the Middle River Terrace park pavilion.

A motion was made by Tony Fiori and seconded by Jan Palmer to approve the meeting agenda; all voted in the affirmative.

The President asked for a motion to approve of the minutes of the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. A motion was made by Laura Croscenco and seconded by Charles Scheller; all voted in the affirmative.

Officer Vilches and Sargent Capano from the FLPD were present to report on crime issues in our neighborhood and the action plan that has been implemented to address it. Both officers were recently transferred into our district and will be spending a good share of time in Middle River Terrace to give us additional police coverage. Officer Vilches reported that there was a slight increase in home burglaries in December. He stated that although it is unacceptable these numbers normally do rise slightly during the holiday season. Sargent Capano explained the new I.L.P. (Intelligent Lead Policing) program that is being implemented to better track habitual juvenile offenders. Under this program, once a juvenile has been convicted of 3 offenses, they will be put into the I.L.P. system for closer scrutiny. This will make it easier for the local police to track and concentrate on habitual offenders. There were many questions asked from the members present in regards to arrested juveniles being released with no retribution for their crimes and what we can do to assist the police. Suggestions were made to put pressure on local judges, to contact and put pressure on local legislators to strengthen juvenile repeat offender laws, to keep our eyes open and report all suspicious activity and to have alarm systems in our homes with cameras if possible.

### **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	11/31/13	\$3,629.02
<u>Income:</u>		
New membership		25.00
50/50 drawing		23.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$48.00

<u>Expenses:</u>	
Raffle Tickets	19.02
Newsletter (printing)	143.99
FP&L	9.99
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$173.00</b>

Final Balance 11/30/13 \$3,504.02

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### Code Enforcement:

Domingo reported that he and Tony Fiori recently did a ride around through our neighborhood with the area Code Enforcement Officer, Andre Cross. He said it was very “eye opening” and they took a look at several problem properties. Officer Cross pointed out several vacant properties that recently received emergency board ups by the City. Some of these were being used by some of the juvenile offenders in the neighborhood prior to being secured by the City. The City is also maintaining these properties to keep them clear of overgrowth and debris. Domingo announced he will be requesting a meeting with Director Greg Brewton and Deputy Director Jenni Morejon to discuss code issues in our neighborhood.

### Commissioner Trantalis Meeting:

Domingo reported that he will be having another of his regularly scheduled meetings with Commissioner Trantalis tomorrow at 10:30am. Some of the issues they will be discussing are crime in our neighborhood and seeking greater cooperation with the school, the status of the historic Annie Beck house in our park, our associations concerns in regards to the 13<sup>th</sup> Street Alliance and potential options in regards to the south parcel next to the park.

### Webpage:

Domingo announced that work continues on the MRTNA webpage. It is nearly complete and he is waiting for some additional biographical information from some of the board members. He announced that the cost to the association for server fees would be \$130 per year. It was announced that the board had approved the following sponsorship levels for local businesses interested in advertising on our webpage.

- Platinum Level – \$500 a year; logo on top banner; allowing up to 4 changes per year.
- Gold Level – \$300 a year; logo on the side banner; allowing up to 2 changes per year.
- Silver Level – \$150 a year; logo on bottom; allowing 1 change per year.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### GYR Update

Joann Block reported on upcoming Green Your Routine opportunities for our association. In volunteering we gain points which translate into cash for the association at the end of the year. She reported on the Wildlife Habitat program which is worth 5 points for every 10 residents who have their yards certified as a "wildlife habitat." She briefly explained the requirements to become certified and has information for those who are interested. She stated that only new certifications count and any current properties that are certified would not qualify for this program. She also reported that we can gain GYR points for every new resident we get to sign up for NextDoor. The last opportunity she spoke about involved the removal of invasive potatoes at Snyder Park. They are having a kick off at the park on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to noon. Those attending will have the opportunity to pick up the potatoes and will be awarded 1 point for every 30 pounds of potatoes turned in. The program will run for several weeks and we can get a group together at any time to go to the park to collect the potatoes. Joann announced that last year MRTNA ranked third in the City in the funds we received for our volunteer activities. All agreed that our goal this year should be to achieve the ranking of the top neighborhood!

Steve Stahl made the following announcements:

He recently signed up for the CERT class in order to receive his certification. Classes will be held on January 18<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup>. Interested residents should contact Freddy at 954 828-6900.

He also signed up for the FL Police Academy. Classes will be held on Thursday nights from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. and run from February 20<sup>th</sup> through May 26<sup>th</sup>. Resident who are interested were advised to contact Sargent Nelson at 954 828-5521. Once training is completed, you will be certified to do citizen patrol of the neighborhood under the direction of the FLPD.

He advised the members that a meeting is scheduled for Thursday with FLPD Chief Adderly and other FLPD officials to discuss the crime situation in our neighborhood. Scheduled to attend the meeting along with him will be Domingo, Tony and Laura.

Domingo expressed the association's appreciation to Steve for painting over the graffiti on the Annie Beck house.

He also announced the following upcoming meetings:

- February 6<sup>th</sup>, MRTNA BOD Meeting at 5.30 pm. / Location TBD
- February 9<sup>th</sup>, MRTNA General Meeting at 4:00 pm. / MRT Park

Dick announced that he had copies of the 2014 Membership form for those interested in paying their 2014 dues of \$25.00. Copies were distributed to those present.

Tony made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Laura seconded. All voted in the affirmative and the President adjourned the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dick Eaton*

Dick Eaton  
Secretary