



MRTNA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
Sunday, July 13, 2014

**Middle River Terrace  
Neighborhood Association**

The July 13, 2014 meeting of the MRTNA was called to order by President Domingo Cid at 4:02pm at the Middle River Terrace Park pavilion.

Laura made a motion to accept the agenda and Tony seconded. All voted in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Laura to make a correction to the minutes of the July 10, 2014 Board meeting. The date for our next general meeting should be September 14th since we have a summer recess. Donna seconded and all voted in the affirmative.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Domingo stated that the following slate of candidates had been nominated at our June meeting.

President – Domingo Cid

Vice President – T J Fiori

Secretary – Steve Stahl

Treasurer – Donna Fiori

Government Liaison – Laura Croscenco

Crime and Neighborhood Safety – Ray Combs

Marketing / Media Coordinator – Colleen Lockwood

Neighborhood Appearance – Jan Palmer

Dick had ballots available and offered them to anyone who chose to vote by ballot but made a motion that since there was no challenged positions, the membership vote to accept the ballot as presented. Laura seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative.

CRIME REPORT:

Domingo introduced our neighborhood officer, Valchez who presented the following crime report for our neighborhood. He said overall the crime rate was very low with the exception of vehicle burglaries.

He reported the following:

Business Burglaries	May (1)	June (0)
Residential Burglaries	May (1)	June (2)
Vehicle burglaries	May (14)	June (9)
Robbery	May (0)	June (1)
Vehicle thefts	May (2)	June (1)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

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

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

GOVERNMENT LIAISON:

Laura informed the members that a new cycle was beginning for NCIP grants. She and Steve will be attending meetings on July 17<sup>th</sup> and July 28<sup>th</sup> at George English Park concerning application for neighborhood grants. Everyone agreed that we would like to apply for funding for additional entrance monuments.

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 reported that she had been looking into the possibility of having the aluminum utility boxes in our neighborhood 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. Debbie suggested that we might try to find someone in the neighborhood who is an artist and ask them to design the graphics. Everyone agreed this would be a great idea.

Laura had no new information on the Dixie Highway 100<sup>th</sup> celebration event at this time. She did announce that incoming new board member Colleen Longwood will be assisting her on this project as the new marketing coordinator. Colleen stated that we needed to prepare a neighborhood statement outlining our goals and how the money will be used.. This will be needed prior to approaching any business to request financial support for the event.

NEIGHBORHOOD APPEARANCE:

Joann reported on the placement of the mini lending library at the entrance to our park. She has placed a selection of books in the library and will continue to rotate new books in and out. She

also made stickers and placed them in the books advising they were free to borrow and encourage user to contribute their old books for others. She asked members to bring any used books they may want to donate to the meetings and she will collect them. Laura announced that the board is planning a small ribbon cutting at a future date and will keep members posted.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 members to submit any questions they have to him prior to the meeting so that he can forward them on to Al.

Domingo announced that we had a successful SmartWater distribution event on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. 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 and the board is looking into several possibilities. Domingo will be requesting Police Chief Adderly give our association a limited supply of kits that we would be able to pass out at each meeting to those that had not received it.

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.

### OLD BUSINESS

Steve gave an update on his findings in regards to the issue of dredging the canal near the neighborhood dock. He 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 through Commissioner Trantalis.

Debbie raised a question about whether the association is liable for the dock since it was put in by the association using NCIP grant money. Dick stated that his understanding was that normally when an NCIP grant is awarded for a neighborhood project it only states that the association will be responsible for the maintenance. He did not believe there was any legal liability for the board or individual members since our association is protected as a Corporation. Steve stated that he personally went down and looked at the dock and in his estimation it is structurally solid. Laura stated that she has put in a request to have the city inspect the dock for structural integrity. Any further decisions will await the findings of that inspection. On behalf of the board, Steve has made an inquiry to Police Chief Adderly to see if we can post signs at the dock stating that it closes at 9pm. Several neighbors have complained about large groups that assemble at the dock late at night and cause disturbances and leave waste and debris.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Debbie raised an issue of concern for the neighborhood. She stated that she saw an ad in the newspaper for rooms to rent at a property. She was concerned about this being an illegal and unsafe situation and in violation of city codes. Dick suggested she should submit her concern to the city code department and they will send the area inspector out to investigate it. She said she had already called in a complaint.

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 members 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. Everyone felt this was a positive development and gave their full support to the effort.

Domingo announced that the association will be taking their summer recess in August. The next scheduled meeting will be held at the FLPD sub-station on 13<sup>th</sup> St.

Upcoming meetings were announced:

- BOD Meeting: Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at the 13<sup>th</sup> St Police Substation – 5:30pm
- General Meeting: Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at the 13<sup>th</sup> St Police Substation – 4:00pm

Tony made a motion to adjourn and Debbie seconded; it passed without dissent and President Domingo adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Eaton  
Secretary MRTNA