



P.O. Box 4561
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MIDDLE RIVER TERRACE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.

General Meeting

THURSDAY APRIL 14, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.
MRT Park Pavilion

General Meeting Called to Order: 6 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda: Tony Fiori, seconded by Debbie Lee

Approval of the Minutes dated March 17, 2016: Charles Scheller, seconded by Tony Fiori

OFFICERS REPORTS:

<u>Treasurer</u>	Balance as of 2/29/16	\$6,542.90
	New Members	48.97
	CFLCA	-50.00
	MRTNA Registration fee	-61.25
	Business hosting (Steve)	-130.00
	Balance as of 3/31/16	<u>\$6,350.62</u>

Police Report

Jan Residential Burglary 7 Jan Vehicle Burglary 9

Feb Residential Burglary 5 Feb Vehicle Burglary 6

Bikes are being stolen and are considered residential burglary. We were advised to keep bikes out of sight and vehicle doors locked.

GYR

On April 9, 2016, Joann Block volunteered 2 shifts, the morning and afternoon, at the Hazardous Waste and Electronic Drop off at Mills Pond Park. MRTNA receives GYR points for our participation. Steve Stahl had signed up but he was in the hospital. Get well soon Steve.

By-Law Committee report

A meeting will be scheduled at a later date to review and revise the by-laws.

OLD BUSINESS:

The President of MRTNA did a ride-along with Code Enforcement. It was found that street water drains were found to be clogged by gravel causing flooding. A new ordinance will be created to end gravel in driveways for multi-family buildings as they are being neglected. There is a problem with grass clippings and leaves in the drains clogging them also.

Adopt-a-Street initiative on March 29, 2016, was a great success. Thanks to Steve Stahl, for his amazing job done and also to Jan and Joann. Thanks to you, MRTNA will collect GYR points!

Dock Sign is up and is larger and easy to read. It was installed by Steve Stahl with vandal-proof elements. Thank you Steve for this additional amazing job well done! Thanks to the City of Fort Lauderdale for providing the new sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dixie Highway

DOT and Karen Mendrala from Fort Lauderdale Transportation and Mobility Dept. presented the Dixie Hwy Project at 90%. We were told they are still working on getting necessary right-of-way agreements and permits as they will need to go into driveways a little. Agreements are needed for underground utilities and for money transfer between DOT and the City of Ft. Lauderdale. We were advised that there would be no pavers used, but stamped concrete with a very durable finish. There is no money available for future maintenance. Bids will begin in October 2016 and construction to begin in December 2016. It was suggested we get large mature trees to provide shade and beauty. There are no overhead utility lines on the east side of Dixie and 6 oak and gumbo/limbo trees are proposed. On the west side of Dixie there are utility lines and silver buttonwoods and white/yellow Geiger trees are proposed. Diana wants us to have a celebration for Dixie Highway when construction begins. She would like to bring Broward MPO, which provided funding, DOT engineering and the City of Ft. Lauderdale together, as this is long overdue and is a huge project success for our neighborhood. Diana advised we will not be able to get the pedestrian lights we requested but a similar light with a variation at the bottom of the pole. A motion was made by Debbie Lee to approve this change, and Charles Scheller approved.

N. E. Fourth Avenue

Karen Mendrala from Fort Lauderdale Transportation & Mobility Dept. spoke on and wanted MRTNA feedbacks on the N.E. 4th Avenue car lanes removal and bike lane project. The City's vision is for residents to have an

opportunity “not to have a car” and use public transportation. We were shocked to hear that Broward County is second in the nation for pedestrian deaths crossing our highways. While there was much agreement for improved safety initiatives, there was strong disapproval for removing the car lanes. Several residents expressed concern about traffic congestion and reiterated that car lanes not be removed. N.E. 4th Avenue is an urban corridor with daily peak traffic not only during rush hour but when the high school student population arrives in the morning and departs in the afternoon. Drivers diverting to avoid backups on N Federal and NE Sunrise also travel on N.E. 4th Avenue. Plans for mass transit are far out in the future; current plans to manage congestion are limited to improved traffic signaling on N.E. Sunrise. Diana said nothing is carved in stone and they will consider other design alternatives. The last resort will be to remove the large oak trees. Diana asked for the neighborhood’s support for the current design of lane elimination. Colleen Lockwood made a motion, seconded by Jan Palmer, “requesting another design option be pursued to keep the car lanes.” The majority voted to keep the car lanes in place.

N. E. 13 Street

The N.E. 13 Street Project is now at 90%. There was discussion about the traffic congestion that would be created. It has been suggested that the bike/parking area be flexible for emergency situations. It appears that no feedback is going to be possible at this stage of the project. Construction is to begin late summer or early fall. The removal of car lanes will be from N. E. 9th Avenue west to N. E. 4th Avenue, through the business district. The proposed round-about at Dixie and 13th Street will be large and pedestrians will feel comfortable crossing. Small seating may be possible in the future at the round-about.

At the last CFLCA meeting, Diana Alarcon made a presentation about the new upcoming truck ordinance creating a network of roads in Fort Lauderdale to be used by trucks at certain hours. It will be necessary to have Google change GPS routing to keep trucks out of neighborhoods. The

City is writing down trucks that are cutting through the neighborhood. The time to be set will not interfere with peak traffic. A meeting is planned for May 18th at the Broward Center for Performing Arts. Scholarships are available by calling Christine at 954-828-5226.

We requested a new sidewalk and road improvement be made at the south side entrance of N.E. 16 Street from N.E. 4th Avenue (going east). Diana said money has been allocated to redo a lot of the existing sidewalks first and later to add additional sidewalks.

A discussion about the railroad was made and Diana said the freight trains are going to Port of Miami and the fuel trains are going to Port Everglades. She said we should not be impacted that much with the new train All-Aboard Florida.

The problems concerning Sunrise Boulevard were discussed and Diana said that the City of Ft. Lauderdale and DOT are partnering to fix the existing problems from the beach seagrass to the west sawgrass. There are plans to improve the signaling of the traffic lights on Sunrise Boulevard.

APRIL 30, 2016 is Fort Lauderdale Cares Day.

We are calling for volunteers. MRTNA is planning to clean and prune the entranceway starting at 9:00 a.m. The team is meeting at N.E. corner of N.E. 7 Avenue and 13th Street. We will earn CVC points. Charlie, Jan and Jonathon and myself will volunteer for this event.

April 25, 2016 – CFLCA BOD meeting – at 5:30 p.m. city hall 8th floor cafeteria – Progress of the Ordinance to raise all Fort Lauderdale sea walls will be discussed. At the last meeting, Nancy Gassman spoke about an aggressive push to adopt ordinance by June 2016. It is the city staff's intent to push for minimum heights of seawalls, flooding resilience, continuity, raising seawalls when major repairs or additions are added to existing homes. They are proposing all waterfront homes and city seawalls be in compliance by 2035.

Upcoming Meetings:

Crime Meeting – Wednesday April 20, 2016 – from 6:30 to 7:30 pm – Iron Workers Union Hall, 1201 NE 7th Avenue – Fort Lauderdale FL 33311

BOD Meeting – MONDAY MAY 9, 2016 at 5:30 PM – location TBD

General Meeting – THURSDAY MAY 12, 2016 at 6:00 PM -
Middle River Terrace Park Pavilion

Meeting adjourned: 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Palmer, Secretary