



**MIDDLE RIVER TERRACE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 4561
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338

www.middleriverterrace.org

MIDDLE RIVER TERRACE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.

GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY JUNE 16, 2016

MRT PARK PAVILION

General Meeting Called to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Tony Fiori and Colleen Lockwood

Approval of Minutes dated May 12, 2016: Joann Block and Colleen Lockwood

OFFICERS REPORTS:

Treasurer

Beginning Balance:	6,368.71
Expenses:	FPL <u>10.62</u>
Ending Balance:	6,358.09

Police Report

	April	March
Residential Burglaries	2	4
Vehicle Theft	1	3
(keys left in cars in all cases)		
1 arrest of bicyclist with crack cocaine		

Victoria Park trend — offenders are attempting to break in via garage door openers — fiddling with codes, trying to open doors. Detective Goderstad recommended taking your remote out of your car or keeping your car locked and keeping all valuables including remotes hidden.

Nuisance and Code Abatement – for drug dealing “trap houses”

FLL Police – give address to Det. Goderstad for other suspected drug house

GYR

There will be a hazardous waste drop off at Mills Pond Park on July 23, 2016
They will accept electronic material, unused medicine, shred material and give mulch away.

OLD BUSINESS:

The MRTNA Vice President vacant position was discussed. Due to the former Vice President, Charles Scheller, moving from MRT to Wilton Manors, an interim Vice President is needed. Colleen Lockwood, chair of the crime committee, was unanimously voted to this temporary vacant position. Jan Palmer made the motion; it was approved by Jay Siskin and seconded by Tony Fiori.

Slate of candidates for the new MRTNA Board of Directors nominations are as follows:

Laura Croskeno nominated Colleen Lockwood to the position of President
Tony Fiori nominated Jonathon May to the position of Vice President
Colleen Lockwood nominated Tony Fiori to the position of Treasurer
Laura Croskeno nominated Jan Palmer to the position of Secretary
Laura Croskeno will be Immediate Past President and Government Liaison
All nominations were accepted as presented. Slate was moved.

Colleen - Crime meeting report

Mike Satz, State Attorney General (running for reelection) spoke and said law enforcement and prosecutors have become more specialized since he took office in 1976. He oversees a staff of 511, including 215 Assistant State Attorneys. He said his biggest challenge is retaining staff. Prosecutors' starting salary is \$40,000; after the three-year commitment, many leave to pursue jobs that pay more. He also addressed the issue of juvenile offenders and the concerns raised by residents about the constant turnstile of arrest and release of juveniles. He stated that every citizen has the constitutional right for their voice to be heard. If there are juvenile offenders of particular concern, he recommended speaking up in the courtroom during their arraignment/trial. He also emphasized that the warehousing of juvenile offenders was not a solution and that as a community, we should continue to support and invest in local programs that have been proven to be successful in aiding at-risk and disadvantaged youth. Specific programs mentioned included SOS Children's Villages, PACE School for Girls, and Jack and Jill.

Jonathon - CFLCA report

The zoning director spoke and said new construction should be residential only (townhouse, condo). City is trying to pass 9 categories. The garages on homes can no longer be prominent and take up most of the frontage and more glass is required on the front portion of new homes.

The City is moving forward from developments for older residents to the younger and more vibrant residents. More construction with multi-family and businesses on the bottom floors will be built

Meeting with City Staff - MRT Road Improvements and Beautification Priorities

MRTNA is requesting that all entrances (Sunrise/railroad tracks – N. E. 17th Court – N. E. 16th Street and railroad tracks both sides of N. E. 13th Street including caboose area) be beautified.

The exposed garbage disposals on N. E. 7th Avenue and Dixie Highway need to be relocated and out of sight.

Driveways in MRT at multifamily buildings are in disrepair and must be improved and corrected.

Zoning must be changed to stop additional social services from coming into our neighborhood as there are too many now.

MRT Community Center - The pavilion at the MRT Park is not being used and should be enclosed with a bathroom to be used for monthly meetings, parties and other events,

Serious Children Playground at the MRT Park is needed to help make our park an active park. It is now being used mostly by nonresidents and homeless.

A farmer's market concept can be held at MRT Park.

Another venue needs to be found as the Annie Beck House is not a viable option.

NEW BUSINESS:

MRTNA election of new BOD officers coming up at our next general meeting on July 14, 2016. A party will be held at our next general meeting to thank our present volunteers and the newly elected board. A discussion was held and members volunteered to bring food, drinks and decorations for this party.

Joann reminded everyone how to certify your yard/garden be as a wildlife habitat. Habitats can be a place for birds, mammals, reptiles, or insects. They can be small or large-- as big as a whole back yard or as small as a container garden. For all habitats, there are four essential requirements: food, water, cover, and a place for wildlife to raise their young. Specifically, to qualify for certification, each habitat must have: 3 food sources 1 water source 3 cover and nesting spaces. Visit the National Wildlife Federation webpages (www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certify...) for tips on how to Provide Food, Supply Water, Create Cover, and Give Wildlife a Place to Raise Their Young for homes of all sizes. Additional details are posted on Nextdoor:

https://middleriverterrace.nextdoor.com/news_feed/?post=27202506

Warning Coordinator Meteorologist from the National Weather Service of South Florida Forecast Office will attend our July general meeting to speak about weather/hurricane season. He will talk about emergency readiness required for hurricanes and terror.

Hurricane readiness season is here and 30 hurricane readiness kits will be distributed to our residents attending the July general meeting. Volunteers will distribute 30 of these kits and our Association will earn NCIP points.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

BOD Meeting – Monday, July 11, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. - location to be determined.

General Meeting – Thursday, July 14, 2016, at 6: p.m. and BOD election-day and party at MRT Park pavilion

Meeting adjourned: 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Palmer, Secretary

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