

## Minutes of October 8, 2019 Board Meeting

The meeting, which was held at Hotel Indigo, was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Richard Mones.

Board Members Present: Jim Lampl, David Lough, Richard Mones, Sue Stewart, Moriah Taliaferro and Debbie Trice. Absent: Howard Davis, Grace Howl, Ryan McBride. Visitors: none

### **Board activities since the last meeting:**

Online vote on MOTION: To change the date of the next Community Meeting from Nov. 13 to Nov. 14 to enable Steven Cover to be on the panel with his staff. (Motion: Richard; Second: David; Passed)

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Secretary's Report & Approval of Minutes**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of September 10 by acclamation.

#### **Treasurer and Replacement of Treasurer**

Report made by Richard interim Treasurer. Sue now can sign checks in Richard's absence. We will plan to discuss treasury procedures (e.g., number of signatures required; when an expenditure can be made without Board authorization) when we develop and document Board procedures.

Richard reported that our final paperwork for the Website Neighborhood Grant was accepted and we should receive reimbursement for our \$1,600 expenditure next week.

#### **President's Report**

Richard stressed the need for RDA to be relevant to the neighborhood. Key to this is holding neighborhood events. We should seek to partner with others to do this.

#### **Next RDA Board Election / Bylaws Modification**

Richard distributed two proposed amendments to the Bylaws to all Board Members on September 25, in compliance with the amendment procedure in the bylaws.

After discussion, the proposed amendment to convert to 2-year staggered Board terms was put on hold "for now." (Motion: Richard; Second: Sue; Passed)

The proposed amendment establishing a timetable for appointing a Nominating Committee and specifying the committee's duties passed unanimously (Motion: Richard; Second: Sue.)

Further discussion after the vote led to proposals to amend the newly amended bylaw at a future meeting:

- A member of the Board shall be Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- Remove the prohibition against a member of the Nominating Committee running for the Board. Add a requirement for Nominating Committee members to recuse themselves from further participation on the committee after they become candidates.

## **Agenda for November 14 Community Meeting**

Agenda will include:

- RDA Committee updates and progress reports, including schedule and procedures for January, 2020, Board elections (30 minutes)
- Q&A by Sue Stewart with City Traffic and Transportation staff, Colleen McGue, Megan Lui and Steven Cover (30 minutes)
- Audience traffic/transportation questions submitted on 3x5 cards (15 minutes)
- Audience questions to RDA Board submitted on 3x5 cards (15 minutes)

When the agenda is set, we will create and distribute a flyer to advertise the meeting. A Board member will approach Arcos and Elan building management to get them involved. How do we get more young people to attend? Can/should we make meetings more "fun or entertaining"?

We will again encourage attendees to gather at Mandeville after the meeting.

The next "One Question Survey" will ask whether a different meeting time or meeting on the weekend is preferable. This could affect the time/date of our January Community Meeting.

### **Committee Reports: Business Alliance**

Jim reported on meeting with Heather, CEO of the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce where David presented what RDA is doing. Jim obtained from the City a listing of the businesses in Rosemary District, which he gave to Debbie.

### **Committee Reports: Communications**

Debbie reported that the new website and logo will go live on October 15. The October Newsletter will focus on the new website content and features.

### **Committee Reports: Community Relations**

Sue reported on meeting with SPD. They applauded their accomplishments regarding homelessness; Sue plans to ask follow-up questions in the future on plans to address unresolved issues. SPD is hiring a civilian to be the public's first point of contact, rather than rotating officers through the task, to improve customer service. Sue became aware of a "burnout" problem in SPD while she attended the SPD 101 course.

### **Committee Reports: Events / Programs**

Moriah reported Ryan's discovery that holding the Chalk Festival in Rosemary District would require a financial commitment well beyond our capability. We agreed to abandon that effort.

### **Committee Reports: Open Space**

David reported that Traffic issues are becoming a high priority due to the impending construction of the roundabout at Fruitville & US-41, and development of Sarasota's Transportation Master Plan.

He described the Pace Car Program which the City requires before it will perform a traffic study in the neighborhood. Signatures from 100 homeowners are needed. MOTION to ask the City to print signature forms with a "return by date" of Nov. 15. (M:David; S:Debbie; Passed)

David suggested that we promote the Public Input feature of "Sarasota in Motion" to make sure Rosemary District residents' ideas on walking, biking and driving in the neighborhood get considered.

David will draft a letter of support for Sarasota School of Arts & Sciences's Grant Proposal to build an Urban Garden on campus.

Arlington Park Neighborhood Association is requesting CCNA support for its opposition to "High Density" development. Our discussion on whether RDA should support or abstain was inconclusive.

**Committee Reports: The Bay**

No report

**Committee Reports: Website Neighborhood Grant**

Debbie distributed two alternative letterhead suggestions featuring our new logo. MOTION to use the form that extends across the page. (M:Richard; S:Moriah; Passed) This had been distributed via email to Board members as Letterhead\_new.jpg

**Committee Reports: Zoning**

Concern was expressed about the "Palsar" property — a parcel from Cocoanut to 41 and from Fruitville to Blvd of the Arts. Several years ago, the comprehensive plan designation for the property was changed, allowing the zoning to be changed from DTE to DTC to accommodate plans for the major portion of the parcel. Plans for that project/property have changed, but the ability to change the zoning from DTE to DTC remains and can be requested by the property owner to the City Commission. It allows the developer to build a 10-story building and 50 units per acre while DTE allows 5 stories with 25 units per acre.

Richard will ask Steven Cover if it is possible for the portion to revert to its prior DTE zoning.

**New Business**

None

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm.**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 12 at 5:30–7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Trice, Secretary