

# St Armands Residents Association

## Minutes

### February 3rd, 2009

The regular meeting of the St. Armands Residents Association was held on Tuesday, February 3rd, 2009 at the St. Armands Key Lutheran Church, classroom #2. Earl Scott being in the Chair and Acting Secretary, Liz Sparr present. Board members present were Hytham Bakr, Ken Pippin and David Day (by teleconference), Tom Blake, Judy Heath, Jan Haynes, William Rex, Jay Sparr and Ed Pinto. Jesse Hannon along with guest Lisa Dexter were also in attendance. President Earl Scott brought the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M. and welcomed guests.

Minutes for the meeting held on January 6th, 2009 were presented by email and approved.

The Treasury Report was presented by Bill Rex and approved.

Earl recognized Ken Pippin and David Day. Bill Rex was presented with a plaque for his outstanding leadership and service to the association.

Traffic Calming – Dina and Graeme Malloch have volunteered to provide the pavers for the medians. However, labor costs have to be determined and Alex Davis Shaw has been advised. Joanna Grace's sketches for suggested median plantings were presented but will have to be reviewed and approved by the city based on the city providing the water meters. Hytham Bakr suggested using reclaimed water but it was determined that it is not available.

The SOS Fund – Earl Scott presented us with his reconciled review of all fund data in both the Community Foundation and the Star account. He cross referenced all receipts and felt comfortable with his accounting. He is suggesting that all receipts and accounting files be held for a period of seven years under Bill Rex's care. The motion was passed unanimously to close the SOS Fund. However the Community Foundation account will stay in place for any future repairs.

The St. Armands Dinner – Judy Heath reviewed the attendance and current accounting. According to her books eight two residents had reserved; sixty-five had paid whereas six still owed, ten were no charge (invited guests such as the Commissioners) and two reserved and cancelled. Judy will follow up on those residents with outstanding bills. A March/April resident event (Spring Fling) was discussed and Judy Heath will look into the cost of renting the Marina Jack Bay Boat for an evening dinner cruise. It was also discussed that plans should start now for next year's dinner event and Liz & Jay Sparr have volunteered to find out the cost of changing the venue to the Sarasota Yacht Club, assuming the club house will be finished in time. It was also discussed that we try to book Vern Buchanan as the guest speaker for this event.

St. Armands Residents Telephone Directory – in order to keep the expense down the initial telephone book will a soft cover photo copied list that will also include a letter asking residents to join plus a "tear out" membership form and will be distributed to all residents. Also included will be a letter informing residents of our upcoming Spring Fling which will advise them that we have reserved block seating and that it will be up to each individual to reserve and pay for themselves. It was also suggested by Jan Haynes that an e-mail go out prior to the phone book alerting all residents to hold the date for the upcoming Spring Fling. Bill Rex still feels that as much as e-mail is a good way to advise residents of upcoming events, flyers door to door are also still important.

Ken Pippin attended the CCNA Meeting and the following topics were discussed:

The charter change to allow two more commissioners plus an elected Mayor with the town manager being appointed by the Mayor. Their view was that this would mean more representation for the people by adding two additional commissioners. The additional cost would be anywhere from \$250 thousand to \$ 1 million per year for these changes. An election would take place this upcoming March. Ken Pippin doesn't see any reason to get the association involved at this time.

Jan Haynes and Hytham Bakr attended the LMR Meeting and the following topics were discussed:

Jan presented the association's ideas on traffic calming, irrigation of the medians and the need for clean and uniform sidewalks and the costs involved. It was then suggested by Marty Rappaport that the residents association should form a "RID" such as the one for the Business Association. This ad valorem tax of 1-2% (roughly \$ 100-200 per year per household) would provide the funds to pay for these improvements. Ed Pinto then brought up a valid point that forming this RID would only feed the problem of higher taxes. It was then decided that we should seek funds through other means such as grants\*

Also discussed were the Special Events Criteria (approved) the Master Plan (approved) and the challenges with Christmas spending due to the change in the ordinance banning the taking of money at the Taste of St.Armands and other such events. This money would ordinarily have been donated into the Christmas Fund.

Earl Scott, Bill Rex and Carole Krohn attended the Downtown connectivity meeting. Longboat and Lido keys feel that this plan for the downtown “ roundabouts” is moving forward way to quickly and Dick Clap in particular feels more data is needed before he can render an opinion. It was decided that the St.Armands Key Residents Association would hang back at this point and let the other two keys fight it.

Other business:

\* Grants : Marlene Resnick needs to have a board member on the Beautification committee and it was decided to wait until Marlene Lancaster’s return in order to discuss it.

Earl Scott will send out e-mail to all board members with the official listing.

Ed Pinto stated that we are out of brochures for the statues and does the board want to continue to the pamphlet? SunTrust paid for the \$3500 cost but we may need to find a new sponsor and Jan Haynes suggested looking for an educational grant whereas Ed Pinto suggested doing an audio version of the pamphlet (via cell phone) utilizing the Sarasota History Live. The motion was passed to have Ed Pinto follow up on this idea with SunTrust.

Jesse Hannon gave a brief overview of his meeting of the neighborhood watch training.

Liz & Jay Sparr gave a synopsis of their attendance at the BID meeting in which the Valet parking issues were discussed and resolved (two locations at the Lutheran Church and at Cork instead of at the circle).

Lastly Earl Scott motioned to vote Ed Pinto back onto the board and it was unanimously agreed upon by all present.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by: Liz Sparr, Acting Secretary