

St Armands Residents Association

Minutes

February 2, 2010

The regular meeting of the St. Armands Residents Association was held on Tuesday, February 2nd, 2010 at the St. Armands Key Lutheran Church, classroom #2, President Graeme Malloch being in the Chair and Secretary, Liz Sparr present. Board members present were Jay Sparr, Bill Rex, Earl Scott, Judy Heath, Jan Haynes, Dina Malloch, Tom Blake, Jan Lange. Non-board attendees were Carol Krohn and Jesse Hannman.

President Malloch brought the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M. and welcomed all.

Minutes for the meeting held on January 5th, 2010 were presented and approved.

The Treasury Report was presented by Bill Rex and approved.

Topics discussed were as follows:

1. **The Lido Park trail development and the accompanying parking lot** – Lisa and Dan Dexter presented to the board an outline of the city's plans for an asphalt trail that would be developed in South Lido Park. Plans for this trail were originally started in 2002 but held up because of cost. However there are now Federal Stimulus monies available and the city is moving forward to get this trail built. They have added a proposed 51-space parking lot across from the beach access at the Ritz Hotel. The Dexters don't believe this is necessary and came to the board to make us aware of these plans and to ask for our support in fighting this added expenditure (which would have to be city funded). They believe that beach replenishment is the reason the city has added this lot. By adding this lot the city could then ask for more federal or state dollars to extend the replenishment all the way down south Lido beach to at least the Ritz Carlton Hotel We did not come to any formal agreement on this and will discuss at a later date.
2. **Lt. Karr** – Unfortunately Lt. Karr was unable to attend this month's meeting but it was decided that we would send him an e-mail reminder every month so that he is aware of when and where our monthly meetings will be held.
3. **Budget** – Earl presented the 2010 budget, which was approved and accepted.
4. **Statue Repair** – Graeme spoke with Ed Pinto about the contract with the city. It appears that the contract drawn up by the city refers to "Maintenance" rather than "repairs". Graeme is drafting a letter to the city Manager, Robert Bartolotta in which he will stress the need for the city to reimburse the Residents Association for the repairs that have been made year to date as well as the need for the city to take full responsibility for repairing and maintaining the statues. He is also asking that the city go after the vandals to the fullest extent of the law. As part of our overall discussion on the statues it was decided that we should look for an
5. "expert" who would assess what a long-term maintenance plan should be and how much it should cost. We would then go to the city and request that they contract with a maintenance crew to take care of the statues on an ongoing basis. Bill will supply Graeme with a list and cost of the repairs that were made for 2009 and also the upcoming repairs/cost for 2010, which Graeme will submit to the city for reimbursement. Jan Haynes also suggested that we send a letter to Bill Hallacy stating that we request that they go after the man that vandalized the statue by

going after his homeowner's insurance policy.

The final consensus of the board was that we:

- A. Recoup some of the money we have already spent on repairs.
 - B. Not do any repairs without city approval and commitment to reimburse us.
 - C. Work with the city on an ongoing plan for potential breakage and repair.
 - D. Earl will work on replacing on the lights with new batteries.
6. **The Phone Directory** –It was discussed who would receive the final directory. It was decided that members and advertisers would get a copy of the book. Proofs would also be available for the advertisers but unless there was something radically wrong, then they could not make any changes. All artwork and payments must be received no later than February 15th.
 7. **2010 membership report from the committee** – Jan Haynes was happy to report that memberships are coming in at quite a good rate with 60 new members.
 8. **Feedback on the Newsletter** –As always Bill did a phenomenal job in putting the newsletter together. Reaction has been very good and we should have a good turn out at the dinner. Graeme suggested that going forward we should have two newsletters- one summer and one winter and name them so.
 9. **Medians and Speed Tables** – The car crash into the first median on the west side of North Washington was discussed. The city moved quickly to erect the downed signage and also the Palm Tree. It was also brought up that there are car counter cables on the East side of North Washington. Earl will call the city to find out what their purpose is. The new circle traffic lanes were discussed. Tom believes that this is a direct influence by Long Boat Key to have more lanes available to them to get over to LBK. We do not have proof of this but we are trying to find out who made the decision and why? Carol Krohn brought up her concerns about the LBK Key Club plans and the trucks that will be taking the North Washington Street access to Long Boat Key. We will try to see what plans the city has to handle this problem. Jan Haynes questioned why the flashing Orange light had disappeared from N.Blvd of the Presidents and Madison Avenue. Carol Krohn also read us a letter from the Mayor of LBK concerning the proposed roundabouts downtown. It appears that \$ 1.5 million is being taken away from the slip road at 41 and Gulfstream in order to add to the roundabout at 10th street and 41. Earl will check on all these issues and get back to the board.
 10. **Dinner Plans**- Bill congratulated Jay for working out a really great deal with the Sarasota Yacht Club, which included a \$40 per person meal (\$ 35 to members with the additional \$5.00 being absorbed by the association) and no sales tax! Drink prices will be based on rounded up numbers and sold at \$2.00 per ticket. We will have a sign at the door stating what each beverage costs (Liz or Jan will work this up). The Yacht Club Bar will also have this sign so that bartenders will be aware of the pricing. The dress code was brought up and Jay will check with the club to find out what we should state on the invite. The Dinner Menu/form needs to be made up and distributed the week of 2/08/10. The program/Bio was discussed and it was agreed that we continue with the folded sheet. All Bios for the 2010 board need to be submitted as soon as possible. The Guest list was also discussed and the following will be invited to attend the dinner:
Commissioners Clapp, Kirshner and Turner and City Manager Rob Bartolotta
Guest Speaker Joe Barbetta
Police Representative –Dee
Lt. Karr
Main Representative form the Firehouse
Diane Corrigan

The other items discussed for the dinner were the menu/dinner form, format for the committee notes/bios.

11. **LMR Meeting** – the meeting according to Earl, Jay and Jan centered on the statues, focusing on how to fund future statue needs beyond what the city may perform, i.e. repairs, cameras, etc. LMR (Diana and Marty) requested a list of prior SOS contributors for the intent of explaining the current environment and asking if they would like to make additional contributions.

At the meeting, we did not commit to release contributor names but agreed to bring up the request at our Association board meeting. Earl asked Ed's opinion on this issue since he was the source of much if not all the contributions and if he thought this would break his trust with the contributors. In short, Ed said going back to contributors would probably be okay, but we should do it ourselves rather than making it a joint effort with LMR. Earl feels that we need to discuss this further. Jan and Jay were also advised on how and where we can get some grants and Graeme and Jan will move forward in writing up the grant forms.

12. **By Laws** – David Day is currently in Canada and could not update us on any revisions to the by laws.

13. **Neighborhood Watch** – Jesse has been kindly volunteering for our neighborhood watch at all meetings with the city. He has done a wonderful job but now he has decided to step down. We thank him for all his efforts. Jan Haynes is going to talk to her husband Terry to see if he would take on this responsibility. The meeting concluded at 6.40pm