

MINUTES of
BELLE ISLE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (BIRA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 11, 2005
Card Room at 3 Island Avenue

Board Members Present

Josh Fisher
Barbara Frank
Herb Frank
Michael Glogower
Keith Hark
Nancy Liebman
Toby Maxwell
Sandra Money

Other Attendees

None.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Herb Frank.

Approval of the April 13, 2005 Board Minutes

Sandy made a motion to approve the Minutes; Toby seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Parking Permit Update

Herb reported that the Belle Island Residential Parking was approved by the Commissioners. In 30 days they will start notifying residents; within another 30 days the signs will be in place. For the first 2 weeks, cars without permits will receive a notice; for the second 2 weeks, they will be ticketed; thereafter, they will be towed.

This information has been sent to each Building on Belle Island for posting. It was agreed that there is nothing more for BIRA to do on this issue.

Crosswalk at 17th & Bay

Fred Beckman and the Chief Engineer from Miami-Dade met with 8 to 10 representatives of Belle Island and Sunset Harbor last week. They agreed that it is a bad situation and agreed to have Engineers review it and make recommendations within 2 weeks. They estimate it will take 6 months to re-surface and re-mark the roads, put in appropriate signage, and install a pedestrian button to stop traffic in all directions. They are also considering installing a median, depending on the Engineering report.

Park Timing

Herb has been in touch with Diana Trettin, who has negotiated with the engineering company.

There is still a conflict about whether or not to provide a walkway all around the park, which might delay start-up for another year. Nancy urged everyone to contact County Commissioner Bruno Barriero (Bruno@miamidade.gov) expressing concern about the delay in starting this work. Toby will follow-up with Diana over the summer on this issue

Collins Canal

A \$1 million repair and beautification of the Collins Canal is underway. At the meeting with Fred Beckman, he was asked if that applies to the part of the Canal between West and Belle Island. He was to check and reply. Toby will follow up with him.

Moored Boats in the Neighborhood

Nancy reported that the proposed Ordinance will have a second reading before the Commissioners on May 18 at 5:20 p.m. Although there were many boater objections, she believes that it will be passed and funded in the upcoming budgets. She will advise Josh, so that he can update the website after the meeting.

Design of the Pumping Station

Communication by e-mail indicates that the building will be for waste disposal and will be 19 feet high. Hiram Siaba, the engineer, stated that at the highest point above ground the pumping station will only be 12 ft. Toby agreed to speak to the Park Engineers about the height and covering it from view with foliage.

Website Activities

Josh was again told what an outstanding job he is doing. He reported increases in the number of hits after the site appears in newsletters and newspapers. Herb reported that an individual from Costa Brava communicated his interest in joining the Board via the website. Michael said that he is moving to Kentucky and assumed the person wants to replace him. Michael will speak with the President of his Board of Directors for selection of his successor.

New Business

It was decided that the Spa is improving in appearance. It is scheduled to open this July.

Next BIRA Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will take place in the beginning of November. The exact date will be set by e-mail in September.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Prepared by:

Sandra K. Money, Secretary