

Tarpon River Civic Association
Board Meeting minutes
November 12th, 2020
Recorded and submitted by Marita Flam

Purpose; Create a forum where issues impacting Tarpon River neighborhood in particular and the City of Fort Lauderdale in general may be discussed; where ways to improve the quality of life in the Neighborhood and the City may be agreed upon; and where appropriate action may be taken to implement what has been agreed upon.

Mission; “To Improve the Quality of Life in the Tarpon River Neighborhood”

Tarpon River Civic Association Board of Directors wants to share our commitment to equitable and respectful treatment of all individuals everywhere and specifically within the Tarpon River Civic Association Boundaries. We understand and acknowledge the problem of systemic racism and discriminatory practices across our country toward many different groups and particularly towards Black Americans. Additionally, we want to reaffirm our commitment to creating a safe and inclusive community in Tarpon River. We recognize we have much work to do and we are committed to cultivate space for ongoing conversations to ensure our community continues to thrive as a place where all feel welcome.

Welcome and Check in;

The virtual meeting was held on Zoom and was called to order 7.04 P.M. by President Allison Foster.

The following Board of Directors were present:

Allison Foster - President
Bruce Cummings - Vice President
Marie McLaughlin - Treasurer
Janet Scaper - Director
Jay Schechtman - Director
Mike Stone - Director
David Rose - Director
Marita Flam - Director

Officer's Report;

President;

-Approval of changes of Master plan: Ben will continue to research borders for the Transition Zone. Dividing line for density is not clear. Railroad was suggested. Downtown has no height limits.

- We will focus on New Business tonight.

Treasurer;

-TRCA has currently 191members.

- Money Market and checking account amounts were not available. No checks have been written.

Old Business;

-Last batch of 1000 membership mailings will be distributed by USPS next week.

-Brucie is looking at street light options.

-Janet has been in touch with the city regarding River Lofts by Maduro Group (SW 3rd Ave x SW 5th St). Nothing seems to be given to the city yet, but apparently we are not kept in the loop.

New Business;

-Raintree River Lofts: (aka Raintree Riverwalk Residences) have started over with plans. It will come to DRC on 11/24. Janet will arrange a Zoom meeting in between TRCA and the city before that to voice our concerns. The space for two towers is very limited, also building height should come down. With the previous version of the project, Marina Lofts, they were approved for 36 stories. As a board, we are concerned about the damage for the namesake Raintree and its root system. We will inform the Tarpon River community about the project. Across the road, the Esplanade board is currently split 50/50 with their opinion.

-Whiddon property: Board is concerned how our approval for the zoning change would open the door to plans to be changed and up to 5 story buildings could be built. Many details we've asked from Whiddons still need to be clarified. We will bring the plans to the community via Zoom on December 2nd, and base our opinion on feedback from the community and further details. Pina del Rio leading to the property is a private road. We want that to be a public road with a sidewalk, giving Tarpon River residents access to the one acre wooded park, including parking. This is our top priority. Considerable amount of established shade trees will be lost. We want to know how they will be replaced and how the landscaping in general will be. Various utilities on SE 9th Ave need to be removed and replaced for the right turn lane. Whiddons have to confirm a timeline for the process, including a sidewalk, considering that construction already will add traffic.

-Brucie informed the board that 4 bridges in the Tarpon River area need to get painted. Last time we paid the artist \$2 600 + materials and permit. We will look into getting money from the district or city. For Andrews Ave we could also split the cost with Downtown CA.

-Jay suggested adding two Tarpon River signs to the newly refurbished roundabout on 7th Street. The board likes wooden looking white/green signs marking our parks. Marie will inquire about them.

Upcoming meetings and events;

December 2, Whiddon property Community meeting

December 3, BOD meeting

December 5, community yard sale

December 10, General meeting

Adjournment;

Meeting was adjourned at 9.06PM