

Laurel Park Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 22, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 at Matt Arcari's residence.

Board Members Present

Matt Arcari - President
Betsy Sublette - Treasurer
Laurie Hall - Secretary (via Zoom)
Ron Kashden (via Zoom)
Dan Bridinger
Juliette Reynolds

Agenda Items

Board meeting minutes for Feb 22, 2021 were approved by acclamation.

The Treasurer's report was approved by acclamation. Current balance is \$11,093.96

LP Membership donations total \$3,300 to date.

The City installed irrigation at the Lift Station on Ohio Place. They also replanted the area with jasmine and replaced landscaping that did not survive without the irrigation.

There was a brief discussion on the accident at Morrill St last month.

We discussed the resurgence of the potential location of the Sarasota Orchestra in Payne Park. Ron will keep us updated as things progress.

Picnic in the Park event is scheduled for April 10th. Jolie is organizing the event. Jolie has posted signs in the neighborhood promoting the event. Laurie sent an email blast last week. Another email blast should go out April 7th, the Wed before the event.

Matt has lined up a graphic designer to work on the next edition of the Laurel Park Newsletter. There will be at least 4 articles and some advertising to help pay for it.

The Board discussed the bayou cleanup. Dan is leading the effort, however, so far he has not been able to find the responsible organization. There are three different bodies each blaming the other. Sarasota County is the most responsive. Legacy home builders have done a lot of damage and are nowhere to be found. The booms need to be removed because they are not effective and actually may be detrimental to the environment. The kayak launch is barely usable as the water is murky and unsanitary. The Board agreed that the waterway probably needs to be dredged. Ron said there is grant money available and we should try to submit a request to help pay for the dredging. Betsy has historic photos of the bayou prior to Legacy homes building adjacent to the bayou. Ron will look for possible grants and ecological agencies for additional assistance.

Laurie resigned from the Board.

Summary of Action Items

1. Dan - pursue bayou cleanup, identify organizations willing to expedite the cleanup(Sarasota County, Coastal Waterways, and environmental organizations)
2. Ron - look for grants and agencies to bolster our efforts pertaining to bayou cleanup
3. Ron - continue to monitor Sarasota Orchestra relocation, possibly to Payne Park
4. Matt - coordinating newsletter
5. Matt - invite new board members

Next board meeting scheduled for 04/26/2021, 6pm.

Meeting adjourned 7:00pm