

Laurel Park Neighbor Association
Board Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2022

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM at Matt Arcari's residence, 1855 Oak Street

Board Members Present

Matt Arcari, President	Ron Kashden
Betsy Sublette, Treasurer	Juliette Reynolds
Annette Liggett, Secretary	Cindy Taylor
Steve Fantauzzo	

Board Minutes

Ron moved to approve LPNA Board meeting minutes of March 21, 2022. Motion approved. The April, 2022 LPNA Board meeting was cancelled, thus no minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Following is the current Treasurer's report.

Current balance = \$13,189.49

Credits

Membership = **\$421.62**

Expenses

Picnic in Park

Band = \$700.00

Face Painter = \$200.00

Miscellaneous = \$235.66

TOTAL **\$1,135.66**

New Business

Neighborhood Partnership Grant - Ron moved to approve that Jolie McInnis submit a Neighborhood Partnership Grant to the City for help in funding next year's neighborhood events. Motion approved.

Tokay Gekos - Betsy reported several residents complaining of young men roaming Laurel Park late at night capturing Tokay Geckos and trespassing on private property. Ron agreed to follow up with the Sarasota Police Dept. and to include an alert/report of the situation in an upcoming email blast to members.

City Commission Update - Ron reported that Monday night the City Commission put forth a proposal to increase affordable housing within the City limits. After considerable discussion/ comments, Commissioners agreed to take out the portion eliminating building height limits, however, the following changes remain: creation of a land use designation along the city's major traffic corridors to allow for higher density for more affordable housing units, staff approval for projects that contain affordable housing and a new zoning district in the East Park downtown neighborhood. Staff expects to receive state approval with revisions back for Commission consideration late summer/early fall, 2022.

Ron suggested the Board send a letter to Planning Director, Steven Cover for clarification of any potential changes/elimination to the current Laurel Park Overlay District requirements for community workshops and appeals. Steve moved that Ron draft a letter and circulate to the Board for revisions/editing. Motion approved.

Old Business

Transient Rentals - Ron reported 1670 Laurel Street continues to book 2-day rentals at this property and he has once again forwarded rental documentation to Hannah Chabica, code compliance officer for vacation rentals. He will continue to monitor this case.

Newsletter - Cindy reported she continues to work on putting together the newsletter and encouraged others to forward their news items to her as soon as possible.

Neighborhood Initiative Grant - Ron reported the grant for the Oak Street median beautification project was approved and should be completed sometime next year.

Traffic Calming - Steve reported he is working on complaints that the Rawls/Cherry intersection is dangerous and needs safety mirrors/signs installed.

Laurel Park - Betsy mentioned a need for replenishing the park's dog bag dispenser . She also reported park patrons' concerns that the gazebo needs rehabbing. Ron agreed to contact Parks and Recreation for any scheduled gazebo improvements

Laurel Park Historical District Signs - It was agreed to request two new Laurel Park historical signs: 1) Corner of Oak/Rawls, 2) in the refurbished median at Oak/So. Osprey Ave. Ron agreed to forward this request to City staff.

Summary of Action Items

Matthew

- Send thank you flowers to Jolie for work on Picnic in the Park.
- Notify Jolie McInnis of board approval for City Partnership Grant.
- Forward list of newsletter content to board members.

Ron

- Send email blast to members regarding:
 1. Replenishing park doggie bags
 2. Trespassing alert re: Tokay gecko catchers
 3. Successful grant for Oak Street median trees,
 4. Property rental opportunities
- Circulate Steve Cover letter to Board
- Contact City regarding LP historical signs, traffic calming signs, park gazebo rehab.

Cindy

- Continue work on newsletter

Juliette

- Proofread newsletter

Next board meeting: **Monday, June 20, 2022** at Matt Arcari's residence, 1855 Oak St.
Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Liggett, Secretary