



MERRITT ISLAND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

JUNE 15, 2006 MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sandee Natowich, Chairman
Marcus Herman, Vice-Chairman
Alice Bubeck
Ozella Bowles
Fran Quattrocchi
Susan Hall

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dick Van Epp
Betsy Keenan

AGENCY STAFF

Greg Lugar, MIRA Executive Director

GUEST

Al Cadorin

NEXT REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY 20, 2006, 3:00 P.M., MERRITT ISLAND GOVERNMENT CENTER, 2575 NORTH COURTENAY PARKWAY, ROOM 205, MERRITT ISLAND.

Chairman Natowich called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. All were present except those indicated above.

The minutes of the April 20, 2006, meeting were reviewed.

MOTION MADE BY ALICE BUBECK, SECONDED BY OZELLA BOWLES, APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2006, MIRA BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 1 – Discussion/Approval Re: Beautification Award to Tommy & Susie Enlow’s Property - 106-130 E. Merritt Island Causeway, Merritt Island, and Presentation of Commercial Façade Grant Completion Sign

Sandee Natowich asked if Tommy Enlow had been paid. Greg Lugar advised that they have been paid for the work completed on the two parcels. Ms. Natowich noted that she only has one problem with the property, which is the pole painted many colors situated on the corner of the lot. Ms. Natowich stated that she believes the pole is for street lighting (guide pole); they need to find out if the pole belongs to FP& L or FDOT. Tommy Enlow is not able to do anything with this person and he is going to have to go for an eviction. Susan Hall asked if Jack West was called because he is the one in charge of Brevard and he would at least delegate it to the person we need to talk to. Ms. Natowich stated she didn’t know if Jack West had been called and it is a good suggestion. It will be recommended to the MIRA board.

Ms. Natowich stated they need to pick a date for the Beautification Award. The board agreed to present the award Friday, June 30th, and the recipient would have the sign through July. Ms. Natowich stated the MIRA staff would contact Tommy Enlow regarding the June 30 date. Fran Quattrocchi recommended 10:00 a.m. for Tommy Enlow and 10:30 a.m. for Norm Boucher. Ms. Natowich recommended that they would like to present the Commercial Façade Improvement Grant Award sign along with the Beautification Award on that same day. She asked who would be bringing the two signs and banners to the site for a photo op. Mr. Lugar stated that staff would take care of that.

MOTION MADE BY SANDEE NATOWICH, SECONDED BY MARCUS HERMAN FOR NOMINATION OF TOMMY ENLOW'S PROPERTY FOR THE BEAUTIFICATION AWARD AND PRESENTATION OF THE CFIP AWARD CEREMONY. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Marcus Herman commented that he wants to talk to FDOT to find out what their responsibility is as far as the right-of-way in front of the Enlow property and Mr. Herman's property. Mr. Herman stated they need to know what can and cannot be done. The CVS across the street is all green and he believes it is their property because the sidewalk is close to the road and FDOT only has so much property on that side. Susan Hall said FDOT will allow you to put irrigation between the back of the curb and the sidewalk but if it's a narrow strip, they want you to do it with a drip system. A bigger strip like the one in the photograph may be allowed to be sprayed. Ms. Natowich stated the problem is they keep cutting this corner and have pervious material there, so she's not sure how far they could bring out the grass. Mr. Herman commented the pervious material looks better than dying grass. Mr. Lugar advised that the board would like to know what the FDOT would or wouldn't allow the owner to do in those areas. Mr. Herman stated FDOT came out today and mowed over anything and everything. He tries to pick up paper every day, but once they mow over paper, there are a hundred pieces there. Mr. Lugar wondered if they wouldn't turn it over to the Agency with some kind of maintenance agreement. Ms. Hall stated they would give you a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) or something similar. Mr. Lugar stated they have JPA for the medians on SR 520. The County Road and Bridge Department has a contract with a vendor to maintain those areas. MIRA entered into a JPA many years ago and just renewed that agreement for S.R. 520 last year; however, it probably doesn't include the areas being discussed. Owners could possibly enter into their own agreement if they agree to maintain it and perhaps make their own improvements such as irrigation and landscaping agreed to by FDOT. Ms. Hall stated plans have to be submitted with all the legal standards shown. They will give them to you to put on the plans. Mr. Herman stated if the board had known about this option, they could have asked Tommy Enlow about the section up front and told him FDOT would let him plant some grass at the curb and offered to help him. Mr. Enlow perhaps would have been interested. Ms. Hall commented regarding the big picture of MIRA's beautification projects, until these areas are addressed, we are making great progress with the buildings themselves, but the whole streetscape is lacking. Ms. Natowich stated if the owners enter into a JPA with MIRA, it could be part of grant monies. That would include landscaping as part of a larger project. As it stands right now, MIRA can't offer grant monies, which is a shame because we have the money. Ms. Hall stated its like the door mat out front, it sets the tone. Consider the landscape in Winter Park as compared to MIRA's. Ms. Natowich stated they have to find a way to do

that because it is within the Agency's responsibility to look at this. Greg Lugar advised that he would contact Jack West and Loren Rapport about this issue and report back at the next meeting. Mr. Herman recommended photos before and after improvements to show that is the only eyesore left on those particular improvements. Ms. Natowich stated that Mr. Herman approached the Agency regarding the median long ago and got a thumb's down. Ms. Hall commented that she believes Jack West does not like spray heads in these bushes, but prefers underground watering. Soaker hoses in two foot wide strips are permitted, as well as pipes in the median.

Agenda Item 2 – Discussion/Approval Re: Beautification Award to Norm Boucher , 237 McLeod Street and Presentation of Commercial Façade Grant Completion Sign

MOTION MADE BY SUSAN HALL, SECONDED BY FRAN QUATTROCCHI TO NOMINATE NORM BOUCHER'S PROPERTY FOR THE BEAUTIFICATION AWARD AND PRESENTATION OF THE CFIP AWARD CEREMONY. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 3 – Establishing Beautification Award Date and Time for Hayes Meats Property, 285 Fortenberry Road, Merritt Island

Dick Van Epp Nominated Hayes Meats for the Beautification Award. Ms. Natowich commented she wished they had known that landscaping can only be done as part of a larger project. They did a great job and the dentist next door is keeping up his property, which was already awarded, so it all looks so great. The Committee discussed whether there were enough Beautification Award signs. Mr. Herman asked if there are so many out there that they lose their significance or do they inspire others to follow suit. Ms. Natowich stated an order will be placed for one Beautification Sign from Cocoa Sign Company, which already has the art work and if it's not ready by the 30th, the Beautification Award to Hayes Meat Markets will be presented when that sign is ready.

Ms. Natowich announced Al Cadorin, from United Solar Energy, 41 Rose Street. Mr. Cadorin wants to plant Areca palms to hide unsightly storage containers. They grow thick and narrow and will grow straight up and hiding the containers. Mr. Cadorin will also put in a sprinkler system. Mr. Lugar stated it wasn't put in the original bid. Ms. Natowich stated if he gets the grant, he must put in irrigation and it must be maintained a minimum of five years. Mr. Lugar advised that Mr. Cadorin has a grant for approximately \$7,600 and can go up to \$10,000.00. Mr. Lugar suggested Mr. Cadorin write a letter to the agency with the three different quotes that he has. Ms. Natowich stated he only needs two now. Mr. Herman suggested calling Stevenson Landscaping because he will get back to you within 24 hours. Mr. Cadorin stated the contractors for the parking lot and awnings each raised the price \$500 more and the awnings should be done within the next week. He stated the contractors were ready to work and then raised the bid. Ms. Natowich asked Mr. Cadorin if he started his landscaping yet and he replied that all the palm trees are in. If MIRA wants the Arecas to hide the wall, he can ask the people that put in the palms to do the Arecas. Ms. Hall was asked what she thought about the Arecas and stated she would like to drive by and look at it. Mr. Cadorin commented he is open to suggestions. Ms. Natowich stated she liked the idea of a wrought iron fence until

she realized people could still see the tops of all those storage containers. Mr. Cadorn stated they own two feet past that wall so they should be able to put whatever they want there. It is shown on the survey. The front of the building faces Rose Street and the side of the building faces S.R. 520 which is the side being discussed; the front area by the gate and going around the corner to S.R. 520. Ms. Hall stated she would go by there tomorrow morning. Ms. Natowich stated Mr. Cadorn has almost \$2,400 left and then he gets another 20% over that if the project goes over \$10,000. Mr. Herman disagreed, stating \$10,000 is the maximum. He said it's \$5,000, then it goes to a smaller percentage if you spend \$10,000.00 you get 50%. After that you get 20%. But he's already received more than \$5000.00 so he only gets 20% percent of what he spends. If he were to spend another \$10,000.00 he will get \$2,000.00. Mr. Herman told Mr. Cadorn that he will get 20% of what he spends on these plants and to get two bids. Ms. Hall stated she would call Mr. Cadorn the next day. Mr. Cadorn stated the wall is 6 feet tall and the containers another 4 or 5 feet. Mr. Lugar asked if he has wire on top of the wall. Mr. Cadorn advised they would probably take that wire off since the area is so much better now, less of the wrong element, drugs and robberies.

Agenda Item 4A – Status Report on Existing Commercial Façade Projects

Mr. Lugar briefed the Committee on the following grant projects:

- Ed and Noreen Jaynes, 127 Tangerine Ave, Mr. Lugar advised that Carmel Development is currently working on the project and are close to finishing. They should be sending invoices this week but MIRA hasn't received anything yet.
- Piece of Paradise, 224 Parnell Street also said they were just about finished and ready to send in the paperwork as well.
- Mr. Lugar stated he spoke with United Solar and they still have some elements of the project to complete; he will follow-up on it.
- William Ronat/Linda Brandt, 60 McLeod Street, were out of town this week; staff will follow-up at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 4B – Status of Pending Commercial Façade Grant Applications

Mr. Lugar advised the committee on the following Commercial Façade Grant applications:

- Patty & Company, 120 N. Tropical Trail, has put the application on hold because of personal issues at this time.
- Bob O'Connell's Rental, 270 Borman Street, may move so is not applying at this time.
- A-1 Uniforms, 230 N. Tropical Trail, is not interested at this time. They will contact MIRA if things change.
- Buyers Advantage, 250 N. Tropical Trail, advised that they have taken over the second building, Photography by Cheryl, and will be acquiring estimates.

- He was not able to contact Victory Church, 220 N. Tropical Trail. There are tiles stacked on the roof. They are probably going to do the roof but not sure what else they are going to do.
- Mr. Reynolds, Music Room, 277 McLeod Street, informed us that they are proceeding on their own. They did not want to fill out the paperwork.
- Mr. Crouch, LandMark Plaza, 400 E. Merritt Avenue, informed us that he was working on the application but has not called back yet.

Agenda Item 5 – Code Violation at 350 Hibiscus Avenue – Merritt Park Place

Mr. Lugar stated the lot at 350 Hibiscus Avenue is two parcels. Four trees were cut down without a permit. One of the trees was approximately four feet in diameter, and may have been 200 years old. Mr. Lugar advised that the owner was to appear in front of the Special Magistrate in July.

Agenda Item 6 – S.R. 3 Landscape Project

Mr. Lugar advised the County has a JPA with FDOT for the S.R. 3 Landscaping Project. FDOT will fund \$150,000 for the landscape project to be accomplished by the Roadways & Landscaping Department and assisted by MIRA.

Ms. Natowich presented photos of the successful berm landscaping project at Sykes Creek and Merritt Avenue, which includes Coquina rock around the berm. She stated she removed the signs advertising businesses and will call the contact persons to inform them they cannot post them there. Ms. Natowich advised that Dr. Vinzano has been paying the water bill.

Other Business

In other business, Ms. Natowich advised that the Board of County Commissioners approved the expansion of the MIRA district up S.R. 3 to Lucas Road. Mr. Lugar advised that the Agency already has a commercial façade grant application from a company that recently purchased the Dollar Tree Plaza on S.R. 3. A Mr. Marc Brenner has applied for a \$10,000 grant for the purposes of painting the plaza. Mr. Lugar advised that he is only bringing this topic up for informational purposes and not for consideration to award the grant. Mr. Lugar advised that the Clerk’s Office has raised the issue as to whether existing funds in MIRA’s Trust Fund can legally be used in this new district, since we have several planned expenditures with limited projected revenue from the new district. Mr. Lugar advised that MIRA’s attorney is researching this issue, and, hopefully, it can be resolved by the next meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY OZELLA BOWLES, SECONDED BY ALICE BUBECK. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:25 P.M.