

**MERRITT ISLAND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
MINUTES OF May 22, 2003**

**Members Present:** Sandee Natowich, Vice Chairman  
Michelle Daignault-Ives  
Mike Selig  
Roddy Kring  
Duane Watson  
Bob Barranco

**Members Absent:** Bert Francis, II, Chairman

**Agency Staff:** Doug Robertson, MIRA Consultant  
Barbara Carta, MIRA Special Projects Coordinator  
Staci Van Ness, MIRA Executive Secretary

**County Staff:** Scott Knox, County Attorney

**Guests:** Doug Mead, Mead Construction  
Beth Kring, Merritt Park Place

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 26, 2003, 2:00 P.M., MERRITT ISLAND GOVERNMENT CENTER, 2575 N. COURTENAY PARKWAY, ROOM 205, MERRITT ISLAND.**

Vice Chairman Natowich called the meeting to order. All were present except those indicated above.

The minutes of the April 24, 2003 meeting were reviewed.

**MOTION MADE BY BOB BARRANCO, SECONDED BY DUANE WATSON, APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 24, 2003 BOARD MEETING AS CORRECTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item No. 1 – Request for Approval of Variance for El Tucan Mexican Restaurant**

Mr. Robertson reported that the subject property was the old Captain D's and China Garden Restaurants. The request was for a sign setback variance to reduce the required setback from 15' to 10' from the front property line, the sign would be located 74' from the edge of pavement. Doug Mead of Mead Construction was there to discuss the issue. Mr. Mead presented diagrams that showed where the existing sign setback is and where it is proposed to be. The original sign encroached on the current setback area, but because the sign was previously removed all grandfather rights (for the new owner) were lost. Without the

variance the driveway would have to be relocated, the front parking would have to be removed, and Brevard County parking requirements would not be met.

**MOTION MADE BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, SECONDED BY BOB BARRANCO, RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF VARIANCE REQUEST FOR EL TOUCAN RESTAURANT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item No. 2 – Request for Approval of Asphalt Stamping Contract to Beckman Paving**

Mr. Robertson stated that the project to complete the asphalt stamping for the phase II crosswalks in Merritt Park Place had been approved, as part of the MIRA capital improvements program. During this discussion it was agreed that 2 crosswalks should be removed from one intersection and 2 crosswalks added to another intersection. A diagram of Merritt Park Place and the changes was shown. Mr. Robertson stated that there was only one vendor available that performs the asphalt stamping and that they are located in Canada. They have three licensed applicators in our area and Beckman Paving, located in Daytona, was the only applicator that had provided MIRA with the required quote.

**MOTION MADE BY DUANE WATSON, SECONDED BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, AWARDING THE STREET STAMPING CONTRACT TO BECKMAN PAVING, NOT TO EXCEED \$27,000. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item No. 3 – Discussion Re: Junior Chamber of Commerce Benches on Merritt Island**

Mr. Knox stated that he was of the opinion that the ten-year renewable agreement with the Junior Chamber of Commerce was an unenforceable provision. Mrs. Natowich stated that the benches were not in pedestrian-friendly places. This item will be placed on the July Board of County Commissioners Agenda with recommendation from MIRA to remove the benches. It was suggested that photos should be provided to show how unsightly the benches have become.

**MOTION MADE BY DUANE WATSON, SECONDED BY MIKE SELIG, RECOMMENDING REMOVAL OF ALL JAYCEE BENCHES FROM THE MERRITT ISLAND REDEVELOPMENT AREA TO BREVARD COUNTY COMMISSION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION MADE BY MIKE SELIG, SECONDED BY DUANE WATSON, RECOMMENDING THAT GENERIC BUS STOP BENCHES WITH NO ADVERTISING BE PROVIDED AT SCAT BUS STOPS TO THE BREVARD COUNTY COMMISSION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Agenda Item No. 4 – Discussion Re: Advertising Banners and Balloons within the Merritt Island Redevelopment Area**

On the weekend of May 16, 2003, Mike Erdman Toyota had a car sale at Merritt Square Mall using balloons and banners to advertise the sale. Brevard County Code Enforcement fined Mike Erdman \$900 because the banners and balloons are illegal to use per the Brevard County Sign Ordinance. Merritt Square requested assistance from MIRA to amend the Ordinance to allow businesses to advertise with banners and balloons at such events. Mr. Robertson informed the MIRA Board that the Brevard County Land Development Department was working to modify the Ordinance, which would allow such use 4 times per year, per applicant. This new language will go before the Board of County Commissioners on July 8, 2003. One of the suggestions made was to recommend that advertising be allowed 4 days per month at \$50.00 per day per business. Some Board members felt this was excessive. It was mentioned that MIRA's mission was to reduce visual clutter. One suggestion was to not allow any advertising and have the fines be the cost of doing business.

**MOTION MADE BY RODDY KRING, SECONDED BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, BOB BARRANCO, SANDEE NATOWICH, NOT TO RECOMMEND ANYTHING TO THE BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BALLOONS AND BANNERS, MIKE SELIG AND DUANE WATSON VOTED IN FAVOR OF RECOMMENDATION. FOUR TO TWO IN FAVOR OF NO RECOMMENDATION TO COUNTY COMMISSION.**

**Agenda Item No. 5 – Staff Report**

**Status of Proposed Regional Storm water Facility in Merritt Island**

Mr. Robertson commented that Bussen-Mayer had been given the authority to proceed with doing the feasibility study working directly with Ron Jones' staff and Mr. Robertson would be following up with them.

**Discussion Re: Proposed Community Banner Program in Merritt Island**

Mr. Robertson stated that he would have to visit this issue separately with the County Commissioners, due to the need for more research.

**Status of Debt Refinancing**

Mr. Robertson indicated that Greg Lugar was handling this issue and that it would not be on the Board of County Commissioners Agenda until July.

**Discussion Re: The Disposition of Youth Services and Brevard County Property.**

Mr. Robertson met with County Commissioner Ron Pritchard and Don Lusk, Assistant County Manager, to discuss this issue, it was decided that an appraisal would be ordered to

determine the value of the property for disposal. Mr. Robertson stated that there did not appear to be a use for the property at this time.

**Discussion Re: Brevard County Change of Use Ordinance**

Mr. Robertson stated that he met with Peggy Busacca and he is still meeting with the County Commissioners at this time to discuss this issue.

**Agenda Item No. 6- Beautification Committee Report**

Vice-Chairman Natowich handed out an inspection report of her drive through Merritt Park Place with Mr. Robertson on May 22, 2003, along with a few photos. Vice-Chairman Natowich requested the MIRA members drive through the Park in the coming month to view the damaged areas noted in the report. Mr. Robertson stated that he would have Public Works give an estimate for damage repair. There was also discussion of parking on the rights-of-way in Merritt Park Place, which is against the law and the possibility of the Sheriff's Department giving tickets.

Vice-Chairman Natowich reminded the Board of the award ceremony at Gwen Smith's property on the corner of Grove Street and SR 520, for the Façade Improvement Program and that she would notify them of the date.

Vice-Chairman Natowich stated that the presentation signage was being finalized.

Vice-Chairman Natowich noted that there was a new Beautification Member, Betsy Keenan, who is a Landscape Architect.

Vice-Chairman Natowich spoke on getting an estimate for the removal of dead palms and palm fronds on SR 520. There was a lengthy discussion on this and it was decided that it was against the County Policy to trim the fronds off of the Sabal Palms. They were still working with Loren Rappoport to determine whether this was correct.

**Agenda Item No. 7- Other Business**

**Milford Point Construction**

There was some discussion on the bridge being widened and if the construction was complete and if there was going to be landscaping.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting has been scheduled for June 26, 2003.

**MOTION MADE BY DUANE WATSON, SECONDED BY BOB BARRANCO, TO ADJOURN. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Meeting adjourned 3:08 p.m.