

Minutes of BHA Board of Directors Meeting January 16, 2008, Brickell Bay Club

Directors/Alternates Present

Tory Jacobs/Brickell 25
Claudia Bruce/Bristol Tower
Ernesto Cuesta/The Metropolitan
Jorge Iglesias/Brickell Mar
Linda Baker/Brickell Place Phase I
Mac Seligman/Brickell Townhouse
Julian Leon-Velarde/Four Seasons Residences
Diane Sepler/Villa Regina
Herbert Bailey/Brickell Forest
Anibal Lopez-Molne/Brickell Bay Club
Wanda Bee/Brickell East

Associate Members Present

Oliver Ruiz/Fortune International Realty

Mel Frankel/General Counsel
Ron Smith/Deputy General Counsel

Natalie Brown, Communications Director

City of Miami

Marc Sarnoff/Commissioner, District 2
Bert Gonzalez/Commissioner Sarnoff's office
Jeff Giordano, Cmdr. Ronald Papier/Police
Roger Hernstadt, City Manager Chief of Staff

Miami-Dade County

Jose Galan, Robin Reiter, Paula Musto/General
Obligation Bond

Also Present

Lisa Magill/Becker & Poliakoff
Joe Bier/Continental Companies
Marilyn Goldaber/Brickell Townhouse
Dolores James/Villa Regina
Jan Jones

Meeting called to order 6:15 p.m.

Ron Smith moved and Wanda Bee seconded that the reading of the October meeting minutes be waived and that they be accepted as published. The motion passed unanimously.

President's Report

Next meeting, February, is the annual meeting. Bruce Higley has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee. Commissioner Carlos Gimenez will be there.

Police Report

- Jeff Giordano thanked Tory Jacobs for participating in the Boxing Match in December which raised \$26,000 for two disabled people.
- Canine Courtesy Program. Has been successful...it's been cleaner, most agreed.
- Crime quiet....a few isolated incidents.
- Biggest challenge is traffic.
- ING Marathan, 1/27, best advice is to stay home in the morning to avoid the traffic tie up.
- Problem with 26th Road eastbound left turns onto Brickell Avenue. That second lane is used as a turn lane when it is marked straight through thereby cutting off those turning left legally from the first lane. Commander Ron Papier said they would do periodic enforcement, and also put the request into FDOT to look at the problem.

NET Report

- Coral Way NET office relocated to new permanent office, 2299 SW 27th Ave., Suite 100

- Downtown NET – Plaza construction problems...at early hours. Eddie Padilla has not been granting any construction exceptions for noise or hours.
- Lights – old concrete light poles on Brickell median to be removed. The new light pole knocked down at the SE corner of 25th Road and Brickell has never been replaced.

Brickell Streetscape

Mel Frankel – can Coral Way NET interface with FDOT on the problems affecting all us? These include the crosswalks and lack of signage, the 26th Road intersection, 15th and Brickell intersection problem, the shoddy construction of the fountains and monuments.

Roger Hernstadt, City Manager’s Chief of Staff, did a walk-thru of the Streetscape with Tory Jacobs and looked at all the defects in construction (pavers, mounting, landscaping). Mr. Hernstadt reported They have given the list to the CIP Director...who is now working on solutions, some are contractual defects. Trying to promote a philosophical change in employees’ state of mind and approach to their duties. BHA Streetscape project came in the middle of the problems with CIP. Many staff changes. Things will get better, Roger stated, and he will be available. He will be a resource to BHA to push the departments to move in a certain direction. You’ll see a marked improvement.

Mel Frankel: “please take the message back to the city that we are not satisfied, that in the private sector the work would be grounds for a malpractice suit.”

Commissioner Marc Sarnoff

Sarnoff: We’re 78% of the city’s tax base...Impact fees which should be spent in District 2 are not being spent in District 2...Marc Sarnoff is going to challenge, possibly sue the City, for spending the fees elsewhere. The impact fees should be spent where the impact is felt. In general, he said in “City Attorney department, we would do a helluva a lot better with the \$8 million we’re spending of your money....using outside counsel. We have c, c- lawyers. And this town has great lawyers.”

Park...he’s looking for park space for the Brickell area.

The BHA-sponsored ordinance governing construction sprawl enacted last January has gained the city more than a million dollars in fees, penalties, the Commissioner said.

General Obligation Bond – Jose Galan, Paula Musto

The County came to give BHA residents an update on some projects in the area funded by the GOB, including First Miami High school restoration; Va. Key Beach; Baywalk; Museum Park; Vizcaya expansion into the “farm village” now occupied by Science Museum; Tunnel to Port of Miami.

Florida Legislative Update – Lisa Magill

Due to the lateness of the hour, Ms. Magill gave a very brief presentation on legislation impacting condo associations. She left packets of information on the State Legislature and the Community Association Institute. This year in Tallahassee, 3 bills only filed for 2008 so far. Most of the changes were last year. We look forward to rescheduling her.

Tory Jacobs urged all to vote on January 29. “Show your interest in good government, whatever of your voting choices.”

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.