

Laurel Park Neighborhood Association General Meeting

November 3, 2015, 6 pm

Friendship Center

The General Meeting of the LPNA was called to order by President Jude Levy.

Board members attending: Jude Levy, Kate Lowman, Dan Bridinger, Betsy Sublette, Chris Jaensch, Kelly Franklin, Ginger Mermin.

53 people signed the sign-in sheet but a few more attended the meeting

President Levy asked new residents of Laurel Park to stand and introduce themselves.

The minutes of the last General meeting (Feb, 2015) were approved by acclamation. The Treasurer's Report (\$7936.20) was also approved by acclamation.

Stevie Freeman-Montes, City of Sarasota, Sustainability Manager, was introduced. She spoke briefly to the audience telling them about her responsibilities.

President Levy then introduced Liz Alpert, our new City Commissioner representing District 2. Ms. Alpert spoke about our City's homeless challenges, the form based code that might be adopted, multi modal alternatives that might relieve traffic, and that historic preservation was important to her.

Kate Lowman filled the audience in on the developments of the Woman's Exchange loading dock on Rawls issue. Kate said an appeal could be made. A straw vote was taken and all approved of LPNA making an appeal.

Kelly Franklin explained the special Board Meeting on Sunday, November 1, which was held to be informed by Devin and Marian Rutkowski about their plans to move the house at 405 S. Osprey and what that would mean in terms of clearing the median on S. Osprey from Morrill to Ringling. The Board had no issues with the house move, only asking the Rutkowskis to replace the 3 live oak trees and ground cover as this canopied median is the north entrance to our neighborhood.

Jolie McInnis reminded people that Tunes in the Park would be held on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 5-9. The Laurel Park clean-up day is Sat. Nov. 14th at 9 am.

Ginger Mermin announced that the Holiday party would be held on Sunday, Dec 6, from 5-7 pm in the park.

Chris Jaensch said a printed Newsletter would be out soon.

Jude Levy talked about 1938 Laurel St. This is a vacant piece of property on the east boundary of Laurel Park and is in the overlay. Two developers have bought the property from the county and they have said they will build condos and some commercial property compatible with Laurel Park.

Dan Bridinger said the City has done their job of repairing various things in the Park that needed to be done. Dan also told the audience of a sign-up sheet to volunteer as a neighborhood endeavor at All Faith's Food Bank on Dec. 12, 2015.

President Jude Levy introduced the nominating committee for the new 2016-2018 Board Members. They are Kate Lowman, Jodi John, and Jolie McInnis. They will put together a slate of interested people and present them at the February 9, 2016, General Meeting for election.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm

Recorded by Ginger Mermin, Secretary