

# **Myakka Valley Ranches Improvement Association, Inc.**

## **Board Minutes, January 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

Location: St. Margaret of Scotland Episcopal Church, 8700 State Road 72, Sarasota, FL 34241

Proper Notification of meeting permanently posted on sign at the guardhouse.

Board meets on the third Monday each month.

MVRIA Rule Meeting Attendance Reminder is posted and available on

MVRIA website (MVRIA.com)

Frank DiCicco called the meeting to order at 7:01 and declared a quorum.

Board members present were Frank DiCicco, Jennifer Peeples, Jackie Vizzi, Karen Abbattista, Vicki Butler, Amy Chenard, Deb Houston, Heather Nestle, Wendy Ying, and Brenda Zimmerman. Mary Mapp was absent with apologies.

### **APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST BOARD MEETING November 20, 2017.**

Frank DiCicco moved to approve the minutes for the board meeting on November 20, 2017. Jennifer Peeples seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

1. **President's Report:** Frank DiCicco reminded everyone of the "Golden Rule", asking members to be respectful to each other and to the Board. He reviewed improvements to the neighborhood including better internet service, the cell tower, a comprehensive road plan, and the Entrance Beautification project. Frank DiCicco explained that the Board was tasked with controlling speeding on MVT by a majority vote at the Annual Meeting. The MVRIA attorney advised the board that the association could be sued if an accident occurred and the board had not taken any measures to address speed control. There has been a lot of negative interaction on Facebook.

Events- The luminary event with Santa in the horse and buggy was a huge success. There were 300+ people who participated. Frank DiCicco made a motion to nominate Sandra Harrison, Debbie Shorey, Jane Zheavere, Kim Bolan, and Mary Mapp to serve on the Event Committee chaired by Amy Chenard. The appointments were unanimously approved.

The stop signs on Kickapoo and Myakka Valley Trail were discussed. The signs were installed in November and stolen in November. Two residents sent a certified letter to the board complaining about the signs. Another member stated that most residents are in favor of addressing the speeding. The first goal was to install speed limit signs throughout the Valley. The county will not ticket cars for speeding in Myakka Valley.

The insurance company could refuse to cover MVR if an accident occurred, and we had done nothing to address the speeding issue. Frank DiCicco made a motion that an opinion poll be conducted on the ballot for the Annual Meeting- How should we control the speeding on Myakka Valley Trail- stop signs, speed tables, or both? The motion was seconded by Deb Houston and passed unanimously. Information about the upcoming poll and the options for speed control will be sent to all members in the initial mailing in March.

Jennifer Peeples made a motion to replace the stop signs. Heather Nestle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The stolen stop signs will be replaced with older stop signs. Heather Nestle made a motion that MVR inquire about renting an instrument to measure speed next to the signs to collect data about how effective the signs are in stopping traffic and slowing traffic. The motion was seconded by Karen Abbattista, and it passed unanimously.

2. **Vice-President/Treasurer's Report:** Jennifer Peeples reported that the county grant money has been deposited. The list of members who are delinquent on their annual dues has significantly shortened. The budget will be presented at the February board meeting. The Finance Committee will create the budget.
3. **Secretary's Report:** Jackie Vizzi reported that the Annual Meeting may be scheduled for April 1, 2018. The first notice will go out in March.
4. **Document Revision and Lawsuit Committee:** Frank DiCicco reported the Lyday appeal will be argued on Wednesday February 21, 2018 in Tampa.
5. **Road Committee:** Frank DiCicco stated there will be a meeting at the end of the month to begin the process of obtaining sealed bids.
6. **Saddle Trails, Easements, and Ditches Committee:** Heather Nestle reported that the saddle trails are mowed and passable. The park has been cleaned up, and everything is looking good. She encouraged neighbors to call her with any saddle trail concerns. There is one wash out that is being worked on.
7. **Compliance, Construction, Parks, Mowing, Signs, Variances, Easements, and Overhanging Trees:** Wendy Ying said there were no requests for variances. There were complaints about the ATVs tearing up the easements and trails. It has been solved, and that the parent will deal with the kids who did the damage. Frank DiCicco encouraged people to take pictures.

8. **Community Awareness and Security:** Dale Ream was not present, but he suggested that the stop sign replacements should be welded to the poles.
  
9. **Entrance Beautification Committee:** Jennifer Peeples stated that there is a lot more to do including landscaping. Sally Corcoran is putting together a plan for plants at the front entrance. Money for the landscaping will be a line item in the budget. There are still around 8 oak trees that have not been adopted. Future gates at the front entrance were described. They will control traffic and deter crime. If there is money in the budget, they will be installed before April.

10. **Trails n Tales**

Stop signs will be back.

Trees in easements are hanging low and are a danger to riders.

Adopt a tree

License plate frames

Gates at the front entrance

Jackie Vizzi made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Heather Nestle.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14.