

March 2, 2024, CCNA Minutes
Held at Bayfront Community Center
(Approved at April 6th meeting)

Board of Directors — Richard Harris, Carl Shoffstall, Flo Entler, Kelly Brown, Jim Ludwig, Daniel Frank, Joanne Gonet, Lou Costa; not present: Melinda Delpech

Neighborhoods Attending — Alta Vista (Larry Silverminz), Arlington Park (Rob Grant, Flo Entler), Avondale (Dean Anderson), Bayou Oaks (Claudia Petruny), Bay Point Park (Fredrica Linday, Elizabeth Rose), Bird Key (Randall Winters), Broadway Promenade (Charlie Nagelschmidt), Central Cocanut (Marisa Dawson), DSCA (David Lough), Gillespie Park (Linda Jacob), Glen Oaks Estates (Norman Dumaine), Glen Oaks Ridge (Jerry Fagan), Golden Gate Point (Judy Mower), Harbor Acres (Joyce Cloutier, Marilyn Billimek), Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores (Kevin Spence, Richard Parlato), Laurel Park (Ron Kashden), Lido Key (Jessie Hayre), McClellan Park (Daniel Frank), Plymouth Harbor (Joyce Fitzpatrick, Ronda Manasse), Rosemary District (Melissa Locklan, Pam Poindexter), Sarasota Housing Authority (Valerie Buchand), South Poinsettia Park (Tom Caffrey), St. Armands (Hugh Fiore), Towles Court (Suzanne Waxman)

City/County of Sarasota Guests — Dede Jones (City Homelessness Response), Whitney Kosta (Code Compliance), Nancy Kelly, Steve Cover, Pat Robinson, City Manager Marlon Brown, Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch, County Commissioner Mark Smith, Mayor Liz Alpert, Officer Matt Grochowski, Commissioner Debbie Trice

Other Guests — Brenda Downing (Salvation Army), Kathy Ku, Este Lennox, Melissa Lough (?), Pam Poindexter, Barbara Campo (?), Scott Ashby, Debbi Moller, Jim Lampl, Esther Smith, Pamela Morris(?) (RDA), Scott Eller(?) (Blue Sky), PJ Brooks (CASL), Megan Howell (2nd Heart Homes), Tara Maffei (Family Promise Sarasota Manatee), Cindy (Family Promise)

1. **Meeting called to order** at 9:02 AM
2. **Reading of Mission Statement by President**
3. **Recognition of special guests** (Lou Kosta): Thanks to all public officials. Mayor Liz Alpert, Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch, County Commissioner Mark Smith, Steve Cover, Pat Robinson, Nancy Kelly, City Manager Marlon Brown, Officer Matt Grochowski
4. **New representatives:** Melissa Locklan (Rosemary District)

5. **Crime report** (Officer Matt Grochowski): Spring break, lots of visitors, lock your cars. Zero murders for month, one for year, zero last year. Agg Assault 12, 27 for year, 42 *this time* last year. Robbery 4, 8, 14. Sex crimes 2,3,6. Burglary 19, 29, 43. Larceny from vehicle 15, 26, 50. Motor vehicle theft 4, 18, 28.
6. **Statement by City Manager** (Marlon Brown): I want to recognize and congratulate the police officers and thank Matt for his work with the community.
7. **Special Presentation: Housing and Homeless** (Scott Eller — **Blue Sky Communities**, PJ Brooks — chief operating officer for **CASL**, Dede Jones — City Coordinator of **Homelessness Response**, Brenda Downing — **Salvation Army**, Meghan Howell — **Second Heart Homes**)
 - Blue Sky develops affordable housing. Arbor Village on Fruitville Rd. Four years anniversary in March 90% of people moved in by HOT teams are still there. Thirty communities around the state in operation. Asking for permit for 96 units of workforce family housing. Several more projects around the state and neighboring counties. Help people where they are, so reducing migration. We are concerned about having enough parking to avoid impact to the surrounding neighborhood; we sometimes exceed the zoning requirements. Rents are typically 27% of AMI. We have been adjusting wages and benefits to reduce staff turnover. We are trying to get permits for a disabled veteran-focused community in Brandon.
 - Second Heart Homes. It's about the tapestry of services that come together to help our community. Young non-profit started by Meghan after she had an experience while a waitress at Patrick's, helping homeless man outside the restaurant. About to open our tenth home. Serve single adults who have a mental illness who are homeless and who have a commitment to addressing their mental illness. Give them housing with support and love and accountability.
 - Salvation Army of Sarasota County. The partnerships here are key. Homelessness is a community issue. We can help those who are ready to move toward a place of sustainability. We have 60 beds for folks working through recovery issues, about 55-60 beds between city and county homeless outreach teams. We also have beds for street teams, people seeking employment and volunteering with us. Also emergency shelter program, we are bringing folks in who are willing and ready to make change, connecting them with case manager. We have more homeless families than in past year. We have 11 units for families, a safe place to land and save money (average \$7K), and ongoing case management after. Homeless prevention around rental and utility assistance, office on South Tuttle, keep people in their homes. There is no charge for shelter beds for a year now.

- CASL's Community Assistance supportive living. Clients with substance abuse disorders. We all work together. We are in nine counties in Florida, building tenth in Miami. We have 1188 beds, up to 2000 soon. Case management support. We need to get workforce housing available at about 60% AMI. Stable housing is important and valuable for recovery from addiction. Maintaining them in housing is a big part of the process. We see complex medical needs, almost serving as hospice sometimes.
 - Dede Jones, coordinator of homeless response for the City. We go out to where these individuals are staying, trying to make contact. Three E's: Educate about resources. Get paperwork for people, such as birth certificates, they need to get into other services. Enforcement. Community Care Corps, offering services. Give money to organizations, not individuals. Giving money to them on the street keeps them on the street.
 - Pat Robinson: Homeless "vets" you encounter on the street in Sarasota are not really veterans, for the most part. Services for veterans have been very successful at moving them off the street.
 - Tara and Cindy from Family Promise of Sarasota/Manatee were also present.
8. **Officer Reports.** Treasurer's Report (Carl Shoffstall). District Rep 1 (Kelly Brown): Starting quarterly meetings with Commissioners. District Rep 3 (Flo Entler).
 9. **Approval of minutes:** Moved by Harbor Acres (Joyce), Second St. Armands (Hugh). Approved by Unanimous Consent.
 10. **Old Business:** Ken Thompson Park / city parks commercialization. Please take back to our associations and have them approve the recommendation. This will go before the PREP board.
 11. **Neighborhood Summit summary report discussion** (Jim Ludwig). Priorities:
 - Health and Safety. This requires neighborhood input and involvement to understand key items that need assistance.
 - Meaningful Input, have a voice in the process of what's going on. Board would like to get the tacit approval of document from the neighborhoods.
 12. **Neighborhood reports and Issues for City Administration** (Pat Robinson):

- Central Cocoanut (Marisa Dawson): We support Ken Thompson position statement. Check on applying for mysafehome.com safe home grants. Will pay for roof, windows, doors, any hurricane hardening. Only for single occupancy homes.
- St. Armands (Hugh Fiore): Tuesday 5 March, annual dinner at Sarasota Yacht Club, 147 people signed up. Is anyone else hosting car shows in parks?
- Rosemary (Melissa Locklan): Rosemary Park was halted about five weeks ago due to permit issues. We hope to see some progress and have something to report to the community.
- DSCA (David Lough): Want to compliment the planning staff for Federal Grant application for Blvd. of the Arts streetscape project. We are requesting that community workshops be required in our area.
- SHA Residents Council (Valerie Buchand): We continue to develop new units. We are not ready to give up our green space. Getting ready for Easter dinner. Having trouble keeping maintenance workers.
- Towles Court (Suzanne Waxman): There is construction on Adams, Morrel, and Washington.
- Laurel Park (Ron Kashden): Thunder on the Bay car show is on mainland. There is a large development that is going to impact Towles Court and Alta Vista and Laurel Park. Update on Benderson proposal for County Building property: They came back with a plan for 1200 square foot ADUs, two ADUs in addition to residential house, on single lot. Neighborhood is not happy about it.
- Plymouth Harbor (Joyce Fitzpatrick): Feedback from Board in support of Ken Thompson Park. Concern about increased traffic on John Ringling. Little Ringling Bridge hearing — we would like to see roadbed elevation on the bridge into St. Armands because of current flooding and sea rise.
- Baypoint Park (Ricki Lindsay): Working with the city on our neighborhood park, don't want it privatized. End of our street is being overgrown with mangroves. Having trouble getting the City to keep it accessible for pedestrians to see the sunset. At very end of Baypoint Drive on the west end. Selby Events Center has been creating a lot of noise again.
- Harbor Acres (Joyce Cloutier): Speeding is a recurring issue. The police presentation to Commission meeting was wonderful. I am going to start calling out

my neighbors who are speeding. I used Click-2-Fix and the City came out. You can use City Web site, not just the app. Our annual meeting will be held at Selby.

- Alta Vista (Leslie Spangler): Working on noise issue with help from Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch. Concerned about hotel houses. Lots of alcohol, verbal abuse from visitors.
- Bird Key (Randy Winters): Lighting on Bird Key is very dark, dangerous at night, can't walk outside, can't see pedestrians. Blocks are long, lights are dim. Can we change out existing lights to LEDs? Ken Thompson Park: Annual meeting coming up, we should be on board.
- Gillespie Park (Linda Jacob): Park Days — three-page long work list for the work. Our next project is a county grant to solve the water quality problem in our pond. Get water tested, about \$200 from the association. Thanks to Commissioner Mark Smith for getting it cleaned up.
- Arlington Park (Rob Grant): We have a bus problem, Dolphin Transportation busing people from Tuttle/Bahia Vista. 14,000-pound bus going down Jefferson. The park is used for parking and green space by basketball courts. We have buses parking there for tennis court users from Christian Academy, parking on the grass. We are concerned about the light touch density proposal.
- Indian Beach/Sapphire Shores (Kevin Spence): Could the minutes list the Web sites for the special presenters today? The YMCA has a car show annually on the mainland.
- Avondale (Dean Anderson): We had a 100th anniversary gathering at Marina Jacks. More than half our residents were there. We had Dogs and Drinks with Hudson Bayou. 4/19 Spring Social 7-10 PM. Would like a grant approval to do infrastructure upgrade in the center of our neighborhood. Crosswalks to help with safety have been denied, dog park at Loopwood (?) Park.
- Glen Oaks Ridge (Jerry Fagin): Thanks for the position statement on Parks; we have published it in our monthly newsletter. Has increased profile of CCNA. Parks affect us all. Keep pushing with the Council.
- Golden Gate Point (Judy Mower): New delegate Beth Nothstine. We are living through three construction projects, 100 new neighbors. How do we help them to identify as Sarasota residents and engage civically? We request that CCNA put on a newcomer academy for new residents. Big need for this kind of help.

- Glen Oaks Estates (Norm Demaine): Need a safe way to get across Circus Blvd. Thanks to the City for analyzing that and making plans. Thanks to Nancy Kelly for helping with our recent event. Would like to request art work previously at the downtown roundabout be installed in our neighborhood.
- Bayou Oaks (Claudia Petruni): Thanks to City for Myrtle Roundabout traffic study. Getting some new safety features now in design phase. Two warning signs and flashing lights and pedestrian caution signs. Neighborhood partnership grant was approved for get-together.
- McClellan Park (Daniel Frank): Sink holes on Hyde Park at Yamaw, bench to replace the one that blew away in Ian in Seminole Linear Park, repairs to curbs lifted by tree roots on North Oval and other locations.
- City update and response (Pat Robinson):
 - We have seen an over 80% reduction in homelessness on the streets. There are a dozen other organizations in addition to the five who presented. I can't speak highly enough of Dede and her social workers. Also, officers who are trained in homeless response. They have access to the same network as the HOT team. We are one of the nation's premier homeless outreach teams. We host many teams from around the US and Canada to train them on what we do. It's a unique system. Our program is based on San Diego team and is supported by the Commission from a budgeting standpoint.
 - Working on some of the aesthetic issues around St. Armands circle. Two locations with salt burn from the storm. Rosemary District, clearing up permitting issues. Will follow up on Mangroves.
 - Punch list:
 - Arlington Park: construction issue was assigned code compliance, met with builder.
 - Bayou Oaks: Six additional trash receptacles will be installed.
 - Glen Oaks Estates: new crosswalk and ADA ramps will be installed by summer.
 - Indian Beach: faux bricks will be refurbished.

- McClellan Park: Two new benches will be installed when they come in. Looking again at Hyde Park sink holes.
- Towles Court: no parking signs for Adams Lane south side
- Gillespie Park Verizon and Frontier wires issues: following up.
- Question about 211. Marlon: having a meeting with United Way.
- 941-316-1199 is a non-emergency number and can be used for this.

13. Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch comments: Please contact state representatives regarding two bills that would impact the city:

- HB1537/SB280 — House bill limits the amount the city can get from hotel house fees. We just raised it to \$500, but House bill limits to \$150.
- SB1526/HB1647 — Preemption of local municipalities regarding historic structures. Mainly impacts Lido Beach. We do not support this bill.

14. Mayor Liz Alpert comments: I am concerned about all these attempts to preempt our local control over neighborhood issues.

15. Upcoming Meetings: In April Broxton Harvey (Parking Division General Manager) will talk about expansion of metered parking, and City Manager Marlon Brown will talk about affordable housing. In May we will have the traffic presentation that was provided to the Commission.

16. Meeting Adjourned at 10:53 AM.