

October 17, 2017

A meeting of the Corkscrew Island Neighborhood Association (CINA) took place at the Corkscrew Sanctuary meeting room on Tuesday, October 17, 2017. Eleven members were in attendance, two guest speakers: Robert Smith from North Collier Fire Control and Rescue, and Tanya Phillips, Collier County Utilities Enforcement.

1) Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary Doug Wilson opened the meeting at 7 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance, since President Bill McDaniel arrived late.

2) Approval of August Minutes

The minutes of the August 15, 2017 meeting were passed around. The minutes were approved and seconded unanimously.

3) Ratifying two Motions From Last Meeting

A quorum is required to vote and pass on an issue, but we can vote an issue and then ratify at the next meeting, with or without a quorum. At the last meeting we moved to finish a letter to the Sheriff letting him know there were speeding problems on Immokalee Road. Secretary Doug Wilson said he would write the letter and suggested a change in the motion to read accordingly. The amended motion was made to ratify the letter, and it was approved, seconded and passed unanimously. A second motion was made to ratify a letter of commendation to the Fire Department. This was also approved, seconded and passed unanimously. Secretary Doug Wilson presented the two letters to President Bill McDaniel who signed them and were put into envelopes for mailing: One to Sheriff Kevin Rambosk about problems of speeding on Immokalee Road, and the other to Chief Jamie Cunningham, a letter of commendation for services to the community.

4) Speaker Tanya Phillips from Collier County on Debris Removal

Tanya Phillips, from Collier County Utilities Enforcement, presented plans of the County on debris removal after Hurricane Irma. She explained that she is working out in the field and can answer storm-related collection questions. She explained that, right now, recycle and garbage are on your normal days, Wednesday and Saturday. Paraphrasing what she said: They are trying to get as much storm bulk as they can. The County does not want garbage and recycle to pick up storm-related bulk or anything that was generated by the storm. The issue is when waste collection comes by and says, "That's storm-related," and you call and say, "No, it's not." So they are working on it. They just started picking up appliances today. So anything called in now, they'll pick up next week. I'll be out in the field seeing what's out there and "I'll schedule what I see for pickup." As far as yard waste, FEMA is saying gated communities will not be collected. If FEMA doesn't, then the County will pull from general funds, and you'll probably be the last ones to be picked up. President Bill corrected her, saying that FEMA is picking up in private gated communities but not in public places. There's a distinction between private house and club house. FEMA won't pick up what's considered public, so the association has to get rid of that. Private roads? Bill said FEMA is not going to pick up on private roads. The County is doing it with FEMA backing up the County. Tanya said concerning C&D (construction debris), if you cut it and bundle it I can pick it up.

Q: Our patio was blown away. Aluminum sheets from our patio are lying around. Tanya: Then it's storm debris. I can get it picked up for you. Put it out on the road, even construction stuff, and they'll pick it up. They'll pick up yard debris first and then construction debris.

Q: Is there a deadline for finishing the picking up? Tanya: They're saying eight weeks right now, but a lot of people are not back in town yet, so it will be quite a while. Q: We have acres of debris. Tanya says, the County will pick up your first piles and then you can put more out. I'm out in the field organizing pickups. President Bill offered: The debris cleanup did not start until two weeks after the storm so we're only three weeks into debris removal. There's a trickle of trucks coming in. We have prioritized the areas that suffered the most, those with not just storm damage but flooding and sewage. There is mold growing and they have to be serviced.

Q: Is there any improvement in trash pickup? Q: About mixing trash pickup with recycle pickup. Tanya (paraphrasing): The last four weeks they were allowed to mix loads [waste and recycle]. The problem of waste collection not picking up or missing pickups, and waste picking up what's meant for recycle, they caught the culprits and removed and/or fined them. If you see them mixing, call me and I'll come out. Q: I live at the end of a road that they say they can't get through to pick up my trash and recycle. Tanya: If you live way down at the end of the road, your road is not as rough as your neighbors. Your neighbors unfortunately are responsible for repairing the road in front of them. You are responsible for maintaining the section of road in front of your property. Q: The letter was kind of vague about what the problem is, trees or pot holes. Tanya: That's because they grouped about five roads together to express the general problem, whether trees or the dips in the road. Truck drivers have been instructed to take pictures of roads they can't get through and send them to me. I'll go out and drive my pickup through it and see. Right now, we're going to get whatever we can. David has been going around picking up stuff in his pickup. If he can't get to it in his big truck, he'll come and get it with his pickup. You're responsible for improving the section of road in front of your property. I don't want you to go to the expense of repairing your road and then have Asprit go over it with their trucks and damage it. The biggest complaint we have concerning the roads out here are overgrown trees hitting the trucks as they go by. If you have any complaints, call me. If you see dump trucks using your driveway to turn around, there have been complaints, if you don't want them turning around in your driveway, call me and I'll come out. Give me your address and I'll find somewhere else for them to turn around in.

President Bill spoke about the price per yard County pays for debris removal; fraud by truck drivers who build "bridges" in the truck bed and covering it with debris to look full when they're not; they have been found out and fired; County's contract with Asprit; a new county recycle center will be open second quarter next year. And burning permits? Robert Smith, who was present at the meeting from North Collier Fire, said, "Yes, you can burn. Burn responsibly with a hose."

To a question about the damaged mobile home on Sanctuary, Tanya said (paraphrasing), We're going to have to wait for the owners to come back and take care of it. If there is storm debris on a private road, the contractor will pick it up or I can have Waste Management pick it up. A new guy George Miller is working with me. Trash cans are bad, half of them with no lids. Even if it's construction, I can have him pick it up. Call me if there's a problem. I can be here in 15 minutes. I'm in this district every day. End of talk by Tanya. Her Tel: 239-253-5111. Or call Collier County Public Utilities Division: 239-252-2380.

5) Robert Smith from North Collier Fire Control & Rescue

Robert Smith, Chief of Operations, gave a presentation on the fires. He said (paraphrasing): Our biggest concern after a storm is cross fires. We're already starting to talk about how we're going to fight this. A lot of access roads are down, they're not there any more. We're going to be aggressive. We use the Firewise program (www.firewise.org). We're getting people to use Firewise their home and property, to clear out areas. We are committed. We are here for you. We at North Collier are talking and planning. Q: We had a lot of foliage around us. The hurricane blew down every twig and leave and uprooted trees. That's a whole lot of raking to do and it needs to be done, the debris is thick. It's a tinder box. RS: We're working with Forestry to come up with some ideas to help. They recommend 30-50 feet around your house. We are going to coordinate with Forestry to see what we can do to help. Forestry has resources. They have Bulldozers. They can bulldoze around trees and create fire breaks. We're talking about going

around homes and clearing. We can get an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) to pay for gas and equipment for the trucks. We're going to get back with them and make a plan. It's something we haven't seen before. It's going to be dry, it's going to be a tough season for us so we want to make a plan. It's a fire hazard.

Q: What are the dimensions for your trucks to get access down a driveway? What is the height and width? RS (paraphrasing): We have several different trucks, the fire engines require a large space. We have a tack truck and a tanker. If you have a specific concern we can come out and look at it. Bill said: They told me 12' wide and 12' high. RS: But we have contingency plans. We can bring in a brush truck, a smaller truck, or a medical truck or a tack truck. Q: What is a recommended width and height. I know you don't want to go to a home that is difficult to get to and will move on to one you can get to? RS: Go to Firewise and see exactly what you can do to protect your home. Firewise shows you how to clear your house and protect your property. Gutters, downed trees, etc. If you have a specific issue we can come out and help you to become Firewise. Keep preparing and start thinking of fire season coming up. End of Robert Smith's presentation. Firewise website: <http://www.firewise.org/wildfire-preparedness/be-firewise/home-and-landscape.aspx>

President Bill: Thank you Robert, thank you to all the first responders whose efforts were amazing.

President Bill presented an update on County Government, as our County Commissioner for District 5. Some comments out of a larger talk: Irma was a 250 truck mission and there are over 250 trucks now working in the County. Wilma created 2.2 million yards of debris. Irma is estimated to be 4.3 million yards of debris. There is fraud going on with the dump trucks. They're building bridges in the truck and piling debris on top so the truck looks like the truck is full and it's not. They get paid for a full load when they drive through the gate. I've helped catch those who are doing it. We fire them on the spot.

I tried to get our taxes reduced. Everybody was affected by the storm. I tried to diminish Ad Valorem taxes but my board members wouldn't do it. I said, tens of thousands were negatively damaged by the storm and we are doing nothing to help. I couldn't get my colleagues on the board to even think about it. I'm frustrated with it. Leo Oakes is County Manager. I have people staying in hotels in Estero. there are 10,000 FEMA trailers and Harvey got 9,000 of them. FEMA won't put assets in Immokalee because it's a flood zone. Bill told the members his ideas on housing. He gave a lot of info about taxes, fees, rebates and more, including disaster relief initiative, natural disasters, fire, flood, tornadoes. He advised us to register with FEMA by going to "Disasterrelief.org". Monroe County has been excellent in helping the citizens/residents. He said he was disappointed by the process of budgeting. The system is built to separate us from engaging.

6) Christmas Holiday Party plans

Discussion was held about the annual Christmas Holiday Party. The date was confirmed for Tuesday, December 19, at Bill's cabin in the woods. Arrival time 6 pm. Location: 8155 Red Hawk Lane off Immokalee Road. Question: Is your road passable? Bill replied, "Yes, it took us four hours to cut out the road to make it passable. We had a chain saw and a 17-year-old dragon to help. No damage to the house other than two screens, one blown out and two torn. No structural damage. We were blessed." The party is always on the 3rd Tuesday in December on the 19th. This is the eighth year it will be held at Bill's cabin in the woods.

7) Website for Bill McDaniel, our County Commissioner for District 5

To check out President Bill's website as commissioner, go to:

<http://www.colliergov.net/your-government/divisions-a-e/board-of-county-commissioners/william-l-mcdaniel-jr>

Bill announced that he now has his own website as County Commissioner on the Collier Government site. He said: "I am your elected County Commissioner. I'm the complaint Department. If you have a complaint, send it to me and I'll get to work on it."

8) Motion to donate funds to the VoTech School in Immokalee

After the tape was turned off and the notebook put away, Bill asked if CINA would like to donate \$250 to the VoTech School in Immokalee (or to the Rotary for the VoTech School). The purpose is to print copies of the US Constitution to pass out to students. Maria Tabraue, in response, made a motion to contribute \$500 instead of \$250 and Nancy seconded it, but this was done after the recording material was put away and so not recorded. Entered here by memory. This needs to be taken up again at the next meeting.

Adjourned at 8:19.