

Corkscrew Island Neighborhood Association
Regular meeting 2/15/2022
@ Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary and via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Vice President Doug Wilson who lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was a motion to approve the Minutes of the October meeting – it was seconded, vote taken and motion passed.

Kiryn Sanchez gave an update on the social media. Mike Petscher has volunteered to take on updating the website. He will be reviewing current data posted there and start updating it. If anyone has comments on information currently on the website that should be removed or updated (i.e. contact information of local resources, etc), please send to Mike or Kiryn.

The FaceBook group has been set up. This is a great place for quick updates. Please join the group if you are a FaceBook user. You can search for “Corkscrew Island Neighborhood Association” and it should show up.

Kiryn is also working on getting costs for a mailer to go out to those who would be eligible for membership to the group. Another idea is to monitor sales transactions in the area 2x a year and send out notices to new owners. Doug has some ideas for what the mailer should look like and will be working on developing the design.

Doug reminded the group that previously \$500 was approved for these mailers but it has been a while since that was done and recommended raising the pre-approved amount up to \$1000, subject to approval by the board before the expenses are incurred. Kiryn expanded on the process to get the named for the mailer, who would be eligible (both renters and owners for example) so there may be multiple mailers for one address, some out of the area. Kiryn motioned for the increased amount, it was seconded, vote taken and the motion passed.

Doug said we have 43 members on file and he is in the process of sending out dues reminders. Please watch your email for the reminder and mail Doug a check.

The previously approved Donation to the Sanctuary of \$500 was revisited as the payment had not yet been made. Doug asked Lisa if there was a decision on if CSS would prefer an item or the cash, and Lisa said the cash donation would go to the fire program. Doug will issue a check and get it to Lisa.

Doug gave the treasurer's report. Bank balance is \$4,641.95, no expenses since last report. He reminded the group in the importance of using those funds to support the organization – such as to increase the membership base, education seminars, or any other program that would benefit the members or further the organization. Doug added that he has secured a debit card for the bank account to make ordering items or paying for expenses online easier, instead of having to pay out of pocket and be reimbursed. He is also working on setting up a Paypal account for CINA so that we can collect dues payments online in the future.

Robbie was unable to attend the October meeting and as such had some questions on the meeting minutes from October. First she inquired if Mosquito Control was going to spray at the Sanctuary. Lisa said that the Sanctuary is a no fly zone and will continue to be so. She further explained that there had been a proposal to expand the Mosquito Control District but when it went to the county many agencies came together to oppose it, and as of the date of the meeting the expansion had not been approved.

Second, Robbie inquired how the options for the Randall curve had progressed from a park, to a bus barn, to now commercial/residential mix. Doug offered that Bill could better answer that question and suggested Robbie reach out to him directly or revisit at the next meeting. Lisa added that the commissioners added a contingency that the commercial areas of this development must be built concurrently with the residential so that the commercial is available to the residents and that all commercial must be rented before the last residential unit is built.

Third, Robbie said she did not understand the MSTBU entirely. Rob said that it was proposed 2 year ago but did not pass. Kiryn added that Bill was just explaining it as he hoped to propose it again sometime this year but as of the meeting date had not yet done so.

Last, Robbie asked about the 45MPH speed limit signs for Immokalee Rd. It was explained that another resident brought it up at the last meeting, but that there

was no speed limit change proposed at this time. Doug added that anyone who was for or against any such change should email Bill to let him know their position.

Doug brought up his concern for our area when it comes to wildfires. After the large fire last year he became concerned about protecting his property from a wildfire in the future, especially knowing that the fire department can only do so much with the resources they have – in our area they have to triage and save what they can - if they do not think they can save a structure they won't waste resources on it. Doug had a friend in the middle of the wildfire last year who had a gas powered pump and 100' of fire hose which he used to fight the fire with water from his pond (fed by underground stream). He was able to maintain a perimeter and keep the fire away from his house, and even helped fill up some fire trucks from the pond.

Doug looked into this equipment and decided to purchase a similar set up for his home – to use with his pool water. He wanted to share the information with others in case they would like to look into it for their own use. Doug said that the pump runs 256 gal/min and with 100' of hose he can get all the way around the house, and it's strong enough to shoot water up to the roof.

This is the pump that comes with the hose that the Wilsons purchased:

<https://www.jjsfiresupply.com>

Also a video of it in action:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVG8n0ybwXM>

Lastly, for those without a pool, Doug found an above ground pool at Sam's club for around \$420 that holds 9000 gals. Similar options should be available from other retailers.

Robbie brought up her concerns about the amount of bamboo being planted in the area. She asked about ways to educate neighbors on how invasive the bamboo can be and how quickly it takes over and become a problem in the future. Nancy said that they have bamboo on their property and it appears all over the place. Robbie said that she also feels the acacia is out of control. Rob

mentioned that he has bamboo and offered the idea that it could be a cash crop since it's renewable.

Lisa had a comment on fire risk in the area and recommended that if you have wetlands on your property to avoid filling them in as wetlands help reduce fire risk and can help protect your home.

Robbie mentioned that she uses the Pulse Point app to get alerts about fires in the area and when she does she will notify her close neighbors. She asked if we had a phone tree for emergency situations. The answer is that no, we do not currently have a phone tree. Recommendations for WhatsApp or other group messaging system could be set up if there is interest from enough people. For now we have email and FaceBook, however those are for less urgent messages since people may not check those frequently.

Lisa added an update from CSS – that they are just starting a capital campaign to raise money to improve the buildings. Most of the buildings are houses that were built in the 50s -60s that have been converted to office space. They will not increase footprint as they do not want to cause any effects on the area, but are in the design phase for the improvements and then will go to the County. Anyone interested in learning more or contributing can contact Lisa.

With no other business, Nancy motioned to adjourn, it was seconded and passed at 7:55PM.