

# Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition

## March 01, 2010 Meeting Minutes

### I. Call to Order

Shelley Kuroghlian called to order the regular meeting of the Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition <http://clearwatercoalition.com/> at 7:01 PM on March 01, 2010 at the Salvation Army Joy Center – 1521 Druid Road, Clearwater FL 33756.

### II. Members in Attendance

See March roll sheet.

### III. Old Business

**Secretary's Report** – January 2010 meeting minutes read as submitted by Carl Schrader. Prior to the meeting Ron Delp advised the secretary that under old business part C the sentence, “The committee will work with Ron Delk to schedule a meeting sometime in mid-January,” should be changed to, “The committee will work with Michael Delk to schedule a meeting sometime in mid-January.” Motion to amend the minutes as noted and accept the minutes was made by Isay Gulley, and seconded by JoAnna Siskin. Motion passes unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report** – Read by Doug Williams. Motion to accept made by Larry Floyd, and seconded by Bill Murray. Motion passed unanimously.

### IV. New Business

There was a brief break in Old Business so that Felicia Leonard from the city of Clearwater could give a brief presentation about proposed changes the city would like to make to the Lake Chautauqua Nature Preserve. The city applied for and received a Greenways and Trails grant. The grant funds along with 50/50 matching “Penny for Pinellas” funds will be used to create additional trails within the boundary of the park <http://www.clearwater-fl.com/gov/depts/parksrec/bikeways/trails.asp>. Through this presentation, she was hoping for additional community support to proceed with the project. An open discussion transpired and our group supported the project with two caveats: 1 – there was some concern about whether or not these new trails would be too wet to support horse use; 2- the project should not be an additional burden to the city's annual operating expenditures. The presentation concluded and Felicia said she would contact our group to obtain a statement of support.

### III. Old Business (Cont)

- A. **City Council Candidate Forum** – Shelley thanked the members that participated on this committee and said that it brought positive exposure to the coalition.
- B. **Annual Conference** – Certificates presented to Larry Floyd and Ron Wright for participating in the “**Reducing Street Gang Activity through Community Involvement**” conference.
- C. **Code Enforcement Committee Report** – Ron Delp said the committee met with Michael Delk. Michael said he would review the items: abandoned vehicles, boats, and overgrowth, with his staff. Ron Delp brought up the idea of having a committee created to address the Community Development Code.
- D. **Clearwater Downtown Partnership** – Jay Polglaze said the CDP is working to fill the vacancies and asked that we support downtown businesses. The February 4<sup>th</sup> Friday event featured Suite Caroline and it is estimated that 900 to 1,000 people attended this event.
- E. **East Gateway** – Eleanor Lyda said that two additional officers are assigned to the bike team in this area. The team now consists of eight officers. EGNBA now has a crime watch program. Sidewalks are scheduled for Drew St, Jefferson Ave, and Pierce St. The community and police continue to put pressure on “bad” motels. Through a grant obtained by Rosalie Shepherd and Maria Emilia, “TALENTO 2010” will take place on

March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. A mural will be put on the wall of the T-shirt building on Gulf-to-Bay Blvd and Highland Ave. A strong advocate for the EGBNA, and city employee, Tammy Vrana is leaving to pursue another opportunity within the city.

- F. Chamber of Commerce** – Doug Williams said that the chamber had a good annual meeting. The chamber is now working with the Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) <http://www.ethep.org/>. HEP is looking for additional involvement from the business community. The chamber is still against “Amendment 4” and offshore drilling.

#### **IV. New Business**

- A. Committee Assignments** – The following committees were established and the following members volunteered to serve on these committees.
- a. Membership Committee** – Norma Carlough, Larry Floyd, and Julie Thompson
  - b. Code Enforcement** – Ron Delp, Isay Gulley, Ron Wright, and Julie Thompson
  - c. Website** – Ron Wright, Eleanor Lyda, and Carl Schrader
  - d. Legislative** – Jay Polglaze, Doug Williams, and JoAnna Siskin
  - e. Publicity** – Howard Warshauer, and Carl Schrader
  - f. Annual Conference** – Ron Wright, Doug Williams, and Jay Polglaze
  - g. Budget** – Larry Floyd, and Ron Delp

#### **V. Neighborhood Issues**

- A. Coachman Ridge** – Larry Floyd said that a new type of scam recently occurred in his neighborhood. This scam involved a rental house that was listed for sale through the National Association of Realtor’s, Multiple Listing Service. The scammers listed the house on another website, like Craiglist, Kijiji, or some other community website. The scammer listing was significantly below market value which created a lot of unusual traffic in the neighborhood. This scam is thought to be originating from Nigeria. <http://www.scam.com/showthread.php?t=121604>

#### **VI. Other Business**

- A. Relay for Life** - Jay Polglaze said that the American Cancer Society’s “Relay for Life” [http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY10FL?sid=1003&type=fr\\_informational&pg=informational&fr\\_id=21017](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY10FL?sid=1003&type=fr_informational&pg=informational&fr_id=21017) event takes place on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at Clearwater’s Coachman Park.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

Motion made by Doug Williams to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Larry Floyd.  
Motion passed unanimously. Shelley adjourned the March 01, 2010 meeting at 8:54 PM

**Minutes Submitted by: Carl Schrader**