

**Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 5, 2014**

**President, Carl Schrader called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Members present, per sign-in sheet on file.**

**Guest Speaker**

**Felicia Leonard, City of Clearwater, Administrative Manager Parks & Recreation** spoke to the membership about Moccasin Lake Nature Park. The City is applying for a grant to overhaul the site and is applying for a \$200K grant. They are going to construct a dock, restroom and interpretive center. Carl asked about the cost for each facility. That is not currently available. Sid Lickton Park has been renovated and will have it's grand opening on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.

**Secretary's Report**

**Shelley Kuroghlian** presented the minutes from the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Motion by Doug Williams, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Howard Warshauer to accept minutes as presented. Approved unanimously.

**Treasurers Report**

**Doug Williams** presented the CNC financial information as of January 31, 2014. Motion by Scott Axford to accept the report as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Julie Thompson. Passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

The City Council Candidates Forum was held on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 75 citizens were in attendance. Feedback from the public was that it was very informative. Every effort was made to get the majority of questions answered. 29 individuals viewed the forum via webcast both within and outside Pinellas County. Carl asked that we consider purchasing equipment to enhance the quality of the broadcast. The approximate cost is \$150 for air cards and \$100 for the camera. Each event would be approximately \$30. Shelley Kuroghlian made a motion to purchase the equipment 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Cunningham. Approved.

**Greenlight Pinellas** was seeking the endorsement of the CNC a discussion and vote was taken at the January meeting and the measure passed with 9 to 2 in favor. Carl Schrader is seeking permission to put their logo on our website. Once we have permission the endorsement will be sent.

**New Business**

The impact of the **Biggert-Waters Act 2012** on neighborhoods was discussed. The unintended consequences are that houses in A or B zones must have flood insurance. This expense may cause them to lose their homes or small businesses. We would like to work with CONA and CNCN on this project. Councilman Jonson spoke about the discounts that are available and suggested that we invite someone from FEMA to explain how they work. We will provide links where citizens can get more information. CNC needs to be a conduit to our elected officials to resolve this. Motion made by Shelley Kuroghlian to work with CONA & CNCN to have an event at SPC to advocate for a change in Biggert-Waters. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Williams. Approved. Carl asked for a committee to be formed and the members are: Shelley Kuroghlian, Scott Axford, Karen Cunningham, and Carl Schrader).

Carl Schrader led a discussion on **CNC Goals & Objectives for 2014** as relates to Neighborhoods and the City of Clearwater.

Suggestions:

Adopt a Park

CNC Parade to celebrate neighborhoods with a carnival. Committee members are: Maryce Garber, Lee Mortimer, JoAnna Siskin, Shelley Kuroghlian, Carl Schrader, Howard Warshauer)

**Other Business**

**Bicycle Trails** - Proposal made by Karen Cunningham to obtain information on the Duke Energy Trail. Howard Warshauer asked to get info on the completion of the Druid Rd. trail as well. He asked that the topic of bike trails be put on the agenda for a future meeting.

**Budget Inn** –Shelley Kuroghlian addressed the membership about the article “[Prostitution arrests on the rise in Clearwater; problem persists](#)” in the February 4, 2014 edition of the Tampa Bay Times regarding prostitution at the Budget Inn and the [5 points area](#) of Clearwater [Gulf to Bay Blvd., Highland Ave and Court St]. She raised the question as to why prostitutes, with multiple arrests, are still being charged with a misdemeanor and released. She indicated that candidates for judgeships continue to seek the support of the CNC and that we should question them on this issue. We need to put pressure on the legislature to put minimum mandatory fines and sentences for both prostitutes and johns. Alicia Polk, candidate for circuit court judge, group 2 provided information on how the State Attorney’s Office handles these cases and why it is important to advocate for legislative changes to deal with the problem. Karen Cunningham suggested that CNC do a forum. Committee members are: Shelley Kuroghlian, Greg Mathis, Carl Schrader, JoAnna Siskin and Julie Thompson.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Doug Williams at 8:35 pm. It was seconded by Scott Axford, Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Kuroghlian  
Secretary, Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition