

**Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition
Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2015**

President, Carl Schrader called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Members present, per sign-in sheet on file.

Clearwater Community Garden

Carl Schrader introduced Howard Warshauer who spoke about the opening of the Clearwater Community Garden in the East Gateway at the old Economy Inn site. The ground breaking ceremony will take place on Neighborhoods Day, April 25th. There will be displays by the CRA, Lowes, Natures Food Patch, the EGBNA, Clearwater Garden Club and the Community Garden. The event will go from 11:00 to 2:00 with speakers every two hours and will also feature a band. There will be 40 4thx 8th plots with the hope that most will go to residents of the East Gateway. You must be a member of the organization (\$25) to lease a plot for \$30. They will also have classes on gardening (for the public) once the garden becomes established. They have a Facebook page under Clearwater Community Gardens.

Secretary's Report

Carl Schrader presented the minutes from the February 2, 2015 meeting and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Motion by, Howard Warshauer 2nd by Doug Williams to accept minutes a presented. Approved unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Doug Williams presented the CNC financial information as of February 28, 2015. Motion made by Shelley Kuroghlian to accept the report as written, 2nd by Karen Cunningham. Approved unanimously.

Old Business

Urban Land Institute – Council work session today at which Rod Irwin was tasked to make recommendations as to who should be on the advisory council. There will be 11 on the council plus two additional members appointed by the council. Bill Jonson recommended that they have a scharette prior to the advisory council meeting. The last visioning session was in 2012 which was for the overall city, not focused on the downtown. Doug Williams will be the CNC representative.

Membership – Karen Cunningham, Chairman – Karen spoke to Anna Gurney with regard to sharing the information collected by the city regarding neighborhoods registration to use as a contact list. She also asked that members review and provide suggestions for a recruiting brochure. Carl suggested that we also use the info from our Mail Chimp account.

Code – The City Council is suggesting the formation of a Nuisance Abatement Board that will address issues such as drugs, prostitution, and stolen merchandise. This is a big step forward in fining and foreclosure of these properties. A motion was made by Joanna Siskin that a letter be sent to the council thanking them for the creation of the Nuisance Abatement Board and asking that the meetings be held in the evening so that people who work can participate. Approved unanimously.

Parade – Centennial Celebration – Carl Schrader, Chairman – Application is almost completed and we are in touch with the Jolly Trolley to secure the vehicle for the parade.

Fall Event- Howard Warshauer - Fishing tournament and Fish Fry sponsored by CNC/Skycrest at the end of October or the beginning of November. Skycrest will be in charge of the fishing tournament. The Historical Society declined to participate but will set up a table to provide information on their organization. Nauti Nancy's has offered to do the fish fry. Jay Rhodes has offered to demonstrate cast netting to the children.

Neighborhood Crime Watch – CNC needs to meet with Chief Slaughter to determine if the CPD wants to participate and to what extent.

New Business

Florida legislative session began today and Chris Latvala has made himself available to his constituents through Town Hall forums, website, facebook, twitter and by phone. . He pledged to represent his constituents and asked that you call his office to let him know how you feel about an issue and will be influenced by what he hears. He also pledged help the Historical Society bring the South Ward School up to code.

Police

It is spring break, lock your cars and put your valuables in your trunk BEFORE you reach your destination. Wild Splash is being held this weekend at Coachman Park.

City Information

Jay Polglaze has asked the Council to task Jill Silverboard to establish something similar to the St. Petersburg Mayors grant program. This may help re-establish neighborhood services in Clearwater. The City Manager has taken this under advisement. Police will receive a 4% raise and the CWA workers a 3%. The beach chamber has suggested the establishment of a ferry so that workers could park on the mainland and take the boat to their jobs. There are 3 hotels (Adams Mark, Wyndom Grand, Hampton Inn) under construction on the beach along with the Pelican Walk garage.

Book Buzz will read to children the 2nd Saturday of the month in Crestlake Park, on March 14th "How I became a Pirate" will be read.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Doug Williams at 8:37 and was seconded by Howard Warshauer, Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Kuroghlian
Secretary, Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition