

MICOI
Meeting Minutes October 30, 2019

Meeting was called to order by VP Jeff at 7:12 PM

Opening prayer by Monica Tyler followed by
Pledge to the Flag

Minutes of July meeting and treasurer's report were dispensed to each table and Naomie directed those in attendance to look over those documents and asked if anyone had any corrections or questions concerning these reports. Having no questions or corrections, she asked for a motion to accept them. Said motion was made by Larry Lehans and second by Hope Ariaza passed without exception.

Todd Rodrigue asked about the fact that a lawyer's fee being only \$100. Naomie explained that that was a ONE TIME fee for one hour to discuss the matter of covenants. Noted that if there is any change in covenants, these will be sent to residents in writing. Janet Nunnery asked when we were voting on covenants and Naomie said that she and Bonnie had to make a list based on the report from the Covenants Committee and then take that to the Lawyer for proper wording etc. before it could be given to the residents for consideration. John Cervini brought up the fact that if a resident refuses to abide by the covenants, the organization would have to sue that individual and that takes more money than we have. Janet then pointed out the covenants were no good if there was no way to enforce them. Larry Lehans then talked about enforcement of Parish Ordinances. He said that he had a hard time getting the Sheriff's deputies to enforce the ordinances. David Ariaza then said that such enforcement could not be done by Sheriff because it was Civil not Criminal activity. Larry argued that the department to enforce such ordinances was under the Sheriff's Office. David said that people should be given "grace" for ordinances. Larry then said that there should be no such thing as grace. A law was a law and should be enforced. David then said that he would go to the Sheriff's Office tomorrow and see that all ordinances be enforced on Moonraker Drive but the consequence would be that speeding tickets would be issued to persons going as little as 1 mile over the limit. Todd spoke to the issue of safety when boats and other vehicles are illegally parked. Naomie injected that within the last few weeks such an instance happened when a school bus could not get through the street because a large boat was parked on one side of the street and a truck on the other side - leaving not enough room for the bus. There would not be room for a fire engine or ambulance to get through either. The safety of our residents should take precedence over the convenience of others.

Naomie then spoke about Neighborhood Watch and noted that signs have been erected but that she still needed “block captains” to help get important information out to our neighbors when necessary. Further discussion was had about signs that could or could not be obtained from the Parish. Mr. Lehans pointed out that we did have signs noting that there was to be no commercial fishing, crabbing etc.. in Moonraker Canals.

The question of the I-10 ramps and lights were then discussed and it was noted that the lights were not on because the Parish did not want to pay for the cost. However, this project should be completed within the next 6 months.

This discussion lead to the fact that there is an election at hand and those present were urged to get out and vote.

A report on the Levee Board included the fact that the Levee Board has no power because they are not a funded board. Naomie reminded those present that the members of that Board donated their time and are not compensated for their time and/or work. John Cervan brought up the fact that Steve Scalise’s office was supposed to give money to the Levee Board. Naomie explained that the money (2M) was sent to the CPRA who in turn gave the money to Parish President Pat Brister. Our project was 1.0 and was to be the first project addressed. However, we have only heard that the GAP analysis is complete and the engineering firm is ready to model their suggestions with the Corps of Engineers and are now waiting for the parish to set the time and date for such modeling.

Discussion of the Harbor Center and the fact that it was not self funding ensued. Naomie reported that there was a recent meeting with local HOA representatives to get information as to what can be done to help make the Center a more lucrative endeavor. It was brought up that a Casino there would certainly bring in a lot of revenue, but that there would have to be a Parish wide vote to allow gambling which had been ousted several years ago. Margaret Longstreet commented that the Center should not have been built if there was any possibility that it would not generate its own funding. Hope then suggested a private management company might be a help.

The matter of “help” was then discussed. Naomie reminded those present to talk up the organization to their neighbors and to consider volunteering themselves to do whatever they could to give the Board a hand.

Lee Longstreet was then given the floor to read a letter to the members. This letter concerned the fact that real estate agents have been using scare tactics to bust blocks in order to profit from the sale of properties. This was done in the

70's and 80's concerning ethnic groups. Today the realtors are using the scare of flooding, crime and "short term rentals" to goad residents into selling "before the market collapses" . It is true that the proliferation of "short term rentals" will cause property values to plummet. For this reason, we should push elected officials to move to ban such activity within a "single family residential" neighborhood. He also addressed what brings crime into our neighborhood. He said that such activities as community garage sales and advertising Halloween Trick or Treating brings outside elements into our neighborhood and those individuals actually scout out the area looking for what they might come back and steal. His closing urged that MICOI continue to devote its time and talents to Civic matters and let the Socializing be done outside of the organization.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:30.

Submitted by
Naomie L. Hess, Secretary
October 31, 2019