



**Coconut Grove Village Council**

Marc Sarnoff-Chair  
Yvonne McDonald-Vice Chair  
David Collins  
Felice Dubin  
Gary Hecht  
Ron Nelson  
Michelle Niemeyer  
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**Coconut Grove Village Council  
July 6, 2006  
Meeting Minutes**

On July 6, 2006, a quorum of duly elected Directors of Firm met to discuss and decide issues relevant to the business of the corporation. Council Members Marc Sarnoff, Yvonne McDonald, Felice Dubin, Michelle Niemeyer, Gary Hecht, David Collins and Lottie Person were present and voted. The following discussions took place, including the enactment of resolutions as described herein:

1. Approval of minutes was deferred until the next meeting.
2. Crime Report: Robert Loupo reported an increase in favorable comments about police response. Commander Whitehead reported larceny is up, while robberies and assaults are down. 14 stolen cars - 3 arrests. David Collins thanked Commander Whitehead for police support to merchants over July 4 holiday.
3. Commissioner Haskins was introduced and given an opportunity to discuss issues with residents. She indicated she wants to build business in the Village West. Several residents raised questions about various issues, the most prevalent theme being questions related to the Home Depot Class II permit application. Commissioner Haskins said she couldn't respond to questions regarding Home Depot or her position on it because of "Jennings." Several residents took advantage of the opportunity to make their concerns known to Commissioner Haskins regardless of Commissioner Haskins' inability to discuss the issue. Regarding the waterfront master plan, Commissioner Haskins stated she thought Sasaki was fired (Ms. Niemeyer responded she was told there was a problem but there had been no indication from planning that Sasaki had been terminated). With regard to the Expo Center, Commissioner Haskins said the City

4. needs an Expo Center but never set money aside to keep it repaired. It is in disrepair. Commissioner Haskins wanted it closed sooner. Didn't know if AC would work, roof would leak. From decent business standard she has a problem with keeping it. Whatever the consensus of the master plan, she will support that consensus. Her personal preference is a smaller venue for expositions in the parking lot the City owns at Pan American Drive. Likes opening the area to more green. IF it stays they have to find the money to repair it. Commissioner Haskins wants to see more cooperation with residents and not things being brought up "for the first time" to the Commission, and demanded that the Waterfront Working Committee come to her about things like the fuel dock first. Miami 21 was discussed. There will be a workshop with Commissioners in August on that topic. Lots of encouraging things and lots of questions. Issues of upzoning and downzoning. Discussed economic incentives to get developers to maintain historic buildings and/or build smaller FAR, parks, etc., in exchange for the ability to sell development rights off-site. Gary Hecht asked to know her position on things. A white paper of sorts. Ms. Haskins wants more time because she wants to hear what people have to say. David Collins said there have been two important moments. When Commissioner Winton swore us in and used the word cooperation. We have major issues to deal with such as traffic, public transportation, affordable housing. Felice Dubin thanked Commissioner Haskins for support on 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue. We in surrounding neighborhoods are together on this. Thanks for stepping up to the plate with e-mail to the County. She also raised a concern about the stacks of dock planks in the parking lot behind Dinner Key Marina. Marina Manager Stephen Bogner stated they are trying to sell the planks. Felice wants them inside the Expo center where they can't cause damage during a hurricane.
  
5. JIM MCMASTER gave a presentation regarding the 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue Metrorail project: First incarnation was 14 stories, 10 stories, and supermarket. Second incarnation almost doubled, two 19 story buildings. Village Council approved. No zoning on the property. The developer gets to propose the zoning on the property. Proposed 350 feet as height limit, every possible use. New proposal is 1.5 times the Datran Center. Question for the Village Council is how did we get here? Conceptual proposal to put up two residential and an office tower. Roughly 1,000 residential units. How do we respond to the County. Transit wants ridership and says the bigger the better. M-D County planning department's problem is that this is a "community" station. County was thinking 8 to 10 stories and this would require change of the county plan. Proposed resolution stating all M-D County departments involved ... see document. Felice Dubin indicated the City Planning and Zoning Department has been supporting the project. The County is not in favor of it. Pulled from July 26 agenda so we can really do the research and it will come before the DIC September 6.

6. Motion to pass resolution provided by 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue Committee by Michelle Niemeyer, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Gary Hecht, unanimously yes to draft circulated by 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue Committee. (copy of resolution attached to minutes)
7. Home Depot is appealing the Zoning Board. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in July (26<sup>th</sup>). Jim McMaster suggested we ask for a time certain. Marc will ask it be first.
8. Tree Ordinance: Changes drafted by Michelle Niemeyer, Marc Sarnoff, Ryan Alexander and others. Got a re-draft that is not the same. A palm tree is no longer a "tree." Commissioner Haskins wants to talk to Arriola.

Dated: August 18, 2006

  
Michelle M. Niemeyer, Secretary