

RIO VISTA CIVIC ASSOCIATION- GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2023 7:30PM (*general meeting*)

Only current members of the RVCA are eligible to vote during our General Meeting. To check on the status of your membership email treasurer@riovistaonline.com.

1. Call to Order 7:31 pm

a. Board Roll Call by Julie Hough

Present:

Lori Sterling

Mark Snead

Charles Tatelbaum (non-voting member)

Jean-Jacques Rajter

Julie Hough

William Kirk

Evan Jaxtheimer

Ryan Lehrer

Absent:

Fred Stresau

Nancy R Messing

b. Agenda will be taken out of order to accommodate guests.

c. Guests:

1. Gus Caracas from Code Enforcement -

You can find out about a particular case by checking the online docket.

Cars parked across sidewalk, airbnb complaints/short term rentals, neighbors damaging landscaping all call 954-828-8000. Cannot be an anonymous call. First discuss with your neighbor if possible.

Individual homeowners responsible for sidewalks on their property.

If you want people to stop parking on your swale, you can get a no parking sign, but then the homeowner also cannot park there. Diamond shaped concrete bumpers are illegal, but rounded ones are legal to stop people from parking on your swale.

2. Representative from Protect Rio Vista-

Sergeant Wright has the Monday - Thursday evening shift

Main issues include homeless wandering in the neighborhood, one boat burglary (be sure to lock up your boat), some noise disturbances and one small fire.

Fishing from the seawall is allowed, but need a license.

3. Dr. Nancy Gassman and Todd Hiteshew email ngassman@fortlauderdale.gov or call 954-828-8000 for pollution/water quality concerns.

Discussion re waterways and water quality: Waterways were top priority (only 4-5 of these per year) for Fort Lauderdale in 2021 and 2022. Now it is a priority (only appx. 10 per year).

Street sweepers and pollution control devices including catch basins remove waste from roads, etc. and avoid this waste getting into waterways.

In 2020, hired a vendor to clean 165 miles of waterways in Fort Lauderdale, which seems to be improving year over year in terms of the amount of debris the vendor is able to collect (significant improvement over internal resources performing this task).

Once per week, the City performs water quality testing using a “swimming” standard. The water quality has improved year over year since 2020 first testing began after sewage spill and the bacterial count decreased.

Seawall commission is requiring all new seawalls to provide a habitat rather than straight concrete.

The solutions the City is currently focused on are: (i) increasing water flow and (ii) working with cities upstream to reduce pollution that flows into the Tarpon and New Rivers.

Open discussion from members included some potential solutions: Planting mangroves (Gassman explained some of the difficulties around mangroves including property rights) and growing oysters (Gassman attempting to get information on pilot program but no luck in getting any data at this point).

d. Verify General Membership Quorum of 10% - As of today, we have 391 RVCA members so a quorum will require 40 households. We have 368 members of the patrol. No quorum for this meeting.

e. Implement a proxy system - Julie Hough - handed out proxy forms in order to get the required number of votes to pass the election of the board and previous meeting minutes.

2. Officers' Reports

- a. Treasurer: no report
- b. Secretary: no report
- c. President: If quorum verified, affirm interim appointment of board members. No quorum.

3. Committee Reports - no updates from any committee

- a. Disaster Committee: (JJ Rajter) -
- b. Security: (Mark Snead) -
- c. Parks: (Fred)-
- d. Social: (Nancy Messing) -
- e. Communications: (Mark and Nancy)-
- f. Welcome/Membership: (Lori)-

4. New Business - Introduce Member Benefit Program - local businesses on list provide benefits to card-carrying members of RVCA. List of businesses will be online soon. Cards handed out. Anyone who is a member but was not able to get their card can reach out to JJ Rajter for information.

5. Adjourn 8:40 pm