

**WORKSHOP MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES
APRIL 27, 2004 – 4:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Present upon roll call: Mayor Beyrouiti, Commissioner Armstrong, Commissioner Reynolds, and Commissioner Holmes. Vice Mayor Lishamer came in a few minutes late.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

175th Citizen Group Recommendations – Vice Mayor Lishamer

Mayor Beyrouiti introduced David Browning of the 175th Citizen Group who completed a study on the beautification of 175th Avenue. Mr. Browning presented the recommendation packet to the Board of Commissioners. He advised the Board that his group would be willing to go to a sub-committee for further study and cost studies if needed. He told the Board that the schematic from Butler Landscaping, showing a diagram of 175th Avenue with the proposed landscaping resulting from their study was not finished, and that he will bring it to the Board, within the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Browning described the recommendations and goals of the group in detail. He described a street with symmetry of landscaping that would encourage drivers to slow down and view the area. This would be a beautiful entryway into the neighborhoods off of 175th Avenue that would enhance the Town and encourage other neighborhoods to improve their landscaping. He described several neighborhoods and new developments in other towns that have done this type of landscape improvements that managed to slow traffic and improve safety as well. He reported that the speed limit should be lowered, another stop sign installed at 175th Terrace, or speed humps installed along the street to slow traffic. During the study the citizen's group had a traffic speed monitor from the Sheriff's Office in place on 175th Avenue, which significantly slowed down traffic on the street.

Mr. Browning pointed out changes in the Town Code that would be needed to allow the landscaping within the Town's right-of-ways. He would like these changes to allow moving mailboxes, planting palms and ground cover, and irrigation systems, on the Town's right-of-way while the Paving and curbing projects are being done, to minimize the disruption to residents. The recommendations also included changes of street signs, lighting, and the addition new bench seating areas for people to enjoy.

Mayor Beyrouiti advised the Citizen's group that the Board would also like to see many of these changes take place, and had for several years tried to implement some of them. He went over the history of proposed changes to streets and the problems with the Department of Transportation (DOT) concerning planting palms along the streets. He suggested other types of plantings, which would be allowed by the DOT. He also reported on the obstacles on having a stop sign or speed humps installed to slow traffic. Vice Mayor Lishamer suggested that since the proposed changes were for streets owned by the Town, that the DOT could be contacted to review the proposed changes, and make recommendations on what should be allowed. The primary recommendations are for the South side of the street, since the North side will have to wait until after the Undergrounding project is done to cut down the costs of repairs to the roadway and curbing.

A short discussion followed about the unique problems of parking on 175th Avenue and possible ways of dealing with it. Commissioner Holmes reported that a prior study on parking had been done by the Commission to

provide a plan for additional parking. The study showed that there was none available, and that is why the Town allows parking along the right-of-ways. Vice Mayor Lishamer suggested putting mulch on the Right-of Ways adjoining the Town easements to allow for additional parking and better access to the easements.

Commissioner Reynolds pointed out part of the problem was caused by special events at a local hotel, and that a building in the hotel's overflow parking lot was taking up a lot of their parking areas. Their guests were therefore parking along the street during these events, and several vehicles have been towed because of this. Mayor Beyrouti asked the Building Official, Mike Nadeau, to check to see if this building is legal and was ever properly permitted; he said if it is not legal, to take the necessary steps to have it removed.

Mr. Browning indicated that citizens could help defray costs by assisting in the planting, moving mailboxes, and other landscaping projects. He indicated that people in his neighborhood would be willing to help pay for these improvements. A discussion followed about the types of planning that could be used for the landscaping. The Citizens Group went into detail about the need for irrigation on the landscaping along 175th Avenue. Mike Nadeau said there was irrigation already in place along part of 175th Avenue, and he will check on the possibility of extending it.

The Mayor thanked the Citizens Group for all their hard work and said the Commission will look into doing as much of the projects as possible. He detailed a brief history of past projects that have been attempted, and the problems with them, it is possible a citizen's survey of the whole street be made detailing what parts of the study they wish to have done, and if they would be willing to help pay for it. This will allow the Commission to take the action desired by the residents. A discussion followed about the various ways of paying for these types of projects and the possibility of improvements for the whole town. Vice Mayor Lishamer went over the issues of beautification, and how possibly some LDU money could be used to fund these types of projects. Commissioner Reynolds also mentioned the DOT involvement on 175th Avenue, since it is considered an evacuation route for the area. Town Administrator, Don Lusk, explained the guidelines in the Uniform Manual Code, should be followed to avoid future legal problems concerning safety. Mayor Beyrouti assured the Citizen's Group the Board will follow up on the suggestions after they submit their survey and schematic of the proposed beautification project.

2-1-1, Operation Donation – Commissioner Armstrong

Commissioner Armstrong described the 211 Tampa Bay Cares program and the charities it helps support. She explained the current food drive and how it is being advertised. The Town Clerk, Mary Palmer, has had this event posted on the Town bulletin boards and the Government T.V. Channel. Commissioner Holmes suggested having copies of the flyer made and distributed to the condos in town.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mayor Beyrouti introduced the Town Administrator, Don Lusk and announced the following meetings:

Regular Meeting - Tuesday, May 11, 2004 – 7:00 p.m.

Workshop Meeting – Tuesday, May 25, 2004- 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Holmes reported the Town Clerk will be attending a continuing education class in June, and that he and the Town Administrator will be attending a Hurricane Conference during the May Workshop meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Hamilton, Admin. Secretary