

MEETING MINUTES
CHARLOTTE RANCHETTES STREET AND DRAINAGE ADVISORY BOARD
January 31, 2008

The Attendees: Nigel Morris, Michael Szuba, Ruth Cudzillo, William Faris,
Robert Schaffer

Absent: James Howarth

The meeting was called to order by Nigel Morris at 6:35 p.m.

Agenda: There were no requested additions or deletions to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Morris read several proposed changes to the draft minutes of the previous two meetings.

After discussion by the Board, Mr. Szuba moved to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2007 meeting with the proposed changes. Mr. Faris seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of that meeting as amended.

Likewise, Mr. Faris moved to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2008 meeting with the proposed changes. Ms. Cudzillo seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of that meeting as amended.

Discuss and Adopt Recommendations for MSBU Study Assessment Method:

The Committee discussed the appropriate assessment method for the Charlotte Ranchettes in light of the pending MSBU study. Mr. Morris advised that at the December 17, 2007 meeting he advised Commissioner Cummings that the Charlotte Ranchettes should be assessed on a per acre basis. Mr. Szuba advised that at that meeting, Commissioner Cummings and Thomas O’Kane stated that a letter should be sent to the County Commission advising that the Advisory Committee recommended that the Charlotte Ranchettes be assessed on a per acre basis. Mr. Szuba moved that such a letter or letters be sent. Ms. Cudzillo seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to do so and Mr. Nigel Morris volunteered to send a letter or letters to the County Commissioners advising that the Charlotte Ranchettes be assessed on a per acre basis.

Review Finances:

The Committee discussed the expenses projected by Public Works verses the revenues actually spent on Phase I work in the Ranchettes. Mr. Faris questioned the expenditures for matters such as notices of meetings and postage and inquired as to the determination of amounts

to be held in reserve and the balance of money remaining after completion of Phase I work. Mr. Szuba advised that he had pursuant to Michael Dallenbach's invitation at the last Committee meeting been in contact with Mr. Dallenbach concerning work being done. Mr. Faris volunteered to request from Dawn Harrison an update of the Ranchettes revenue money spent thus far, the amount of revenues remaining unspent and the amount of money held in reserve.

Develop Phase II Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2008 including Signage and Drainage:

The Committee discussed the need for signage and the cost thereof and the need for mowing and the cutting of foliage restricting sight lines at intersections and along roadways. Ms. Cudzillo inquired as to the possibility of contracting for mowing and cutting of foliage using a private contractor if funds could be raised. She advised that cutting of foliage on Grove Blvd. in her area of responsibility was needed. Mr. Szuba advised that he had been advised that consideration was being given to bringing all properties with access to Grove Blvd. into the Ranchettes MSBU. He advised that grading of roadways on Acorn Blvd., Alan Blvd., Gewant Blvd., and Grove Blvd. from Clara Drive was needed were there sufficient funds to do so. Mr. Faris advised that the same was true of roadways from Pelican Drive to Polk Drive in his area of responsibility. Mr. Morris advised that grading was needed for access on Clara Drive from Austrian Blvd. to Grove Blvd.

Establishment/Reestablishment of Area Sub-Committees:

Mr. Morris encouraged each Committee member to meet with sub-committee members in their areas of responsibility in order to obtain input as to work being done and work needed. He further encouraged each to reestablish sub-committees where former participants were no longer participating.

Public Comments:

In attendance at the meeting were Ms. Betty Vaughn, Ms. Madeline Popejoy and Ms. Susan Jones. Betty Vaughn observed that based on the Committee discussions and the budget, the matter of drainage in the Ranchettes was not going to be addressed this year. She requested information regarding the responsibilities of the South County Storm Water Utility. Ms. Vaughn advised that the Ranchettes clean-up day scheduled for April 20, 2008 had been canceled and that a new date in May would be published in the Ranchettes Post newsletter. She advised that the amount of assessment money spent in the Ranchettes would be published in the newsletter.

Member Comments:

Mr. Morris advised that he had received a call from Dawn Harrison regarding the failure of James Howarth to attend any Committee meeting other than the first meeting held. He requested the members' input regarding Mr. Howarth. Mr. Faris stated that pursuant to Section 4-6-883 of the ordinance creating the Ranchettes MSBU Board Mr Howarth automatically forfeited his appointment by his failure to attend any meetings without cause or prior approval in the past year. The Committee members determined that James Howarth be replaced as the Alternate Advisory Board member. Mr. Morris volunteered to contact Dawn Harrison, advise her of the decision and request that she advise the procedure to be followed to replace Mr. Howarth.

Selection of Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be held on March 13, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. at the home of William Faris, 6106 Gewant Blvd., Punta Gorda, Florida.

Mr. Faris moved to adjourn, Mr. Szuba seconded, the members unanimously agreed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Schaffer



Nigel Morris, Chairman