

MEETING MINUTES
ROTONDA WEST STREET & DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 15, 2014 – Regular Meeting
10:00 a.m. – Rotonda West Community Center

Attendees: Russell Kulp, John Peszko, Stanley Plizga, and Scott Schermerhorn

Absent: Bob Barrett (excused) and Susan Killion (excused)

Guests: Sign in sheet attached

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. A roll call was taken that established a quorum was present.

The minutes from the February 20, 2014 Pre-meeting Workshop and February 20, 2014 Regular Meeting were unanimously approved as written.

The new member, Mr. Russell Kulp was introduced.

There is a change in format due to directions received from the County Attorney's Office; citizen input will be at the beginning of each meeting and limited to 3 minutes per person.

Citizen Input:

- Ms. Abarbanell –
 1. She lives at 1191 Boundary Blvd. at the last house on the street and would like to talk about speed limit issues. She doesn't think that speed limit is an issue; however she thinks 35 mph speed is excessive. She feels this is a matter of safety not of speed. Drivers do not adhere to the speed limits. Boundary and Rotonda Circle are not thoroughfares. She commented regarding residents not being consulted prior to the speed change and would like to know if there is a way to notify residents of upcoming scheduled meetings. If the community was canvased she would like to know how that was done because she was not contacted for her comments. Mr. Peszko explained that meetings are publicized in the paper and on the County website. The next meeting date is determined at the end of each meeting. Committee members are volunteers and they do not canvas residents to attend meetings.
 2. Ms. Abarbanell commented to Mr. House that you can see where the water from the end of the canal system is draining from her house. She lives at the end of Boundary Blvd.
- Mr. Lyons –
 1. He objects to the speed limit being raised on Rotonda Circle from 30 mph to 35 mph. The 40 and 45 mph does not work now and 35 will not work either. The problem is with speed enforcement.
 2. Regarding the backyard drainage issue that Ms. Charlesworth brought up, the common thread is the Golf Course and they are not good neighbors. They need to be responsible for setting and maintaining the grades in the swales. When the tropical storms come and the water comes within inches of residents lanais it will be considered a serious issue.
- Mr. House –
 1. Asked if the water at the end of the canal system located at the Rotonda River and the brass bridge will drain into Coral Creek. The water does not appear to be going anywhere. If the water rises there may be potential problems for residents. Mr. Plizga stated that he has been in contact with Ms. Powers from Southwest Florida Water Management District and Ms. Vernon from Engineering regarding the issue and is waiting to hear back regarding if anything will be done. Mr. Plizga agreed to walk the area with Mr. House. This issue would be better discussed at the West Charlotte Stormwater Utility Advisory Committee since it falls under their jurisdiction.
 2. Can this area be used for hiking? This area belongs to the state.
- Ms. Charlesworth –
 1. She asked to be added to the email list so she will know when meetings are coming up. She can also call Rotonda West Association office to inquire about upcoming meetings.
 2. She is concerned about drainage at properties that are adjacent to the golf course. She stated that it is unacceptable for residents to be left hanging with nothing being done to address resident issues while everybody is passing the responsibility from one group to another.

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Many groups have been talked to and there are no requirements or stipulations for an issue like this to be taken care of. Items can't be handed off to other groups and left with nothing done. In Illinois things were addressed and residents are not left hanging. Mr. Elias explained that what was done in the past is done. He indicated that we are forced to work within the system that is in place until that system can be changed. He empathized with Ms. Charlesworth but pointed out unless water was coming into the house, which we have in some areas of the County; this situation is more of a nuisance. Ms. Charlesworth stated this is no small nuisance; they don't want to live like this and have spent a lot of money. Many residents have had problems behind their houses. Mr. Elias will schedule a special meeting to discuss the topic and asks that everybody keep an open mind.

Unfinished Business:

- Rotonda Blvds. North, East & West Sidewalk /11 curbing radiuses –
 1. Rotonda North sidewalk is almost completely striped. Pipes that were discussed to be replaced or relined will be done within the next couple of weeks.
 2. Rotonda East sidewalk – There was an accident last week where a car hit a contractor's tractor; the Contractor's Operator was cited due to no flagger being present.
 3. Dirt placement – Will be done after Rotonda East is complete
 4. The sidewalk radius at Parade is complete which will allow the installation of the crosswalk striping.
 5. As Rotonda East is close to completion, a change order will be prepared so that Rotonda West can be done.
 6. No complaints have been received from the residents that had driveways replaced.
- Mr. Perkins asked about the CCU problem on Rotonda West. Mr. Elias explained that the project was almost completely through the design process when CCU brought it to the design firm's attention. The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) recently provided direction that CCU must fund their own projects or elements that are theirs related to other projects; not the MSBU. If CCU wants to replace the pipes they will have to pay for them. Mr. Peszko said it would be best to coordinate the projects. Ms. Musselman stated there are some minor adjustments being made to the plans and she hoped to have Rotonda Blvd. West in purchasing within the next month.
- There was discussion regarding the 11 curbing radiuses. At one time there was talk about curbing all of medians on the Boulevards and it was scrapped. People are driving through the grass causing the area to deteriorate. The cut through areas may need to be re-looked at. The Committee verified with Mr. Elias that the 11 curbing radiuses are going to be done on both sides.
- There was discussion regarding ways to educate residents regarding driving on the bike lanes. Mr. Elias will follow up with Mr. Vattikuti as to possible signage that can be used. This will be another enforcement issue. There was discussion regarding service vehicles parking in the bike lanes. It may be a learning curve. Mr. Elias stated he used to be a member of BPAC which may be helpful to get information out to the public. He stated it may also be possible to put out a Public Service Announcement (PSA) regarding the bike paths in Rotonda West.
- 9 Stamped Crosswalks – The quote came in at \$35,054 and the work is scheduled for the evening of April 23, 2014. Parade Circle will be closed from 9 pm to 7 am to allow all 9 crosswalks to be done at the same time. A PSA to close Parade Circle during that time will be prepared and sent out to the public.
- Parade Circle Phase 2 – The sidewalk segments to six side streets are in purchasing now.
- Dead Trees – The trees that are dead are not the ones that were replaced originally. The contractor is not responsible; MSBU funds will have to be used. There was discussion regarding the cause of the death of the trees and was proper maintenance applied. There was no maintenance plan for them when they were installed. At the end of the 1 year warranty those trees were still alive. The trees that

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were dead at that time were replaced. All contracts moving forward have the maintenance built into them. The replacement trees will cost approximately \$500 per tree. The committee agreed they would have to know the number of dead trees before moving forward. After further discussion, Mr. Peszko made a motion to replace the dead trees on Parade Circle at a cost not to exceed \$3000; the motion was seconded by Mr. Plizga and passed unanimously.

- There was discussion regarding maintenance programs, landscaping and specialty mowing. Mr. Elias will work to make necessary changes to correct the past issues with regards to specialty mowing and landscaping. The Committee expressed their happiness with Mr. Elias' past practices and is confident he will address the issues.
- Rotonda West Entry Features - The notice to proceed was issued on March 18, 2014. There has not been any action. Ms. Musselman requested an updated schedule last week. The Contractor sent a revised schedule with a new ending date of August 5; however the contract end date is July 16. The contractor was reminded that liquidated damages at \$750 per day will be charged for each day past July 16. The County cannot specify a start date, only the ending contract date can be stipulated.
- Electric Runs to Bridges – Notice to proceed was issued April 14, 2014 and the contractor will have until July 7, 2014 to complete the project. A directional bore will be started next week.
- Decorative Lighting – There is funding available in the budget for the design to be done in FY2014. Fiscal Services suggested moving forward with the design in FY2014. Construction could start in FY2015. A CIP amendment will be required for construction to be done in FY2015. Mr. Schermerhorn made a motion to approve \$50,000 to move forward with design now in FY2014 and construction in FY2015 with a CIP amendment; the motion was seconded by Mr. Kulp and passed unanimously.
- Backyard Drainage Piping Project – Long Meadow Rd – Mr. Elias stated the crew has started. The initial project was for 1200 linear feet of pipe; however an additional 274 feet were added and there may be another increase due to additional line and grades. The project will likely take another month. There was discussion regarding repairing the outfall in that area at the same time. There was also discussion regarding this work being done on golf course property which is private and the possibility of setting a precedent of MSBU funds being used to address issues on private property. Each item will be reviewed on a case by case basis. A new plan is being discussed by Ms. Vernon and Mr. Elias. Cost estimates are not available at this time; however they will be worked on.
- Rotonda West Drainage Plan M&O Involvement – Mr. Elias verified that Rotonda West had a study stopped in order to put the money towards maintenance and asked where the maintenance issues are located. The Committee stated that they previously identified 13 locations and agreed to address the items that could be accomplished quickly first with the others done later. Mr. Elias wants to address the ones that will get the Unit the most for their money and stated the drainage crew is severely behind.
- Rotonda West Speed Limits – A public hearing date for May 27, 2014 will be scheduled at the BCC meeting on May 13, 2014. There will be Citizen Input at the beginning of the BCC meeting. Mr. Schermerhorn reviewed the actions that took place to get to this point for citizens in the audience. There are several different opinions on the subject and he recommended citizens attend the BCC meeting where they will have 3 minutes to state their concerns at the beginning of the meeting. There was further discussion regarding additional Sheriff's Department enforcement.
- Sunnybrook & Boundary Blvd. road repairs – Complete.
- Funding for Greenbelt Vegetation Removal – This is still under review by the County Attorney's Office. The Committee expressed concern over the length of time it takes for the Attorney's Office to respond. Mr. Elias stated that we cannot set timeframes for the Attorney's Office and that he will set up a special meeting to discuss drainage issues. There was discussion regarding the water that comes off the streets, comes into the greenbelt and into the canal. It was stated that we collectively have a problem and should work together to get it resolved instead of pushing it back and forth between who is responsible. This will be discussed at a special workshop meeting.
- Bike Rack locations – There was extensive discussion regarding bike rack locations. Ms. Musselman stated that the new list of bus stops will be available from the school district the first week of August.

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Ms. Musselman will obtain this information and provide to the Committee for them to select the bike rack locations. Mr. Elias agreed to install the racks at the locations selected by the Committee before school begins.

- Dog Waste Stations – An estimate was passed to the members for review and discussion. Mr. Peszko made a motion to approve the estimate for 2 waste stations, liners, and bags at \$583.80 plus an additional station at \$159.00 to be installed on Parade Circle; the motion was seconded by Mr. Plizga and passed unanimously.
- Pipe Lining Project on Boundary Blvd. – Mr. Elias reported that there is a sewer line going through the drainage pipe. Mr. Elias met with the Contractor and CCU. He explained the process that will be used to complete the project. This project is going to require \$39,000 additional funding. Mr. Elias was happy with the amount and gave the go ahead. CCU agreed to allow the work to be done. The contractor is there and they will start sometime around the end of the month. A mechanical bypass process will be used during the drain pipe work. The Committee asked why the MSBU is paying for this. Mr. Elias stated he will approach CCU to try to get the MSBU help with funding.
- Grass Carp Barriers – Contract was put out with no bids received back. The scope was modified to be a material purchase with the understanding that Maintenance & Operations (M&O) would do the installation. Mr. Elias stated that the design by Johnson Engineering will likely not be used; he will meet with Ms. Vernon to discuss. There was discussion regarding the County not getting any bids on a contract.
- Water Lettuce Removal – The project is almost done. There has been a gopher tortoise discovered in the area that was desired to install a ramp. Mr. Hunter is trying to get permission to use the ramp that is located on state land. Mr. Elias stated that he will come up with a way.

New Business:

- Back Yard Drainage – A special workshop meeting to discuss back yard drainage and greenbelts is set for May 13, 2014 at 2:00p.m. in the Rotonda West Community Center.
- Activity Report – was distributed for review and discussion.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday July 1, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in the Rotonda West Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Submitted by:



Sandy Wright
Public Works Department

CHARLOTTE COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION

ROTONDA WEST STREET & DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 15, 2014

MEETING TIME: 10:00 A.M. – Rotonda Community Center

**INFORMATION SUPPLIED ON THIS FORM BECOMES
PUBLIC RECORD**

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