

**MERRITT ISLAND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2003**

Members Present: Sandee Natowich, Vice Chairman
Michelle Daignault-Ives
Duane Watson
Bob Barranco
Mike Selig
Roddy Kring

Members Absent: Bert Francis, II, Chairman

Agency Staff: Doug Robertson, Consultant
Sunny Rocheleau, Acting Executive Secretary

County Staff: Scott Knox, County Attorney
Don Lusk, Asst. County Manager

Guests: Ann Samuels, Space Coast Press-Tribune
Judy Berman, Florida Today
Beth Kring, Merritt Park Place
Ralph Perrone, Perrone Properties
Martha Daniher, Brevard Co. Land Development Change of Use
Greg Lugar, Director Econ/Fin Programs Office
Cynthia Mirabella, owner of The Wacky Hut
Ron Jones, Brevard Cty. Reg. Stormwater Dept.
Jim Helmer, Brevard Cty. Reg. Stormwater Dept.
Judy Adams, Tenant of Mrs. Virginia Schenck
Darlene Predemori, Management Agent for Mrs. Virginia Schenck
Barbara Carta, MIRA Executive Secretary
Virginia Schenck, Property Owner Merritt Park Place

NEXT REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 24, 2003, 2:00 P.M., MERRITT ISLAND GOVERNMENT CENTER, 2575 N. COURTENAY PARKWAY, ROOM 205, MERRITT ISLAND.

Vice-Chairman Sandee Natowich called the meeting to order. All were present except one indicated above.

The minutes of the February 27, 2003 meeting were reviewed.

MOTION MADE BY RODDY KRING, SECONDED BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2003 BOARD MEETING, AS CORRECTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 1 - Discussion/Recommendation Re: Norman Boucher's Request For A Variance With Regard To Beer and Wine Consumption To Be Located At 251 McLeod Street

Mr. Roddy Kring filed a Conflict of Interest form for this item.

Mr. Doug Robertson told the Board that an application had been made to the Planning and Zoning Department for both a variance and a conditional use permit for the on-site consumption of beer and wine within the Redevelopment Area. Mr. Robertson reminded the Board that any time a zoning action was instituted within the redevelopment area the Board would have to make a recommendation either to the County Commissioners or to the Board of Adjustment regarding that action.

Mr. Robertson pointed out to the Board that the variance portion of the subject application would be heard before the Board of Adjustment due to the fact that alcohol consumption would be within 300' of a small private school. If the variance were granted, then Mrs. Mirabella would be allowed to go before the Planning and Zoning Board to apply for a Conditional Use Permit for the sale of alcoholic beverages. Mr. Robertson explained that technically MIRA would be looking at only the variance portion but realistically there was a need to look at the whole picture and discuss whether this would be an appropriate use within the Merritt Park Place area. Mr. Robertson indicated he had a concern with regard to the parking situation; however, Mrs. Mirabella had provided for ample parking in the back. Mr. Robertson's other concern had been the sale of alcoholic beverages in close proximity to the school; however alcohol would not be sold during school hours. Mr. Robertson stated that his concerns regarding these issues had been alleviated.

Mr. Robertson introduced Mrs. Cynthia Mirabella, owner of the Wacky Hut, a small shop with a "Key West" theme specializing in island décor and apparel.

Mrs. Mirabella distributed pictures detailing the interior and exterior of the shop. She explained that it was a small building, less than 450', where she sold island dresses, coconut glasses, and garden stepping-stones. She stated she had been having trouble getting enough traffic to come through her shop and pointed out that not more than 30 people pass through her store in any given 30 day period. Mrs. Mirabella constructed a small patio located to the rear of the property in the hope that alcoholic beverages and snacks could be served between the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday evenings and from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturdays and holidays. She expressed her hope that this would bring some traffic into the Merritt Park Place Area for herself as well as the other surrounding shops. She pointed out that due to the lateness of the hour, parking would not be an issue due to the fact that the majority of people parked on the property.

Vice Chairman Natowich stated that this agenda item had been discussed at the Beautification Committee Meeting and the members had positive comments. Vice Chairman Natowich said the Committee's questions in regards to beautification and noise had been satisfied by Mr. Robertson's answers at the meeting; however a question had been raised as to what would happen to the property if it changed hands and the new owners were allowed

to sell alcoholic beverages. The members did not want to see a nightclub in that area. Mr. Robertson indicated that the variance could be approved with conditions, which would then prevent this from happening. Mr. Robertson pointed out that as Mrs. Mirabella was requesting a permit for specific hours only, this in itself would prohibit any new owners from selling beer and wine during any time other than the hours the permit was approved for.

Mr. Watson questioned whether any letters of objection had been received regarding the variance and change of use requests from the school or surrounding businesses/property owners. Mrs. Mirabella indicated that the school had given the applicant, Mr. Harry Greenfield, a notarized statement that they had no objections. Mr. Robertson informed the Board that he had spoken with Mr. George Ritchie from Planning and Zoning and they had not received any objections either.

In response to a question by Vice Chairman Natowich as to whether the amplification of the music might cause problems, Mrs. Mirabella stated that music would be played on Saturdays and possibly holidays only during the hours of 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., which would be after all the surrounding businesses were closed.

Mrs. Beth Kring from the Merritt Park Place Group expressed her support of the application.

MOTION MADE BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, SECONDED BY RODDY KRING RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE VARIANCE REQUEST TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT CONTINGENT UPON RESTRICTED HOURS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 2 - Discussion Re: Brevard County Change of Use Ordinance

Mr. Robertson informed the MIRA Board that a Change of Use Ordinance had been approved by the Board of County Commissioners. This Ordinance would require a property to be evaluated for compliance with current development standards each time there was a change of use of a commercially zoned structure, as determined by an application for an occupational license. For example, if the use changed from commercial to commercial (i.e. a doctor's office to a retail store), traffic increase would be reviewed as per the ITE Trip Generation Manual. If County staff were to determine that an increase in traffic would occur, the use would then be reviewed as to whether it could accommodate all the various development requirements such as parking, setbacks, landscaping, fire, safety, and signage. Mr. Robertson explained this Ordinance has adversely affected the Merritt Park Place Area due to the fact that the area was initially developed as a single-family subdivision. Over the years these single-family uses have transitioned to at least 80% commercial. He expressed his concern that the buildings as designed would not be able to function as commercial structures under the Ordinance.

Mr. Robertson stated he had met with Ms. Martha Daniher, a Development Plan Examiner, and with Commissioner Ron Pritchard prior to the Board meeting and discussed the ramifications of this Change of Use Ordinance in the Redevelopment Area. Ms. Daniher informed the Board that she reviewed all the applications for occupational licenses and there are requirements that many of them must meet. She indicated that within the Redevelopment Area her department had one application that had to go through the change of use plan review process as it was

going from single-family to commercial. Another application undergoing review was a business going to another business due to the fact that it had been vacant over 180 days.

Ms. Daniher stated that if a property was changing from single-family to commercial use, usually the infrastructure was not in place to support a commercial use; whereas, if a property were changing from a commercial use to a commercial use, it would already have infrastructure to support a commercial business.

As an aside, Mr. Robertson reminded the Board that they had approved a Façade Improvement Application for Paul and Debbie Vavala. After purchasing the building and getting ready to start their work they applied for the occupational license. The building had previously been used for residential purposes and due to the fact it would be zoned commercial they have had an issue with the Ordinance. The Vavalas requested assistance from MIRA with the issue. Mr. Robertson indicated that the Vavalas building was ideal for commercial use; however no buildings in that area were designed for the infrastructure the County was referring to. Mr. Robertson felt there was no question as to whether this building could be used as commercial under the Change of Use Ordinance even though it had been zoned for commercial use.

Mrs. Virginia Schneck was in attendance and informed the Board that she had a situation where the change of use would be commercial to commercial. Mrs. Schneck stated that she had purchased some derelict property in the Merritt Park Place Area and invested a lot of money in improving the land.

Ms. Judy Adams, the current resident of Mrs. Schneck's property at 60 North Grove, told the Board of the hardship involved in getting her occupational license. Ms. Adams indicated she had leased the property three months ago and had made a lot of major improvements; however she could not open her business due to not being approved for an occupational license. She stated her business was a small administrative business, which would not generate excessive traffic in the area. If her business were to grow, she expressed her intention to move to another area.

Ms. Darlene Predemori, manager of Mrs. Schenck's property, pointed out that Ms. Schenck was caught in an untenable situation. Due to the fact that MIRA had removed her parking area during construction several years ago, the property stayed vacant for a longer period of time (180 days +/-) since parking was not available. This triggered the Change of Use Ordinance as it relates to Ms. Adams' business.

Vice Chairman Natowich reminded the Board members that MIRA had received easements for parking in Merritt Park Place at the time of construction. MIRA had contacted all the owners of record to provide MIRA with a 5-foot easement which allowed on-street parking. Mrs. Schenck had not been willing at the time to give MIRA an easement. Mr. Selig questioned whether parking could be installed in front of Mrs. Schenck's property if an easement were obtained. Mr. Robertson indicated he would research the issue; however additional parking could possibly be provided.

Ms. Daniher expressed her understanding of the problem; however, she had to work with the Ordinance as approved. The purpose of the Ordinance had been to provide protection for businesses, to keep property values up, to get improvements that were needed, to keep businesses from going in and having parking that could not be met without infringing on other

property rights. Ms. Daniher stated that in Ms. Schenck's case, there had been an application last year for an occupational license and the review uncovered the fact there was a septic tank on the property that had not been abandoned properly when the sewer was connected. State Statutes require that Environmental Health Services have the opportunity to review and approve an occupational license before it is issued. Mrs. Schenck told the Board that she has since taken care of that problem.

Mr. Selig declared that he had voted against the Ordinance as he felt it was unfair and unreasonable. He stated there was no way that he could support the Ordinance. Mr. Selig opined that the Ordinance was damaging to property owners all over Merritt Island.

Mr. Watson indicated that the Merritt Island Redevelopment Area should have some flexibility on the Change of Use Ordinance and the occupational license issue, not just the Merritt Park Place Area. In response to a question posed by Mr. Watson, County Attorney Scott Knox stated that MIRA could review the occupational licenses as they change uses on a one-on-one-basis and the Redevelopment Area could be exempt from the Ordinance.

Mr. Selig stated that the County could use the Ordinance to assert the new Landscape Ordinance and retention requirements on each property.

Mr. Robertson indicated that if the Board was in agreement with regard to changing the Ordinance to exempt the Redevelopment Area, the Land Planning Agency and then the County Commissioners would have to modify the Ordinance.

Vice Chairman Natowich pointed out that the property has already been leased or purchased by the time the occupational license is applied for. Mr. Watson suggested MIRA be notified when building permits are requested so that the tenants and/or property owners could be informed of the new Ordinance.

Ron Jones, Director of the Regional Storm Water Utility Department, stated that his department had made an attempt to not impose significant additional restrictions upon redevelopment projects due to the fact that they involved existing properties. Mr. Jones suggested that the Board consider purchasing vacant property in the Merritt Park Place Area for development of additional parking within a short walking distance. He indicated that a provision could be made for repayment of funds to provide the parking area, which could be asserted in the case of a change in use of a property which would create additional parking.

County Attorney Scott Knox stated that any amendment that would apply to the Redevelopment Area could be done with the Board of County Commissioner's approval. The Board directed staff to meet with Attorney Knox to research the options that MIRA could take in regards to this Ordinance and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Continuation of Discussion of Proposed Capital Improvements Projects for MIRA

Mr. Robertson introduced Mr. Ron Jones and Mr. Jim Helmer from the Brevard County Regional Storm Water Utility Department. Mr. Robertson stated that MIRA had been focusing on SR-520 and Courtenay Parkway where the Agency could make some aesthetic

improvements. These areas consist of older strip commercial centers that are economically obsolescent.

The three tools that MIRA has to work with are:

- The Façade Improvement Program
- Code Enforcement
- Land Acquisition (for the purpose of providing storm water retention areas to encourage land consolidation and redevelopment)

Mr. Robertson stated that the land acquisition tool could be used as follows:

1. To allow storm water to be treated.
2. To size these facilities in such a way that new development could utilize it and be able to provide a larger area for development, thereby making it more financially feasible for redeveloping these areas.

Mr. Robertson indicated targeted areas which had been pinpointed due to their current use and where changes needed to be made. Due to the fact that two specific sites had pre-existing topography, a feasibility study could quickly be performed. Mr. Robertson pointed out that if MIRA could acquire portions of sites that could be used as regional storm water drainage facilities, some of the SR 520 frontage property could use the facility thereby opening up more areas for development.

Mr. Jones explained that his department was tasked with considering these developed, untreated areas and helping to improve their condition with regards to stormwater treatment. Mr. Robertson reminded the Board that the County recently adopted a new policy as to how the acquisition process works, so the Board would need to understand the process if it is going to entertain the idea of purchasing or assisting Mr. Jones to purchase properties. Mr. Robertson requested that Mr. Jones explain to the Board what his role might be if MIRA determined to acquire property for stormwater purposes.

Mr. Jones stated that MIRA and the Stormwater Utility Department have had a good working relationship over the years. He remarked that his department was interested in doing retrofit projects. Mr. Jones' department does not provide new ponds or new infrastructure, pipes or collection systems for new development. Their purpose is to fix water quality issues where there is currently no treatment available due to construction prior to standards being set or flooding problems due to inadequate infrastructure.

Mr. Jones stated their department was interested in moving forward and exploring the opportunities to do joint projects with MIRA and indicated they could assist MIRA with permitting issues. Mr. Jones said his department would obtain minimal topography on any of the areas in which MIRA was interested to determine feasibility. He stated that they have 4 or 5 consulting firms under a continuous contract to service their needs. Mr. Jones explained that his department would be prepared to participate financially in the cost of the consulting.

Mr. Jones pointed out that the Stormwater Utility Department would not use their funding source for the purpose of new development.

Once the in-depth feasibility study was performed, property values would need to be determined as well as acreage, and a preliminary design drawn. Mr. Jones stated that his department would be open to either being a participant in MIRA'S management or MIRA being a participant in their management.

In response to a question by Mr. Robertson, Mr. Jones indicated that the property owner would be approached once the property was identified for acquisition and the feasibility study performed. Mr. Jones explained that the County's land acquisition policies had been restricted in terms of procedures. His department must receive approval to appraise and negotiate for property by the Board of County Commissioners. Small properties could be remanded to the land acquisition people for negotiation. Mr. Jones was unsure how MIRA would fit into these new policies and procedures. He was aware that the Board of County Commissioners has provided some departments authorization to handle the land acquisition component. Mr. Jones stated that if acquisitions resulted from MIRA'S or Stormwater's feasibility work, a discussion would need to be held to determine which entity would pursue the land acquisition.

Mr. Robertson reminded the Board members that the contract the Agency has with Brevard County requires MIRA to follow all of Brevard County's policies and procedures.

Mr. Jones went on to explain that if there were a partnership, Storm Water had the ability to spend the money to acquire the property as a partner as long as it was clear that there was a joint benefit. He indicated that his department's policy was to purchase land in advance to ensure the properties that are suitable from a gravity perspective were not sold, and also to prevent any construction happening on vacant lots before they were ready to purchase.

MOTION MADE BY BOB BARRANCO, SECONDED BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, THAT MR. ROBERTSON WORK WITH STAFF FROM THE STORMWATER UTILITY DEPARTMENT TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF A WORKING AGREEMENT AND RETURN TO THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH PERFORMING FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON A PRORATA BASIS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 4 - Discussion Regarding the Viability of Debt Service Refinancing

Mr. Robertson reminded the Board that this item had been discussed at prior meetings and that staff had been researching the possibility of refinancing the Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency's existing debt in order to take advantage of current lower interest rates.

Mr. Greg Lugar, Economic Development Director, and Mr. Steve Burnett, Brevard County Finance Director, did an analysis to convert the existing MIRA debt to the Commercial Paper Loan Program. The conclusion was that if the Commercial Paper Loan Program interest rate

remained at an average of 2.4% through September, 2006, MIRA would save \$39,000 of the \$67,000 interest remaining. If the average rate for the last five years (3.8%) were used, MIRA would save about \$17,500. The interest rate would be variable, as opposed to fixed.

Mr. Lugar was in attendance and indicated that if MIRA decided to participate in the Florida Local Government Finance Commission Commercial Paper Loan Program, he would be willing to assist MIRA. Mr. Lugar stated the Agency would have borrowing power but only against a project being designed. He stated that if the Board decided to go with the Commercial Paper Loan Program, MIRA would need to notify the County Manager and receive approval by the Board of County Commissioners. There would be no additional charges to MIRA to convert to the Program.

Mr. Watson suggested that Mr. Robertson contact Sun Trust to determine whether MIRA'S present interest rate could be renegotiated, as he would like to see it as fixed rather than variable. Mr. Robertson was asked to find out if there was a penalty for early payment.

MOTION MADE BY BOB BARRANCO, SECONDED BY RODDY KRING AUTHORIZING STAFF TO PREPARE A LETTER TO INITIATE THE REFINANCE SUBJECT TO CHAIRMAN FRANCIS' APPROVAL. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 5 - Review & Approval of FY 02-03 Amended Budget and FY 03-04 Proposed Budget

Vice Chairman Natowich recognized Mrs. Barbara Carta, who created the budget and was present to answer any questions by the Board. Mrs. Carta reviewed with the members the changes that had been made to the Amended FY 02-03 Budget. She stated that no significant changes had been made to the FY 03-04 Proposed Budget. She pointed out that MIRA'S membership dues had increased to \$595 (from \$375), the purchase of a new fax machine was allocated for \$610, the Façade Improvement Program was increased to \$50,000 and the Line Item "Construction in Progress" would be deleted with the \$144,443 balance being incorporated into the cost code of "Other Redevelopment Projects" instead. This would bring the working dollar amount for MIRA projects to \$358, 888 for FY 03-04.

MOTION MADE BY MIKE SELIG, SECONDED BY BOB BARRANCO RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED FY 02 – 03 BUDGET AND THE PROPOSED FY 03 – 04 BUDGET. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 6 - Discussion Re: Code Enforcement

Mr. Robertson reminded the Board that at the February MIRA Board meeting staff was directed to identify potential Land Development Code violations within the Redevelopment Area. He had begun the process but felt the Board needed to be reminded that BU-2 zoning

encompasses the majority of the Redevelopment Area, which is a very heavy zoning and allows some heavy uses. He pointed out that the Agency had an overlay in the Zoning Ordinance, which would enable the Redevelopment Area additional restrictions such as automotive repairs and vehicular storage. Mr. Robertson distributed pictures he had taken which he determined might be code violations. Mr. Selig questioned whether Mr. Robertson had checked to see if any of the situations came under the grandfather clause or if a CUP had been applied for. Mr. Robertson indicated that he would research that upon obtaining a decision by the Board. He stated he would meet with Mr. Rick Ennos from Planning and Zoning regarding the indicated properties and if Mr. Ennos determined they were in violation, then Mr. Robertson would start the process.

MOTION MADE BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, SECONDED BY BOB BARRANCO TO APPROVE THAT MR. ROBERTSON PROCEED WITH FOLLOWING THROUGH ON THE POSSIBLE CODE VIOLATIONS WITH CODE ENFORCEMENT. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 7- Discussion Re: Lien Requirement Façade Improvement Program

This agenda item was discussed at both an earlier Board and Beautification Committee meeting. MIRA had difficulty attracting applicants to the Façade Improvement Program due to a 5-year lien requirement that would be applied to the property to assure improvements were maintained. The County Attorney determined that two options were available to alleviate the problem:

1. To secure a lien on the personal property of the business such as inventory, signage, etc. for collateral.
2. Include a statement in the contract that MIRA signs with the applicant stating that they are required to maintain these improvements.

Mr. Robertson pointed out that Option 1 would give the advantage in that it switches the burden of encumbrance from the property owner to the business owner/renter. And with Option #2, should the applicant default, litigation would be required.

Vice Chairman Natowich informed the Board members that the Beautification Committee had discussed this agenda item in full at their last meeting and they recommend Option #2 but stipulate that if the client did not adhere to the contract, they would be responsible for costs should court action become necessary.

Mr. Robertson said he had discussed the issue with staff from the City of Cocoa who had spent thousands of dollars on their improvements. They indicated they had not needed to invoke or go against the lien at any time in the past. The only issue they had was with regard to signage but they included a provision in their program that stated when a property was sold, the new owners had to erect a sign that was comparable to the old sign. A copy of the verbiage was being forwarded to MIRA for their review.

Vice Chairman Natowich opined that it was very difficult to foresee every problem that could come up. Mrs. Daignault-Ives agreed with Vice Chairman Natowich but stated that if out of 100% of the clients, 75% keep up their agreement, the 25% that don't would not be hard to accept. She felt it was better to concentrate on the positive rather than the negative aspect. Mr. Watson stated that it was a matter of reviewing the change of use issue, i.e., if new owners/tenants take over how would MIRA protect their investment.

After much discussion, the Board determined that the contract should deal only with the property owners. It was agreed that Mr. Robertson would draft the language needed, obtain County Attorney approval, and return to the Board with the final copy.

MOTION MADE BY DUANE WATSON, SECONDED BY RODDY KRING TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH OWNERS ONLY AND THAT AS PART OF THE CONTRACT, A PROVISION BE INSERTED STATING THAT ANY CHANGES TO THE ORIGINAL IMPROVEMENT(S) NEEDS TO COME BACK TO THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL FIRST. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 8 -Permission to Authorize Drainage Improvements for 230 N. Grove St. (Merritt Park Café)

Mr. Robertson explained that this particular improvement was made during Phase I of the Merritt Park Place Project and he was unsure whether the drainage was installed properly or whether this problem had built up over time. The area had been altered such that debris builds up in front of the Merritt Park Café property and no longer reaches the storm water inlet. Mr. Robertson stated that to resolve this problem, the sod in the grassed area would need to be removed, the area re-graded and then re-sodded. He asked Mr. Loren Rapport, who is the Brevard County Landscaping Operations Manager, to give MIRA an appraisal to correct this problem and he submitted an estimate of \$466.90.

MOTION MADE BY RODDY KRING, SECONDED BY BOB BARRANCO TO PROCEED WITH CORRECTING THE PROBLEM. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 9 - Discussion Re: Sewer Extension on Myrtice Avenue (Tabled Item)

Mr. Robertson requested that this item be removed from the agenda. After studying the issue thoroughly, the inability to service all the properties would preclude MIRA from proceeding with the improvement project.

MOTION MADE BY DUANE WATSON, SECONDED BY RODDY KRING TO REMOVE THIS ITEM FROM THE AGENDA AND NOT TAKE ACTION ON IT. MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION.

Agenda Item No. 10 - Dr. Frederick Waggener's Reimbursement Request for Irrigation Line Repair at 115 Parnell St. (Parnell & Myrtice Intersection)

Vice Chairman Natowich explained that Dr. Frederick Waggener had advised the Board of the fact that during construction of Phase II of the Merritt Park Place Project, an irrigation line was damaged on his property on Parnell Street. Subsequently, Dr. Waggener's water bills increased significantly for two months. When this item was previously brought before the Board, there were certain items on Dr. Waggener's bill that were questionable so the Board requested Mr. Robertson investigate further and return to the Board with his findings.

Mr. Robertson stated that he met with Dr. Waggener and determined that two breaks did occur during Phase II of the Merritt Park Place Project and that these breaks most probably resulted in the spike in water usage. When Mr. Robertson pointed out to Dr. Waggener that the repair bill seemed to include items that may not have been related to the irrigation line breaks near the right of way, Dr. Waggener agreed to withdraw his request for compensation for the repair costs. He was requesting compensation for the increase of water use only (\$396.49).

MOTION MADE BY RODDY KRING, SECONDED BY DUANE WATSON TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF DR. WAGGENER'S REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF \$396.49. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 11 - Approval of Beautification Committee Amended By-Laws

Vice Chairman Natowich explained to the Board members that while looking into the past history of the Beautification Committee she discovered that the By-Laws of the Committee had never been approved and would have to be ratified. She stated that at the last meeting the Beautification Committee members reviewed what had been completed up to that point in time and came up with an amended By-Laws document, which was presented to the MIRA Board for their approval.

MOTION MADE BY DUANE WATSON, SECONDED BY RODDY KRING TO APPROVE THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE'S BY-LAWS AS SUBMITTED SUBJECT TO THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REVIEWING THE BY-LAWS FOR ANY CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS AS NEEDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 12 - Staff Report

Fun Time Boats

Mr. Robertson reported that MIRA had planted two (2) trees as part of the Beautification Program directly in front of Fun Time Boat's sign. These trees have matured and are blocking their sign. Mr. Robertson requested Mr. Loren Rapport's input and it was agreed that the trees could be moved without damage. Mr. Robertson informed the Board that Mr. Rapport had removed the trees and submitted an invoice for the work performed. Mr. Robertson indicated he would need to discuss the final amount of the bill with Mr. Rapport and would get back to the Board soon with the request for payment. Mr. Robertson informed the Board that when work was performed by a County Agency for another department within the County, an invoice would be submitted for payment.

“Welcome To Merritt Island” Signs on the Merritt Island Causeway (SR-520)

Mr. Robertson stated that he and Mr. Rapport were working on the project. Also, Telltale Signs was making some conceptual sketches and that as soon as enough information was gathered, this item would be re-presented to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 13 – Other Business

Beautification Committee Report

Mrs. Sandee Natowich requested permission to purchase a current edition of “Roberts Rules” book.

MOTION MADE BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, SECONDED BY DUANE WATSON APPROVING THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE’S PURCHASE OF A CURRENT EDITION OF “ROBERTS RULES” UP TO A \$50 LIMIT. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mrs. Natowich stated that the Beautification Committee agreed with MIRA that the Façade Improvement Program needed to be addressed with regard to new construction as well as redevelopment of existing properties.

The creation of the “Achievement Award” signs was ongoing and would be presented at the next Board meeting.

The price for the banner that would be used when having a ribbon cutting ceremony was found to be \$95.00 for an 8-foot banner with the wording “Façade improvement Project”.

It was suggested that a 6-foot banner rather than an 8-foot banner would be more practical and Mrs. Natowich agreed. Mrs. Natowich requested Board approval to purchase a banner.

MOTION MADE BY DUANE WATSON, SECONDED BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES TO APPROVE THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE’S REQUEST TO PURCHASE A 6-FOOT BANNER, UP TO A \$95 LIMIT. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting has been scheduled for April 24, 2003.

MOTION MADE BY MICHELLE DAIGNAULT-IVES, SECONDED BY DUANE WATSON TO ADJOURN. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned 4:08 P.M.