

Minutes of the Mesquite Ranch Neighborhood Association

Regular Meeting – May 5, 2009 – Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm. The following board members were present:

Randall Pierce
Sylvia Katvala
Chip Ellis
Karina Trumbull

A Quorum was noted for the record.

Minutes of February 2009 and March 2009 Meetings

A motion to approve the minutes of the February and March MRNA meetings was made by Randy Pierce and seconded by Chip Ellis. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

There were no minutes of the April 2009 meeting available.

Special Presentation

Sgt David Brotherton and Officer Brad Litke of TPD motors patrol (eastside) were present to discuss ATV usage. Sgt Brotherton explained that 8 motors officers are assigned to off-road vehicle enforcement, which is secondary to traffic enforcement. He stated that there have been numerous complaints from Rita Ranch and Mesquite Ranch regarding ATV usage in and near neighborhoods. Sgt Brotherton stated that ATVs can be street legal if properly inspected and plated with a motorcycle (MC) plate. In addition, ATVs plated with a recreational vehicle (RV) plate are permitted to cross public streets when traveling between state game lands and forest service lands. ATVs which are not plated are not permitted to travel on public roads, and ATVs are not permitted to travel off-road within ¼ mile of any structure.

Two residents stated that they were ATV riders and expressed concern over the focused enforcement. One resident stated that he felt MRNA was making an issue where none really existed. The other stated that he would simply license his ATV in order to comply with the law. Chip Ellis stated that MRNA became involved due to numerous complaints from other residents and that as long as ATVs were be ridden in compliance with the law there should not be an issue.

Call to Audience

A resident asked whether the area at Bilby and Metropolitan could be classified as a school zone for better enforcement of the speed limit. Randy stated that the designation had been removed when the sidewalk on the south side of Bilby was completed, which enabled pedestrians to walk to school without crossing Bilby. He stated that he would request information from the school about whether the crossing could be marked as a school zone.

A resident expressed concern over speeding vehicles in the neighborhood and asked if speed bumps could be installed. Bridgeport (east side), Malta, and Bach (west side) were mentioned as streets that could particularly benefit. Randy stated that a primary issue would be funding, and that MRNA would need to evaluate the entire neighborhood and present a proposal to the City.

Committee Reports

Community Service – Chip Ellis reported that the Spring Community Yard Sale and Cleanup was held April 25-28 and was a success.

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Plans & Development – Randy reported that many local development projects had been placed on hold due to the economic downturn. He also indicated that the Houghton Widening Project in the area affecting Mesquite Ranch was still scheduled for completion in 2010.

Traffic & Safety – Randy stated that there was currently no committee lead due to a board member resignation. He also stated that MRNA's request for a 4-way stop at Bilby and Metropolitan had been rejected by the City.

Newsletter – Randy Pierce stated that progress on the next newsletter had been limited due to his pending job change and that there was no projected date for distribution at this time.

Neighborhood Watch – Randy Pierce stated that Mesquite Ranch's only neighborhood watch remains active on the west end of Ravenswood Street. Residents interested in forming a watch are encouraged to contact Randy or TPD.

Social Committee – Karina Trumbull reported that a BBQ was being considered for the Fall.

Treasurer – Discussion was deferred to new business.

New Business

Randy Pierce stated that his job was relocating to Iowa and that he would need to resign his position as President as of the end of the meeting. He stated that his family would remain in their home in Mesquite Ranch and that he would be traveling back and forth, but would not be able to continue to support MRNA as President.

Randy encouraged the audience to consider joining the Board to help keep MRNA operational. He stated that open voting for new board members would be announced for the next meeting. One resident expressed an interest in running for the board, and two others stated that they might consider being write-ins at that meeting.

A motion to have Chip Ellis officiate the next MRNA meeting and board elections, in the event that Vice President Cindy Copley was absent, was made by Randy Pierce and seconded by Sylvia Katvala. The motion was approved.

Discussion was held regarding board member Lorraine Faoro's absence from the last four meetings, and her failure to contact the board regarding any interest in continuing on the board. A motion to remove Lorraine Faoro from the board in order to free up an additional board seat for the upcoming election was made by Karina Trumbull and seconded by Randy Pierce. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Randy stated that the MRNA bank account was closed, as the account had been opened in his name. The balance of \$292.74 was being held by Sylvia Katvala pending opening of another account or other approved disbursement of the funds.

Randy explained that the current MRNA web server will be shut down and that he is investigating a new host for the web site which he may still be able to support. He also stated that the MRNA PO box had been closed by Mail Boxes Etc. and that a new one would need to be established at a cost of approximately \$70 per year.

Sylvia Katvala moved to use existing funds to establish a new PO box. Randy Pierce seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Randy stated that the MRNA bylaws were up for biannual review and approval. This requires the board meet to review, and copies (with any proposed changes) be distributed at an MRNA regular

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meeting. A vote to approve the bylaws would then be made at the following MRNA regular meeting.

Meeting Closure

A resident asked about the future of the hospital project at Drexel and Houghton and whether there would be a helipad. Randy stated that he believed there would be a helipad at the new facility, but that the medical offices would be built before the hospital. He also stated that the project was delayed due to economic conditions.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chip Ellis and seconded by Karina Trumbull. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:05 p.m.