



BMHOA – December 2020 Meeting Minutes

Directors Present

Walt Allen, Anne Bao, Courtney Sullivan, Matthew Atkatz, Larry Babor, Hillary Jaroshchy, Mike Gaither, Hanna Espeli-Allen, Cary Aronovitz

- **Police and County Update**

- The police commander was present. Please do not leave your keys or valuables in your car. The police presence has been increased; however, residents are encouraged to stay vigilant and use preventative measures. Residents are encouraged to call 911 for theft emergencies, and Crime Stoppers if they notice any unusual activity in the neighborhood.

- **County/NET update**

- Madelin Pacheco is our new contact. 305-301-3248 e-mail: mpacheco@miamigov.com

- **Code Compliance Update**

- Trelana Haines is our new contact for Code Compliance: 786-696-0358 e-mail: thaines@miamigov.com
- Frank Marcos is transferring to Little Havana. We thanked him for his service with the Upper East Side.

- **Neighborhood Enhancement Project**

- No updates
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Updates

- **Financial – Mike**

December 8, 2020	Financial Summary
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Wells Fargo General Fund	\$3,260.83
minus Pet Fund	\$677.75
Net Balance	\$2,583.08

General Fund Activity - Nov/Dec 2020

Income:

6 Memberships	\$231.81
Stray Donation	\$0.00
Total Income	\$231.81

Expenses:

Google G Suite	\$6.00	
Gate Signs	\$291.81	Matt Atkatz
Total Expenses	\$297.81	

- **Security update (Matthew)**

- Residents are encouraged to stay vigilant and obtain security cameras for their respective property. Due to the pandemic and upcoming holidays, crime has increased in the Upper East Side area.
- Marcelo Nunes called 911 as two men were trying to steal his Jeep. Then later that evening, his neighbor's

Porsche was stolen. This occurred at 945 NE 75th Street.

- Complaints were made directly to AirBnB and VRBO regarding illegal short-term rentals. Legal action has now been taken on 7301 Belle Meade Island Drive and 847 NE 72nd Street.
 - The private yacht on the end of NE 72nd Terrace is owned by Marcelo Nunes. It is not a party boat.
 - George Balletto and Marcelo Nunes raised their concerns regarding the construction workers and their haphazard parking at Pledge Park. Coral rocks were suggested to use to prevent them from parking in the grass areas.
 - Matthew has been a part of the FAA Air Traffic Pattern/Metroplex Project. The flight patterns have changed. The planes are continuing to fly under 5,000 feet. Matthew will have an update and additional details to provide at our next meeting.
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● **Infrastructure (Anne)**

- FPL underground project. FPL scheduled to resume this project January 2021. They will start by checking the power lines and vegetation surrounding the power lines and transformers. Outages continue to occur on a weekly basis. With or without inclement weather.
- Pump station on 8th Street. Need to follow up with the city regarding issuing replacement for current pump and pending items from previous meeting. Alan Dodd was promoted - we are still waiting for an update. Walt will be reaching out to the City of Miami for a public records request. We need to be updated on all new and current city employees, especially in the public works and parks department.

Pump Station / Flooding

- Appears to be in working order, worked well during tropical storm ETA
- Third pump has been installed
- Debris in the road and blocking the drains presented issues for water draining during ETA
- At high tide, water was breaching seawall, causing parts of Belle Meade flooded
- To be addressed:

1. Water breaching seawall - solutions?
2. Flooding on 72nd Terrace - solutions, inviting city officials to next meeting to discuss options, involve Frank Rollason
3. Flooding prevention in general - solutions to be discussed with city

Gates

- Repairs have reportedly been made, need to walk and review

FPL

- LED lighting has been installed in most of the neighborhood
- Waiting on FPL letter this week detailing what plan
 - Vegetation trimming
 - Updating old equipment
 - Meeting to discuss underground project and reliability

Solid Waste

- Ongoing issues with dead ends being skipped during garbage/bulk/recycling pick up
- This has been brought up to Solid Waste Route Supervisors

Mini Park

Fence has been re-done, gates have new opening mechanism

Issues to be addressed short term:

1. Trashcans filling with water
2. Steps to playground rusty and coming apart at seams
3. Requesting monthly (or as needed) pressure washing of playground areas

Future items to be addressed:

1. Picket fence in discussion
2. Additional rubber mulch
3. Shade at swings repair or replacement (ripped at corner)
4. Additional play structures for smaller kids?

● **Beautification (Larry)**

- No updates

- **Social & Events** (*Hillary, Courtney and Hanna*)

- Hillary to send out e-mail to google group and roster for newsletter advertisement opportunities, and new announcements. Frank Rollason was chosen to be the featured member. Hillary to update the rough draft. We should have it ready to launch next week. Grace Lopez was interested in advertising. Hillary's contact information was provided to everyone on the zoom call.
 - Belle Meade Holiday Grinch Express. A motion was proposed for a cap of \$500 towards the holiday party. Mike, Anne, Hillary, Walt, Matt, Larry and Courtney were in favor. The majority has spoken and passed. This will take place on Sunday, December 20th starting at 6pm.
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- **Other:**

- **P.O. Box**
 - The box has been moved to the new Buena Vista location. A forward mail transfer has been initiated by Walt. New physical address update is needed.
- **Development**
 - Recent development have created out of scale homes. Need to revisit the Historic or Conservation preservation guidelines. The history of Belle Meade needs to be preserved. Natalie Duran will not be our direct contact for the city zoning and developments.
- **Stray Cats**
 - Belle Meade residents have noticed an influx of stray cats in the area. Volunteers are welcomed as many are reluctant to continue with this project due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- **Community Business Pages**
 - Discussed creating a booklet for the preferred vendors in the neighborhood. This is constantly a topic on the google group.
- **Guard Gate Assessment Increase**
 - Walt spoke to Suzanne Torino – Special Taxing Zone. The sudden increase in is question. The prior year expenses needs to be reviewed. Previous bogus charges included 5k to paint the guard gate. The guard gate was painted in 2019 through the maintenance fees. The desk was also replaced. Matthew is following up on this.
- **Guard Gate Holiday Bonus**
 - All voted and the majority ruled for \$75 Visa gift card for 4 guard gate security officers for the holidays.