

# Lawsona/ Fern Creek Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2017 6:30-8pm

Bruce Thomson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. We had 23 people in attendance.

Introductions answering “what is your favorite happy hour or restaurant?”

Bruce –The Guest House Friday night special

Kathy Wicman & Teresa Smith 26 Roseharden –home

Patty Sheehan –Pizza Bruno

Barbara & June Veneer 180 S. Thorton –home

Vlvia & Tom Ward 1612 E Wash –Anthony’s or Island Time

Susan Pawlak 1620 E Wash –Mamak

Darla Smith on Brown Ave –my pool

Susan Van de Bogert 1611 E Wash –Maxine’s

Janette ? 1819 Central –Fondue at home

John & Terese ? – Mucho’s

Billy Haddaway corner of Jefferson and Roseharden –home or Mesa 21

Jeff Smith corner East Jefferson/Hampton –Boaery

Jeff Stroebel Lawsona Blvd –Maxine’s

Lauren corner Robinson /Glenwood --dog park

Natasha ? looking for a home in the area –Dexter’s

Community Update: Patty Sheehan

1. Historic Signs. We are entitled to Historic signs. She is surprised we do not have them. She believes we should have a mayor’s matching gift project. Richard Forbes will work with us to get us these signs.

2. LED lights. This has been requested from OUC by Patty. It is taking awhile, but they are working on it.

3. Sign. Billy Haddaway says that on March 23, we got an email from the district office that the sign has been approved and the city will do one more drive by at the sight.

4. Corporate 5K. April 13. It will be crazy between 4 and 8pm in the neighborhood.

5. Questions:

1. Park Ranger Request: There have been a lot of thefts, but because of Amendment 2 there have been budget cutbacks. We had a park ranger a few years ago, but his position was eliminated. There are no funds to hire the park ranger back. There are 4 rangers at Lake Eola from 5am to midnight.

2. Homeless: Delaney people are calling so that is why there are no homeless there. The park rangers are often held up at Lake Eola giving tickets in the mornings. Officer Rosado and the Commissioner encourage people to call when they see the homeless in the parks.

Officer Rosado:

1. 101 calls of suspicion, but there are a lot of dark places. Send me emails & calls. Lawsona/Fern Creek- 174 calls for service: 17 reported cases( Not all reported cases were crimes, but were reported cases.) -2 vehicle burglaries & 3 house burglaries. If you want to know how many crimes are in your area go to "CityofOrlando.net" then click on district 4, then click on lawsona/fern creek and you will see what is happening. Compared to last year which was at 203 calls for service; 42 suspicious reports, last year it was 35 so that number is up this year.

2. What we are having is opportunity crimes. Lock your doors and your cars. Transients are creating the issues.

Neighborhood Lookout:

Susan Van de Bogert reminds us that we are 6 inches below the water table due to lack of rain... one of the yards on Washington was on fire at 6am one morning so please keep your eyes open.

Jon Perrone-Manager of Parks

He shares a little about what is being done in the parks....A lot of man hours have been expended for people cleaning up under the trees so people can see into the park. Old bridge is being redesigned and moved to the other side of Langford Park. It will be made of new material so it will last longer. The other bridges in Dickson Park are being redesigned one by one. Every 2 or 3 years the Parks Dept. goes through and cleans up the park. He acknowledged the homeless issue... At 6am there were 7 homeless; sometimes more and other times less. He said they are sending bicycle guards down this way 2 or 3 times a day, but that is all they can do. They are working on shoring up walls along fern creek. They put one bench out there to showcase what the benches look like. You can give to the trust and have a name put on the bench if you call his office. All the new benches will have this new material so it will last longer. Question:

Can we put info about flags & bench donations to be put on the website? It costs \$850 for a bench with whatever verbage you want so keep that in mind if you want to donate.

Lisa Henry—Streets and Storm Water:

The city has just about 3,000 employees, 25% work at night. Over half a million people are out an about in the daytime and this outnumberes the number of employees. We need your eyes on what is going on. She has been in her position for 5 years. The Parks department recognizes the need for a consultant. The have a five to ten year Fern Creek erosion plan, but need a consultant to shore up their plan. April is usually the driest month so to have the clean up in April is the best time.

Jan Rahill—

TECO Gas funds “Greenup” which coordinates volunteers brought the military sorority that helped us. She gives thanks for all of our efforts.

Vivian Ward- beautification Committee:

1. Lake Lawsona: fountain and drudging. Lisa has information so she will email the information to Vivian. We cannot drain the lake completely. Bathal box project; eliminating all the debris out and we come and suck out the leaves so it doesn't make its way to the lake. Signing, lights, traffic calming, are part of transportation.
2. Fall Clean up: Date TBD.
3. Mosquito Traps: Call Orange County for Mosquito control and they will come and spray your yard for free. This is the county, not the city. Flyer handed out
4. Free tress. Streets that have more trees create a calming effect.

5. Flags: Only 5 left. They usually last about 6 years. Jeff Stroebel. People can donate to the fund. Flyer handed out.
6. Park clean up report: Total of 70 volunteers, 30 from our neighborhood. We are very grateful for Jan Rahill and Vivian Ward's efforts to make the clean up day happen.
7. Beautification Team: Wish List was handed out at the meeting.

Bruce- Social Committee:

1. Community Gathering: May 5th is the next Porch Prowl on Lawsona. Watch Next door for details.
2. Neighborhood welcome packets: Robyn Bishop is developing welcome packets to reach out to more neighbors.
3. Updating websites. Hope to get payment portal on there for that. Maybe a membership subscription connection with nextdoor. Survey for topics of concern and suggestions for update on a site like SurveyMonkey.

8pm Meeting adjourned.