

RACQUET CLUB ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

Monthly Meeting - **February 11, 2012.**

Minutes

Written by Your Faithful Reporter RON OLIVER

Once more we gathered for the monthly meeting of the Board of Advisors of the RACQUET CLUB ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION, this time at the beautiful home of BOA member ROBERT PERRY.

The festivities were called to order promptly at 10:06 a.m. by Board President RICK VILA who welcomed the Board - including Donna Chaban, Dean Nicastro, Terry Towne, Barbara Maccarillo, Scott Kennedy, Lauren Scarbro, Bob Merliss, Joseph May and probably several other BOA members and GUESTS whose names are lost to history, as Your Reporter's handwriting is, to be charitable, just this side of hieroglyphics before noon on a Saturday morning.

However, the assembled DEFINITELY included many of the Home Owners and Docents engaged for the upcoming 2012 MODERNISM WEEK RACQUET CLUB ESTATES HOME TOUR, and much information was dispensed to them regarding the event: such important details as how to politely herd the usually hung-over and often heat-dazed attendees through the homes in a timely fashion; a demonstration of the

application of Protective Shoe Covering (which of course led to some giggles amongst the less socially mature members of our organization - ie: everyone - as they delighted in referring to this disposable paper item, usually worn by hospital staff, as a "bootie" with the vulgar joy of a group of 5th Graders!!); and a few lessons in how to discreetly enforce the "No Taking Souvenirs From The Credenza" rule.

A rather animated discussion about other events occurring during MODERNISM WEEK followed, and it became quite apparent that what started as a single weekend of a gathering of architectural devotees has grown into a massive event, bringing international attention - not to mention a great deal of money - to our once-sleepy little desert town.

DEAN NICASTRO delivered the Treasurer's Report, announcing our RCENO had \$14,910.96 (FOURTEEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED AND TEN DOLLARS AND NINETY SIX CENTS) in the bank. A healthy sum indeed!

Discussion followed, as it often does, about how best to utilize our bounty. Many notions came and went, but at this particular meeting we decided to donate \$2500.00 (TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS) to the new Palm Springs Animal Shelter -- Donna Chaban made the motion, Robert Perry seconded, and it passed unanimously. We look forward to seeing our neighborhood "blade" sign displayed above one of the kennels soon!

An announcement was made about the upcoming PSNIC ANNUAL PICNIC to be held March 31, 2012, at Ruth Hardy Park. As in past years, several members of our RCENO will be in attendance, with a booth to display information about our wonderful neighborhood, as well as showing off our great t-shirts and tote bags!

Rick Vila mentioned the website www.psmeasurej.com, a place where residents can check on updates regarding the big changes happening in downtown Palm Springs. The Measure J funds are currently being used to help finance the redevelopment of Palm Springs' old "Fashion Plaza", but the money is also available to those interested citizens who wish to put forward a grant proposal for funds to help the community.

Once again, our group engaged in a vibrant conversation about ways to use this money, and what kind of proposal we - the RCENO - would like to present to the City.

Amongst the ideas: a dog enclosure in Victoria Park; putting the neighborhood power lines underground; creating a "Welcome Wagon" type welcome bag for new neighbors moving into the Racquet Club Estates, and much much more....

All good ideas, and we shall see what happens next...

And on that note, Your Reporter was delighted to hear Rick Vila bring the meeting to a close, and we adjourned at 11:48 am, most

of us venturing out into the beautiful Saturday sunshine in search of brunch....or, in Your Reporter's case, to continue his research into which restaurant in town makes the best Bloody Mary!

He doesn't WANT to do it, but he feels he owes it to society.