

Meeting Minutes

Lee Road Safe Neighborhood Community Meeting

Meeting Started: 10 January 2017 – 7:00PM	Location: Edgewater Branch Library
Facilitator: Lori Erlacher, Vice President	Number Attendees: 6 Members, 3 Board, Griselda
Special Guests: Jessica Kitt & Danny Rubio, Presenter	Minutes Author: Frank Gould
Treasurer's Report – roughly \$345.	Meeting Minutes – Presented Online.

Meeting Instantiation

Lori Erlacher started the meeting, at 7PM, by introducing herself and informing the audience that Tom Rowell will not be joining the meeting this evening due to personal health issues.

Orange County Solid Waste - Presentation

Jessica Kitt & Danny Rubio introduced himself as Customer Service Field Rep to handle any issues with Garbage, Yard Waste, or Recycling in our area. To contact them residents should call 311, use the online web app, or download and install the 311 mobile app. Lori mentioned there are 311 brochures in the back of the room that help explain all the departments served by the 311 answering service. Danny also added that residents can call the Solid Waste hotline directly at 407-836-6601 and showed where the phone number is printed on the flyer they brought to this meeting to distribute.

What his organization suggests is to have someone in the neighborhood, like Frank, who watches and reports what he finds with an accurate address with house number and a picture. Frank interjected that he finds these during his dog walks, not that he's driving around looking for issues. Danny added that way they can input the information into their system and a work order will be generated. That way, they can collect multiple incidents and spend the day working through a particular neighborhood. Normally Danny visits the LRSN area on a Thursday but sometimes is delayed until Friday.

Danny has a very big territory that covers Pine Hills, Apopka, parts of Ocoee, Wikiva area, Zellwood, Mount Dora, outskirts of Winter Park, and Edgewater/Lee Road. He does get assistance from others but he's the contact point for this area and will engage others in his group to accomplish objectives. Danny is very familiar with these areas and knows the trouble spots.

What he does with offensive "move-out" piles caused by foreclosures or rental evictions, is leave a tag on the front door listing the violations he finds at the curb. In this listing he includes his contact information and also calls the property owner to let them know it is their responsibility for curb services and bulk items. Typically property owners take care of things with a couple weeks or occasionally take a month. In rare occasions, Danny will take the initiative to create a bulk item pickup if the items are within waste removal regulations. These bulk item pickups are on Fridays only and they need to submit the request 48 hours in advance to get the pickup scheduled for that Friday.

Jessica reiterated that residents can contact Solid Waste for other neighbors as well. When submitting the bulk items request, make sure all street addresses are included and what the items are to be picked up. That way, they can schedule the appropriate equipment to handle the bulk sizes. Pictures are an excellent way for their organization to determine the correct equipment to dispatch. Lori added that in their neighborhood, residents will use NextDoor to inform others that they are scheduling a pickup and will ask others if they want to be included in it as well.

Danny said the system isn't perfect but they continue to try to improve it. It takes a community to keep them informed and where there are tenants, there is a continuous problem with issues. Once Danny gets to know the property managers, however, things tend to work out better and quicker.

Then the question of the evening came up that could have been the elephant in the room: Why did the county decide to put blue lids on the recycle bins? Isn't green associated with recycling and "ecologically friendly" identification? Jessica replied that green is typically associated with the go-green movement, and there are several aspects like walking or riding a bike that are green. But if you look in most public places you will find that the recycling collection containers in the US are blue.

Frank then raised the point that the confusion is caused by the garbage can lid being green. If it had been black, it would not have been so noticeably contradictory. He added that the color originated in corporate offices where they noticeably colored the recycle bins blue. Danny said these lids have detailed picture instructions on them regarding what is accepted and what is not.

Jessica elaborated using the slogan "when in doubt, leave out" to help prevent mixing garbage with the recycle materials. There is a phone number to call or email address to ask what is included in the recycle materials. If you're not sure, just leave it out. There is really only 5 main things that they recycle: plastic **bottles** and containers, **newspaper**, **cardboard**, **steel**, and tin and aluminum **cans**. For an extensive list of the recycling products, go to their website: <http://www.ocfl.net/GreenClean2016>.

Lori asked if one has Hazmat what does one do with it? Jessica responded that they have two collection facilities that handle electronic and other household dangerous chemicals. One is on McLeod Road and the other at Young Pine Road. McLeod Road accepts hazardous materials on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Lori asked if there was any pickup services for hazmat waste? The answer was that there is not a county service for that and a resident would have to hire someone to do this.

One point they made about paint cans is if the can content is dry, it can be thrown out with garbage. If it's wet, it can be dried out with cat litter; however, the problem is that it needs to be sealed or there is a potential that the can will not be totally dry and when it's pressure packed, the paint can still leak out and cover the truck or roads. The equipment used is not perfect and sometimes paint or other pieces of trash can occasionally fall out. Should this happen, just call Solid Waste and they'll send someone out to pick it up.

Frank brought up there was a conversation on NextDoor about someone dumping regular furniture off in the front of a house for sale. He asked what residents should do in this situation. Danny responded that anyone can call Solid Waste to report the incident. Solid Waste will then contact the owner to confirm it was vandalism drop off and schedule it to be picked up. It is in these cases they can intervene and properly remove and dispose of the waste materials. If it's illegal dumping, the owner can contact the Sheriff's department and Solid Waste can work with them to remove the evidence.

An audience member asked what to do about large cardboard boxes and if they need to be broken down. Danny replied, yes, the boxes need to be broken or cut apart so they easily fall into the recycle truck. If not, a larger box can jam in the container preventing the content from dropping into the truck. The automated arm only does a few shakes to empty the container and if it's jammed the driver cannot see it.

Another audience member asked about when plastic bags are put into the recycle bins. Danny responded that when it gets to the recycle center, they inspect the load and if 10% is contaminated with plastic or garbage, the whole load gets dumped into the landfill. Jessica added that she has seen where people have put a whole toilet in the recycle bin and that contaminates the whole load. Plastic bags on the other hand can jam up sorting equipment and shutdown the whole facility; this can be very dangerous to remedy.

Lori asked if there is a section on the Solid Waste website where it says where lightbulbs can be recycled at Home Depot or where to take plastic bags. Jessica said as the county's Public Trainer, she found a site called Earth911.com where you can input the type of the product to recycle and it will respond with local and mail-in facilities. For instance, type in VHS Tapes and your zip code and the site will return a list of recyclers and other products they accept.

Alan Black said he had seen on TV that it is best not to crush cans because they can jam the sorting equipment. Jessica said that is true because the machines use weight and size to determine empty soda cans. When they're crushed they are separated from the recycle cans and thrown into the landfill.

Frank asked if Solid Waste would be interesting in participating in our LRSN National Night Out. Lori explained that this is a festival event where county and residents come together to recognize crime prevention. It's an opportunity for residents to learn who their neighbors are and other county agencies, like Fire, Sheriff, and others. Danny requested Frank send him some information about it and he'll forward it to the right channels to see if it's possible.

An audience member asked what to do if there is broken glass on the street or on the sidewalk. Danny said that was more of a Public Works department area and to call 311 or go online to Traffic & Transportation -> Other to report it. Public Works will send out crews to cleanup the glass or other items in the roadway or sidewalks.

Alan asked about large sheets of glass or mirrors. Danny replied that if it will fit in the garbage bin, put it in there, if it doesn't overflow or prevent the lid from closing. If not, put it flat in the grass so it can't be knocked over and broken. There have been studies about taping sheets of glass and that most of the time when taped glass breaks, only the glass under the tape is trapped. The rest shatters and breaks away from the taped pieces.

Old Business

Lori informed the audience that Cristina has moved on to Public Works and Jason Reynolds is our new county liaison. He could not attend tonight.

1. Election Results – Sunbiz.org Updates – Jason needs to provide status.
2. 501c3 Project Status & IRS Reporting – This is in process.
3. National Night Out – Ben Shaddrick was out due to health issues.
4. Neighborhood Sidewalks, Signage, and Street Lights – all in funding process and Jason needs to follow up.
5. Kingswood Reader Board – New Letters, Refurbishment, and Relocation– Jason needs to provide status.
6. Project Request Process – Jason needs to provide status about online forms.
7. Newsletter Business Distribution – Jason needs to provide status.

Lori mentioned that Marie's request about the Kingswood Manor Kid's Swimming Lesson had been followed up by Frank to the county but we've not heard anything yet. Frank said he would follow up again.

New Business

Doreen Maroth asked if she should report uneven sidewalks and added that she tripped and fell down because one section is damaged. Lori said yes, take a picture of the bad sidewalk and send it to 311 and Lori. Now that Cristina works at Public Works, we have a direct contact into that department. Lori will send an email to Cristina and copy Jason to ask what we need to do to get these sidewalks fixed.

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Marie also informed the audience that for her 70th birthday, she had friends give her elementary and middle-school sized shoes as gifts that she donated to Coalition for the Homeless. The experience was so wonderful because the kids were jumping up and down with excitement of having new shoes that fit. Of course, they grow out of them quickly but can be handed down to other when they grow out of them. This is a suggestion for others to collect shoes or other items to donate to the homeless. Lori suggested including an article in the next newsletter about this. Frank also suggested having Coalition for the Homeless come make a presentation for one of our upcoming meetings.

Lori asked if the audience has our email address and Frank interrupted to say that on the website, we have a new email address listed at the bottom of the page. It is info.LRSN@gmail.com and the email goes to Frank, as Secretary. He will then forward the email to the board so they are informed.

Becky Schaff suggested having Animal Services present at a meeting and Lori replied they presented a few months ago. She added that there were some negative comments about that. An audience member said a neighbor had a knee replaced and is trying walk normal again but the cats get too close around his ankles that it makes it difficult to walk. Lori suggested going on NextDoor to ask for help with trapping, spaying, and neutering the cats before releasing them. The post by Deana Drake appeared on 9 January 2017.

At 8:00PM, Frank made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Next Meeting	Location	Topics
14 March 2017	Edgewater Branch Library 5049 Edgewater Drive	Presentation: Orange County Traffic
Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 No Agenda Items completed because representatives not present at meeting: Jason Reynolds NPRD and Ben Shaddrick NNO.		

Author's Note: Having been elected and sworn into office in December 2016, Frank Gould is LRSN Board Secretary to record and publish the community meeting minutes. These minutes are paraphrased remarks by presenters and do not necessarily appear in timeline order. For the most part, words within quotes are literal transcription from audio recording captured at the meeting. However, in some instances when multiple people speak over each other, the audio is illegible and an alternative word may be used for continuity. This information is therefore an account with due transparency but not legal or binding representation of any attendee or guest.