RIO VISTA CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

In Person Meeting @Rio Vista Community Church
Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2025 - 7 PM

Call to Order by Lori Sterling, President of RVCA at 7:06pm

Board Roll Call

Present

Lori Sterling, Mark Snead, JJ Rajter, Bill Kirk, Ryan Lehrer, Solomon Schoonover, Lucy Mazza, Evan Jaxtheimer

Absent

Alex Jean, Nancy Messing, Chuck Tatelbaum (Board counsel)

Agenda Items:

1. City/Neighborhood Security Update – Lori Sterling introduced speakers

    a. Speakers representing a variety of specialties from the City, including Fort Lauderdale Police Dept, FTL PD RVCA Patrol Sergeant Mark Wright and Code enforcement officer Gus Caracas

        i. RV Patrol - Sgt Mark Wright
            - 9 incidents last 30 days
            - No auto thefts, just larceny in cars
            - 6 arrests by FTL PD

        ii. FTLPD Overview – Captain DeAnnna Greenlaw
            - Cpt Greenlaw discussed staffing in the neighborhood
            - New team performed audit – performed random checks of neighborhood and logged all items noted, and reported items to respective residents
            - Developed neighborhood Action Plan – led by Tim Shields
            - RV Perpetrators also going into Victoria Park and committing similar acts
            - Rudy Oliva spoke about FTL PD marine unit; noted that most common crime was stealing Garmin units from boats. Recommended pictures sent to FTLPD, and secure electronics on boats.

- Also noted that a new ordinance just passed in City associated with water/marine noise

iii. FTL PD – Detective Tim Shields
- Detective Shields in the gun unit; noted that there is a "gun" problem in the neighborhood
- Thieves looking for guns when they are stealing cars
- "Where's Your FOB" program has helped reduce car thefts by 73%; trying to get program reestablished in the neighborhood.
- Also noted the importance of LPR (License Plate Readers) in helping to find and prosecute thieves.
- Officer Shields offered phone number – (954-297-6504) – but warned that the best communication for residents is the FTL PD 911 line.

b. Mark Snead – RVCA Treasurer & member of Neighborhood Security committee)
- Mark discussed the new "Pilot" Security program that will be implemented to address additional criminal activity in RV Isles
  - ✓ Pilot program will be "incremental" to the existing RVCA security initiative in place today.
  - ✓ Will begin with a scope of (a) 4 days a week, (b) between hours of 11:30pm and 5:30am, (c) and will include a FTL PD officer cruising through the isles during this period.
  - ✓ The Pilot patrol plan will be paid for by RV Isle residents who elect to pay for it, and the extra funds by the Isles will be dedicated to the Isles Patrol program
  - ✓ Will initially be a 5 week program; based on the performance and information gathered during this initial 5 week period, the subsequent security plan will be evaluated and tweaked

- Additionally - "Where's Your FOB" sign at the front of each Isle entrance are being removed; but RVCA security will continue to replace and focus on increased FOB security

c. Solomon Schoonover – RVCA Board Member & member of Neighborhood Security committee

- Updated residents on pledge drive and the various ways residents can contribute, including the LPR and Unmanned gates plan
- LPD at every entry and exit
- Estimated $500k for entire security plan; LPR portion is approximately $250k
- Project & initiatives may begin piecemeal, with LPDs added incrementally
- Getting Unmanned gates installed involves more challenges to get accomplished

2. Gus Caracas (City Code Enforcement officer)
    - Offered to answer any questions for residents
    - A resident (Ken) asked about people parking on sidewalks; Gus noted this is a code violation and these can be brought to his attention. Violators will receive tickets.
    - Lori Sterling suggested that residents reach her to report as a way of creating a "whistleblower buffer" and not alienate residents with each other

3. City Representatives discussed compiance of residence wall
    a. Mohammed Malik
    b. Bert Ford
    c. Mark Koenig
        - Discussion ensued regarding the home on Cordova and 9th with high wall in the front yard, which looks out of compliance.
        - Bert noted that the wall is currently within code, as the code is written today.
        - Current code provides for walls to extend up 6'6" from base floor of home.
        - City compliance has been prevented twice from correcting with proposals by Zoning Board.

4. Final Comments – Lori Sterling, RVCA President
    a. Lori noted that residents should look for communications and email notificiations about upcoming neighborhood events in October.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:18pm