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Alva Inc. is dedicated to preserving the tranquility
and beauty of Alva
P O. Box 2022, Alva FL 33920

Membership Meeting June 9, 2008

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present, following the Call to Order by President Ruby Daniels. In attendance were about 32 people.

Guest Speaker:

Ms. Rae Ann Wessel was our guest speaker. Ms. Wessel is the Natural Resources Policy Director of the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation. Ms. Wessel's enjoyable and informative talk described a new, hi-tech river-water quality monitoring system, RECON (River Estuary Costal Observing Network). A privately-funded project, RECON welcomes anyone to visit www.recon.sccf.org where one can read real-time and historical data (e.g., nitrate and chlorophyll levels, salinity and temperature) from sensors placed in the Caloosahatchee River and the adjacent Gulf area. Go ahead- conduct your own science project! While your project may conclude deplorable river conditions, knowledge is the first step toward improvement. Ms. Wessel encouraged members to call her at 239-731-7559 if algae blooms or other undesirable conditions are observed. Our thanks and commendations to Ms. Wessel, SCCF and the donors for implementing and operating this useful project.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of the May meeting were summarized and accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning balance of \$6,350.24, receipts of \$345.00, expenditures of \$306.70, ending balance of \$ 6,388.54. Report accepted.

President's Report:

1. Fertilizer Ordinance: Adopted! President Daniels commended Marti Daltry and Commissioner Mann for this significant accomplishment. Commissioner Mann, present at the meeting, silently blushed as the praise was voiced.
2. Toxic River: President Daniels reported Mr. Phillip Flood of SFWMD did not respond to Alva Inc.'s April 23 letter. Mr. Bill Gross mentioned the Federal Clean Waters mandate, and that perhaps we are requesting response from the wrong person or level. The consensus was to follow-up with Mr. Charles Dauray, SFWMD Governing Board Member, and to bring the issue to the attention of appropriate incumbents and candidates for political office at the county, state and congressional level. Mr. Gross offered to prepare related questions for the Alva Inc. August Candidates Forum.
3. Candidates Forum: On schedule for Monday, August 11, 7PM Alva School.
4. Broadlands: President Ruby intends to meet with Lee Staff to review the latest submission. Please contact her if you would like to attend.
5. Conservation 2020: 23 Acres of Dr. Brown's property adjacent to Hickeys Creek remains under consideration. The family wishes to retain the remaining 7 acres.

Vice President's Report: Vice President Gerald spoke with admiration to the community of Alva people helping each other - whether one lives on Duke Highway, Bateman Road or Persimmon Ridge, the unity and assistance to each other brings warmth to her heart. And what a delight to pass another vehicle with the same Keep Alva Green license plate! Mr. Bill Gross echoed her comments, giving a kudo or two to the level of Alva's organization, adding his statement of the significant challenges facing Alva: Water and over development.

Caloosa 80: Ms. Connie Dennis is in the process of canvassing the Bateman Road area regarding Caloosa 80 concerns/opinions. Those expressed so far are the same as at the May general meeting. The intent is to continue on Snyder Road and the adjacent areas, followed by a neighborhood meeting to discuss. President Daniels noted the developer is open to suggestions, and has already made some plan changes based on expressed concerns.

Bonita Bay/North River Village: Ms. Denise Houck was invited to a wine and cheese party at the Verandah where Bonita Bay presented aspects of their North River Village proposal. (Sec. note: After sending his RSVP to the same party, Mr. Steven Brown, Certified Planner with the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, stated he was un-invited and received a further call to make sure he understood he was not welcome at the meeting.) Ms. Houck reported the presentations were the anticipated Bonita Bay high quality, and quite naturally stressed the good points - as do beer commercials, without addressing the negatives - the hangover afterwards. The threat of what would happen to the property if density increase was not approved was also presented.

Mr. Rob Fowler of Duke Highway then spoke. Mr. Fowler is a former member of the Lee County Smart Growth Committee and a respected developer in the Lee County community. He is opposed to the Bonita Bay density increase request. He discussed developer's rights: Regarding density, he said ***his development right is the density in place when he purchases the land.*** He described the Smart Growth concept that promotes, among other features, the clustering of dwellings to provide for open space. He shared that ***Smart Growth does not promote density increase.*** Water and sewerage: ***When you double the density, you double the problem.*** Regarding Bonita Bay's threat of what would happen if the density increase was not approved; Mr. Fowler said it is important to understand ***it is just that- a threat.*** Poorly planned properties will not sell, and therefore will not be developed.

Well, Mr. Fowler's words brought down the house. He was surrounded by grateful North Olga people as he and Mrs. Fowler slowly made their way to the door midst the roaring applause. Mr. Fowler, Alva thanks you for your reinforcing words and wisdom.

Mr. Ed Kimball, President of ELCC reported the following regarding the ELCC petition against any density increase and adoption of the River Village Land Use Category: Bonita Bay conveyed to him Alva requested the category include the area from I-75 to the county line. When he challenged the statement, Bonita Bay said the Lee Staff requested it, which Mr. Kimball also challenged. Bonita Bay told Mr. Kimball they will send a letter to Lee County with a change to the land use category wording. Mr. Kimball stated his petition drive continues. (Blank petition forms are available on the Community Planning Page of www.alvafl.org)

BOD Meeting: Wednesday June 25, 7 PM, MOGHOP. Alva Inc. board meetings are open to the public.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Green
Secretary