

WHAT WERE "THEY" THINKING.....ADDENDUM

THIRD BOARD ACTIONS TAKEN IN TWO MEETINGS

In a specially called meeting Monday, Nov. 14th, one day before their regular monthly meeting on the 15th, **and when the minority Board members had other commitments**, the new board continued the dismantling of all that Third had achieved in the past three years! Was it because their agenda was too full for the regular meeting?...Noooooo. It was because one member of the new majority was heading off on a foreign trip the next day and they needed his vote. The meeting was a testament to dictatorship and was so characterized by members who could not be silenced, despite admonishments from the chair, reciting the new procedures.

- Three General Manager staff positions previously removed in a cost savings measure since Third does not really benefit from their services were reinstated, **despite the fact that there is no money budgeted for those positions.**

On Tuesday, the dismantling continued

- Approval of a **Rain Event Action Plan** despite the fact it lacked specifics as to what constitutes "flooding", "danger" and who will do what to provide notice and protection to residents in previously flooded areas. Minority members questioned the admonition:
At no time will staff enter an area that is flooded. The questions remain, **who will be available to assist residents** and to ensure that they do not have to endure the same situations they faced in previous flood events.
- Half a million dollars originally cut from landscaping in the 2012 budget as a challenge toward greater efficiency was restored to be taken out of RESERVES **a potentially illegal act, since Reserves are used for repairs to unforeseen events, like increased dry rot and damage to buildings, and cannot be used for Operations.**

- Despite a 20 million dollar budget and 12.5 million invested with Blackrock, a Merrill Lynch affiliate, ***a proposed Investment Committee did not even rise to the level of discussion.***
- In the interests of time saving, the lateness of the hour, and the heavy closed session agenda, ***the chair suggested skipping the Finance Committee report,*** but retreated when the former Treasurer reminded him that this was improper and against the law. A brief finance committee report was presented.
- M & C coffees, proposed for early evening hours to help residents unable to attend meetings during the day were scheduled for times that did not meet this qualification. ***The attendance of Board Members to this function was limited to five members.*** Guess which ones.
- The one positive element in the entire meeting was the ***reconsideration of the elimination of non-emergency chargeable services,*** with an extension to July 1, 2011 for the Board to work with staff and residents to come up with a more well defined action plan on how to provide services in these situations.

If nothing else, this should be a wake up call to all residents in this community (especially in this newly created restrictive climate in THIRD), attend meetings, communicate with Board members, write letters to the editor. ***BE AWARE of what is proposed rather than BEWARE of what has been finalized.***