

**NORTH MERRITT ISLAND
DEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES**

The North Merritt Island Dependent Special District Board met in regular session on Thursday, March 13, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., at the Merritt Island Service Complex, 2575 N. Courtenay Parkway, Merritt Island.

Board members present were: Aneta Ott, Chair; Mary Hillberg; Shaye Williams; Tom McFarland; and Chris Cook.

Staff members present were: Cindy Fox, Planning, Zoning, and Enforcement Manager; and Jennifer Jones, Special Projects Coordinator II.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Aneta Ott, at 6:00 p.m.

Aneta Ott – The first item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes from March 13th. Do you have any additions or corrections? If not, do I have a motion for approval?

Tom McFarland – I so move.

Chris Cook – I'll second.

Aneta Ott called for a vote on the motion as stated, and it passed unanimously.

III.B.3. (14PZ-00054) – GERALD E. WOODCOCK, TRUSTEE - (Darron Dobson) – requests a CUP for Alcoholic Beverages (beer & wine only) for On-Premises Consumption in Conjunction with a Restaurant in a BU-1 zoning classification, on 1.29 acres, located on the east side of N. Courtenay Pkwy., approx. .19 mile north of Crisafulli Road. (6100 N. Courtenay Pkwy., Merritt Island)

NMI Recommendation: McFarland/Hillberg – Approved. Vote was unanimous.

Cindy Fox read aloud the request.

Gerald Woodcock – My name is Gerald Woodcock, I am reluctantly, presently, the owner of that property in question.

Aneta Ott – Can I have your address, Mr. Woodcock?

Gerald Woodcock – My address is 495 E. Hall Rd. We're trying to get that place put back open. I own it through a.....repossession that I had to do for a mortgage that I held on it when the previous owner defaulted on the mortgage. It took me a little over a year and a half to get that accomplished and get clear title to it, after paying a little over \$20,000 in back taxes to the State and the County. We've have an agreement between Mr. Dobson and myself. Now he wants to buy the property, which I would very much like, and right now we have an agreement for a lease to give him one year to determine if he really wants to do that. He really can't make that determination, I don't think, until such time as it's fully open, and it won't be fully open until we get a beer and wine license so we can serve that the way that it's been done at that exact location for 34 years. Suddenly, we have to rezone. I don't recall ever being rezoned for the previous five owners, but it is now, so we're applying for that according to all the rules that we have to follow here. We're a little late with it, but that was because we didn't know that we had to do this, and once we found out, by applying over at the State office in Orlando, we had to have an input from the County, so we came back and started that process. Unfortunately, the County shuts everything down for the whole month of June, so that delayed us a month, but here we are back on track and we're going to try to get something done here today and hopefully get all of you guys to approve what we're trying to do here, which is nothing more than re-open a restaurant and bar that's been there doing the same identical business for 34 years. I'd like for you to hear from Mr. Dobson right now, and he'll give you his input because he's the one that's going to actually be running the business.

Aneta Ott – Is there any questions?

Tom McFarland – No questions.

Darron Dobson – Hi, my name is Darron Dobson, 191 Las Palmas, right across the street, here. I grew up in this area, I went to MILA elementary through Merritt Island High. I started working on this in November. The property, if you've gone by there, I mean as far as what it looked like six months ago and what it looks like now, is night and day. I've spent six months and several thousand dollars cleaning the outside of the building up, the inside of the building. I've spent everything, pretty much, that I have getting this place up and going now and I think it has improved the property and surrounding areas to it. Nobody wants to look at an eyesore coming in and out of a \$400,000 house behind it. So, that's pretty much all I have to say, other than that the place never has been, you know, a call for the police to go out to every night, or anything. There have been more families in there than people causing problems the whole time it's been open. I just want to get it going so I can feed my family once again. Thank you all for your time.

Aneta Ott – Is there any questions of Mr. Dobson? Mr. Dobson, we all live on North Merritt Island.

Darron Dobson – Yes, I realize that.

Aneta Ott – Is there anyone that would like to speak to this, or against it? Come forward and state your name and address, please.

Chris Minerva – 5385 Lovett Drive, and I'm here to represent the North Merritt Island Homeowners Association on the requested CUP for alcoholic beverages, beer and wine, for on-premises consumption in conjunction with a restaurant. The North Merritt Island Homeowners Association recommends the issuance of that CUP.

Aneta Ott – Thank you, sir. Is there anyone else who would like to speak? Seeing none, I bring it back to the board. Any discussion? If not, I'm ready for a motion.

Tom McFarland – I move for approval of the request.

Mary Hillberg – I second.

Aneta Ott called for a vote on the motion as stated, and it passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.