

# Miami-Dade County Chapter *of the* Florida Surveying and Mapping Society

## Secretary's Report

May 20, 2010

Location: La Carreta Restaurant, Miami, Florida.

Attendance: 31 members & guests present.

President Ralph Cabrera called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and he did the invocation.

We did quote the anti-trust statement.

The Secretary's Report for the February and April chapter meetings were distributed. There was a motion to approve both Secretary's reports and the same were approved.

Treasurer Tom Brownell submitted the Treasurer's Report. There was a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the same was approved.

Ralph Cabrera introduced our guests, which included Jose Tormes, Flood Plain Supervisor for unincorporated Miami-Dade County (works for DERM), Mike Gambino, Flood Plain Supervisor for the City of Miami Springs, and Mario Pino, President of Max Value Insurance Group.

### **Surveyors in Local Government**

#### ***Announcements:***

- DERM: Working on same projects.
- WASA: Nothing new.
- Special Taxing District: Adding street lights to most every special taxing district.
- Coral Gables: [Not attending].
- Public Works R/W: No report.
- Public Works Survey: Survey contracts are in place and work is being doled out.
- FDOT: [Not attending].

### **State Director's Report**

The next Board meeting is Friday, June 11, 2010. Lou Campanile also announced that he is a candidate for President-Elect of FSMS.

### **Guest Speakers**

Mr. Jose Tormes ([tormej@miami-dade.gov](mailto:tormej@miami-dade.gov)) spoke about the FEMA Flood Certificates and maps. Some salient points included:

- Unincorporated Miami-Dade County has a rating of 5 (a rating of 1 is the best that you can get, and apparently only 2 communities in the US have this rating). This 5 rating give residents a 25% reduction in their flood insurance rates.
- Miami-Dade County is audited by FEMA every 3 years. Mostly FEMA concentrates on auditing Flood Certificates submitted as part of the building permitting process.
- At the last audit, Miami-Dade County had some 8000 flood certificates with mistakes (e.g. misspellings, missing zip codes, etc.) FEMA gives rating demerits if a community has in excess of 10 flood certificates with mistakes.
- In Florida, only surveyors can sign/seal elevation certificates and make them valid.

Mr. Mike Gambino basically piped in from time to time when Mr. Tormes was speaking and said that he agreed with everything that Mr. Tormes said.

Mr. Mario Pino, local insurance agent, spoke about his dealings with flood certificates, flood insurance and FEMA.

### **Old Business**

- None

### **New Business**

- Jose Sanfiel reported that the Chapter Golf Tournament will take place some time in September and he was still working on an exact date.

The habitual raffle was held and Jovica Malesevic won, though he did not pick the Joker.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Campanile, Jr.  
Secretary, Miami-Dade County Chapter,  
Florida Surveying and Mapping Society