

SIESTA KEY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 8, 2009
St Boniface Church, Meeting Room F

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Ramirez called the meeting to order. A quorum was present: Art August, Ron Flynn, Deet Jonker, Ann Kaplan, Joyce Kouba, Catherine Luckner, Bob Schennum, Bob Tripp, Paul van Deventer, Peter van Roekens, Bob Waechter, Gayle Wardner, Nancy Wilson. Excused: Matthew Burnett.

2. MINUTES – Joyce Kouba

The December minutes were accepted

3. TREASURER'S REPORT – Bob Tripp

Total current assets are \$101339. Bob Waechter recommended that if the membership drive does not totally underwrite legal fees, they should be expensed. In order to pay bills more rapidly, Ann Kaplan will do record keeping and the Treasurer will sign checks. The accountant will do taxes. The December Treasurer's report was accepted.

4. SHERIFF'S REPORT – Sgt. Scott Osborne – No Report.

5. LIFEGUARD REPORT – JR Ayers (Roy Routh)

December 2008 beach attendance was 123,720 compared to December 2007 attendance of 119,916. 2007 annual attendance was 2,278,790 compared to 2008 annual attendance of 1,842,009. Statistics: 1 rescue, 2 major first aids, 187 minor first aids, 111 glass, 42 pets, 41 boats, 27 lost persons. Paul van Deventer recommended that the public needs education about not feeding gulls. There are many dogs at Turtle Beach. Lifeguards are not guarding Turtle Beach, but will check for a "no pets" sign. Enforcement of the "no pets" ordinance is a complex issue because of the definition of public land at the beach.

6. PUBLIC/AUDIENCE COMMENT (13 Guests)

- Jack Boland, permanent Siesta Key resident for 14 years and SKA member, stated that he and his neighbors adamantly oppose using the lot at the corner of Treasure Boat Way and Ocean Blvd. for parking. He was upset because he thought that SKA supported such a proposal at the December meeting. He explained that the neighborhood consists primarily of full-time residents; it is not a tourist rental area. He believes that the primary benefactor of parking there would be the bar and restaurant owners, not residents. Parking at that location would not alleviate the shortage of beach parking. He asked that SKA not support any parking at that site but rather should support parking in existing commercial areas, rather than rezoning residential property. He recommended that a simple and economical solution to increase parking spaces would be to eliminate "permit only" parking. Commissioner Patterson

responded that the County cannot afford to purchase the subject lot and there are no plans to establish parking at that or any other location. If such a project were considered, a public hearing would be held. Jack disagreed with suggestions that parking at that location might be accomplished in a manner that could be sensitive to residents. Lourdes clarified that SKA did not support that proposal and that SKA's mission remained to provide a representative voice for Siesta Key residents.

- Joe Volpe would like SKA to support paid beach parking. SKA will get an indication of members' view on the issue when the recent survey is tallied.
- Bob Schennum asked why beach accesses have fewer trash cans?
- Ann Kaplan, with help from Commissioner Patterson, reviewed the plans for planting along Ocean Blvd in the Village and has worked with the County to include as many shade trees as possible.
- The County has put out a bid for removal of debris from the Columbus beach access.

7. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADOPT-A-ROAD/VILLAGE – Peter van Roekens

December 13 pickup yielded 11 bags of trash in about an hour. Nancy Wilson, Ann Kaplan and Peter attended from SKA.

MIDNIGHT PASS – Bob Waechter

The DEP issued a preliminary letter of intent to deny the Midnight Pass permit. The BCC engaged council to assess the cost of appealing.

TURTLE BEACH – Ron Flynn

- The County is rebuilding Blind Pass Road.
- The north fence is being replaced.
- The dumpster has been moved.

INLET MANAGEMENT – Peter van Roekens

- The Big Pass Channel is unchanged, except that the depth has decreased slightly from 5.5' to 5.2' at MLLW
- New marker 6A is already missing; it will be replaced with 2 markers.
- The depth of Longboat Pass is excellent.
- The channel near Jewfish Key that was recently dredged is again shallow.
- Boca Grande Channel information is now on the Sarasota Yacht Club web site.
- The Big Pass/New Pass study is in draft form and should be released within a month.

VILLAGE PARKING – Bob Schennum

The proposed revised parking ordinance will go to the Planning Commission Feb 19 and to the BCC in March.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Gayle Wardner

- Gayle asked the County to review the safety of the crosswalk at Stickney Point.
- She also asked that the County review the speed limits south of Stickney Point; there are three different speed limits within a very short distance.

TREE CANOPY – Ann Kaplan

FPL has agreed to cooperate with SKA on all issues.

8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOMINATING/BOARD DEVELOPMENT – Paul van Deventer – No report

ZONING – Lourdes Ramirez

- Zoning code updates for the 4 remaining provisions are waiting on staff.
- No restaurant or tiki bar at the Hyatt.
- County staff wants a total overhaul of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Land Development Regulations are being reviewed.
- An Urban Service Boundary charter amendment is being considered.
- Lourdes has set up a zoning task force consisting of Nancy Wilson, Catherine Luckner, and Ann Kaplan.

MEMBERSHIP – Deet Jonker

The membership mailing was sent to approximately 10,000 residents. We are awaiting checks. There was some discussion regarding condominium membership.

9. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Erickson Consulting is looking at piping effluent from the retention pond into the Gulf of Mexico. They will also look at computer modeling of flooding. There would be a peer review prior to putting the effluent into the Gulf. This would be a capital project, which would incur assessment.
- The Benderson development at US 41 and Stickney Point is on slow track.
- SKA will have sign up sheets for committees at breakfast.
- Dog bags need replacing.
- February 3 will be the grand opening.

10. ADJOURN – President Ramirez adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kouba
Secretary, Siesta Key Association