

SIESTA KEY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2009

St. Boniface Church, Meeting Room F

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Ramirez called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM. A quorum was present by 4:45 PM. Present were Peter van Roekens, Bob Schennum, Bob Waechter, Robert Tripp, Lourdes Ramirez, Paul van Deventer, Nancy Wilson and Matthew Burnett. Excused were Ron Flynn, Catherine Luckner, Gayle Wardner, Art August and Deet Jonkers.

2. MINUTES

The May minutes were accepted.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Robert Tripp reported income of \$150.00 in membership dues and outgoing expenses at \$1,915.81 for donations to the Kids Beach Run and the Siesta Key fireworks. Total current assets are \$134,218.25

4. SHERIFF'S REPORT

Deputy Scott Osborne reported that there is a concentrated cooperative effort by the Manatee and Sarasota County Sheriff's offices, Bradenton and Sarasota City Police departments concerning the on-going home invasions and sexual battery. The Deputy cautioned people to keep their cars locked and their homes secured. He also told people to close their curtains at night and be vigilant. Sgt. Osborne also suggested not leaving the garage door opener in the car or visible in the car. Thieves use garage door openers to easily access a residence. He reported several vehicle burglaries on the Key and remarked that most cars had been unlocked.

5. LIFEGUARD REPORT None

6. CODE ENFORCEMENT None

7. NEW BUSINESS

President reported to the Board that she met on the morning of June 4th with representatives of the

Casey Key, North Manasota and Manasota Key Associations. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the possibility of forming an alliance among these groups for the purpose of addressing important issues regarding the Comprehensive Plan, the PDRP, and the Flood Plain Ordinance.

Discussion ensued as to whether our Board will formally agree to participate in this group and issues were raised as to structure, legality and formal definitions of the group. A motion was made and seconded to go to the next step; which is to explore the by-laws and structuring of The Barrier Islands Defense League. Another motion was made and seconded to provide \$750.00 to start the process by our Board, if the other three Association Boards will do as well.

Mrs. Connie Davis, from Casey Key described the benefits of a united group. SKA Board member Paul Van Deventer spoke to issues of keeping integral SKA Board priorities if we join with other associations. President Ramirez emphasized that SKA issues and priorities would not be compromised by a League formation. The League would have a formal Not-For-Profit status and tax ID number.

8. PRESENTATION

Laird Wreford, Sarasota County Coastal Resources Manager, gave a presentation of videos, slides and led a group discussion on the Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan. This plan is going forward and the County is providing public outreach forums. The County is hoping to have on-going Stakeholders Group meetings, and pull together drafts to have the public and BCC review by December.

The PDRP is a comprehensive plan which deals with all aspects of post-disaster reconstruction including business, housing, infra-structure, environmental and financial issues after a catastrophic occurrence in Sarasota County.

The State of Florida has redefined the coastal storm surge criteria and Peter Van Roekens suggested that the County link to the State websites so the public can understand the issues better. Audience questions were asked and answered.

9. PUBLIC AUDIENCE QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

There were 11 guests including Sheriff Osborne and Commissioner Patterson.

Mr. William Caflisch, Senior and his son Mr. Caflisch and Ms. Serrano are residents on Beach Road and are very concerned that their properties which are already being compromised by people parking on their lawn and acting inappropriately. These owners are opposed to having more public parking on their road.

Mr. Wilson asked if Zoning laws will be enforced after a disaster as they are currently documented.

Dr. Davis and Mrs. Davis brought Sheriff's forms to the board. These forms will be made available to absentee owners who have need of the Sheriff's deputies to go onto their properties in the event of crimes being committed. There is a lot of theft, trespassing and property damage on absent land-owners properties.

Ann Kaplan asked the Sheriff to define the term "elderly" as he described the ages of the victims of the crimes committed by home invasion perpetrators. Ann Kaplan also stated that she has personally driven to the Hub after midnight and heard their loud live music. According to the Special Exceptions outdoor live entertainment must cease by 10:00 p.m. weekdays and midnight on weekends.

Commissioner Patterson stated that most likely Code Enforcement is going to be the best way to enforce these SPECIAL EXCEPTION ISSUES.

10. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

INLET MANAGEMENT No report

MEMBERSHIP No report

NOMINATING No report

ZONING --- Lourdes Ramirez

1. Lourdes spoke to the issue of the upcoming amendments to the Comprehensive Plan as it relates to the level of service of Ocean Boulevard and Beach Road which used to be F and now is C.

2. There are questions as to the definition of rebuilding and redevelopment of the Barrier islands. The

Code must address which units can be rebuilt. The Comprehensive plan is due for a complete rewrite and the Evaluation and Appraisal Report will begin late this summer.

3. The SKA wants the Flood Plain ordinance reviewed again. The SKA objected to the Ordinance as it was written last year. The Board of County Commissioners will discuss it next week.

4. On June 10th the BCC will discuss the temporary use permits for late night entertainment on Siesta Key.

5. On June 10th the BCC is also going to address the real Estate sign ordinances. At issue are the large semi-permanent signs which large developers have been allowed to keep on their developed properties until "95 % of their units are sold." There is concern that large developers, such as the Hyatt, will take advantage of the wording to keep their signage up, as well as install structures such as Tiki huts so they can sell their units.

6. Lateral beach access is an issue which is getting attention. The BCC requested the County Attorney to research claims by a Siesta Key owner of property south of Point of Rocks whether she has the right to impede the public access through her "beach front" as they try to reach the public beach beyond her property. Commissioner Patterson addressed this issue by stating that the State of Florida must weigh in on this but hasn't and each County is left to determine what the law states on a case by case basis. There is definite case law as well as Florida Supreme Court rulings regarding where a property owners' rights end and the public's rights begin.

7. Protection of the nesting plover was again discussed. There had been a mistaken opinion that the SKA was opposed to beach weddings. The public access areas of the beach where there have been nesting plovers have been identified. President Ramirez repeated her letter to the editor of the Pelican Press in which she stated that the SKA is not against beach weddings, but wants the public to understand that these nearly extinct birds require protection during their nesting season. She asks the County to consider the protection of these nesting areas when the county decides how it is going to manage the newly obtained public access lanes to the beaches(especially accesses #5 and #7).

11. OLD BUSINESS None

12. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy R. Wilson for Joyce Kouba, Secretary, Siesta Key Association