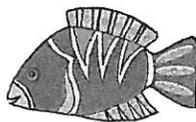


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Belleair Beach
Belleair Shore
Clearwater
Indian Rocks Beach
Indian Shores
Redington Shores

North Redington Beach
Redington Beach
Madeira Beach
St. Pete Beach
Treasure Island

January 25, 2012

Mayor Simons called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Redington Shores Town Hall, 17425 Gulf Boulevard, Redington Shores, Florida, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Members Present:

Redington Beach	Mayor Nick Simons
Belleair Beach	Mayor Kathy Mortensen
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner Terry Hamilton-Wollin
Indian Shores	Mayor Jim Lawrence
N. Redington Beach	Mayor Bill Queen
Redington Shores	Mayor Bert Adams
Treasure Island	Mayor Robert Minning
St. Pete Beach	Commissioner Jim Parent
Belleair Shores	Mayor John Robertson
Madeira Beach	Mayor Travis Palladino
Clearwater	Councilor George Cretekos

Guests Present:

Howard Rutherford, Secrets of the Sea Aquarium
Bill Smith, Councilor, Indian Shores
Jose Coppen, Indian Rocks Beach
John Branch, Vice Mayor, Redington Shores
Robin Vergara, Volunteer Coordinator, Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary
Sandra Knoebel, Planner, PC Planning Dept/MPO
Patricia Hubbard, Madeira Beach
Andy Squires, Pinellas County Coastal Manager
Chuck Coward, City Manager, Indian Rocks Beach
Kristi Cheatham, Clearwater Gas
Jody Armstrong, President, Treasure Island Chamber of Commerce
R.B. Johnson, Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach
Tom Dorgan, Commissioner, Redington Beach
Wanda Schwere, Commissioner Belleair Beach
Joan Herndon, Vice Mayor, Indian Shores
Melissa Sexias, Community Relations Manager, Progress Energy
Chelsey Wilson, Corporate Liaison, Big Brothers Big Sisters
Bob McClure, Editor, Tampa Bay Newspapers
Phyllis Johnson, Reporter, Pinellas Scene

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Fred Steiermann, Vice Mayor, Redington Beach
Linda Fischer, Principal Planner, Pinellas Planning Council
Chris Mettler, Program Planner, Pinellas Planning Council
Robin Sollie, CEO, TBBCOC
Doreen Moore, TDC/TBBCOC

Mayor Adams welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He noted that Redington Shores now has a new restaurant called Sea Breeze Bar and Grill and invited everyone to try it out.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Simons asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was made by Mayor Robertson to approve the agenda and duly seconded by Commissioner Hamilton-Wollin and carried unanimously.

Minutes Approval Regular Meeting of December 14, 2011

Mayor Simons asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was made by Mayor Robertson to approve the December 14, 2011, minutes and duly seconded by Commissioner Hamilton-Wollin and carried unanimously.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Mayor Minning read the treasurer's report. Motion was made by Mayor Robertson to accept the treasurer's report as presented and duly seconded by Commissioner Hamilton-Wollin and carried unanimously. Mayor Minning also reported to the members of the 2012 Status of Incorporation. The cost of the renewal is \$61.25 and it was a consensus of the members to pay this.

Correspondence

A letter from Deborah Flack of the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association was received thanking the Big C for their continued support through the beach watch membership dues.

New Business

Mayor Simons welcome Howard Rutherford of the Secrets of the Sea Aquarium. Mr. Rutherford introduced drawings and floor plans of the Pier Aquarium relocation and its new name, Secrets of the Sea. The tentative target date for the opening of the exhibits is set for December 12, 2012. He indicated that over half the money has been raised for Phase I, the total amount needed is 2.8 million dollars. Grants have been received and efforts to raise more monies are continuing. He introduced Patricia Hubbard of Hubbard's Marina. She further explained some of the exhibits that Mr. Rutherford touched on. One of the exhibits she spoke about is a globe of real time satellite of storms from around the world. This will be a main attraction and should enhance tourism. This should put John's Pass on the map for tourism. She also indicated that on April 29th, there will be an event held to educate the public of the specifics of the Secrets of the Sea as well as a fund raiser.

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Mr. Rutherford answered questions from the members and indicated that there will be a fee for admission and the projected visitors should reach approximately 250,000 a year. He also indicated that a lease has been signed and they are awaiting construction upon permits being issued. He requested that the Big C aid them in keeping apprised of SB # 1274 and HB # 1015 and supporting these to include “aquariums”.

Mayor Simons introduced Pam Dobyms of the Seabird Sanctuary. Ms. Dobyms noted that the mission of the Seabird Sanctuary is to rescue, rehabilitate, and to release the birds. She is requesting the Big C’s help in an education program that they will be offering for basic training for bird rescue. She would like to be able to give about an hour long workshop for the beach communities to learn how to do basic bird rescues. She indicated that they receive approximately 30 calls a day, for bird rescues, but during baby bird season, that number doubles and they do not have ample volunteers to accomplish the bird rescues.

Miscellaneous

Beach Update: Andy Squires indicated that there is nothing new to report on the projects. The projects are in line with the projected time line.

Bill Smith spoke about the challenges for beach re-nourishment again this year, although ten million dollars has been put in the governor’s proposed budget. Sand Key is not an issued as this was funded last year. Mr. Smith will be attending the board meeting of the FSBPA on February 8th.

Legislative Update: None

Pennies for Pinellas: Mayor Lawrence reported that all of the 14 signed packages have been delivered to the BOCC. A proposed date is not yet available of when it will be reviewed by the county commissioners, however he will let the Big C members know as soon as he is informed of a date. He also encourages the members to attend the BOCC meeting so show support.

Mayor Simons thank Mayor Lawrence for the outstanding job he has done with this project.

Melissa Sexias of Progress Energy spoke briefly on the merger with Duke Energy and that it has been delayed and should be completed by late spring and that business is as usual. She indicated that if the town’s plan on undergrounding to get her involved early so that she can get the appropriate person involved from the onset.

FDOT Update: Sandra Knoebel pointed out that she will be the liaison for the crosswalk project, since the flag project will no longer be in place. She also stated that there are still six or seven boxes of flags stored at Indian Shores. Mayor Lawrence indicated that the contact person is Bonnie Dhonau if more flags are needed.

Robin Sollie spoke briefly on uniform look and feel of the flags for the Republican National Committee. Se also reiterated about the grant program that is available for Economic Development.

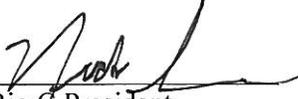
Chelsey Wilson of the Pinellas County office of Big Brothers/Big Sisters reported on the program. She said that the program is for every child to reach their potential by having a mentor. She said right now the program serves over 1,500 children in Pinellas County. There are two separate programs, one which you visit a child during their school hours, and the requested commitment is for 12 months, and the other one is mentoring a child out of the school, which is a 15 month commitment.

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The meeting concluded at 10:05 a.m.

Next meeting will be held on February 29, 2012, hosted by North Redington Beach Town Hall.



Big C President
Mayor Nick Simons
Town of Redington Beach