

**BARRIER ISLANDS GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2004**

PRESIDENT: Mayor J.J. Beyrouti, Town of Redington Shores
VICE PRESIDENT: Mayor Mike Kelly, City of Belleair Beach
SECRETARY-TREASURER: Mayor Tom DeCesare, City of Madeira Beach

The meeting of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council, held at the Redington Shores Town Hall, 17425 Gulf Boulevard, Redington Shores, Florida, was called to order by Vice President Mike Kelly at 9:00 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: (Voting = V; Alternate 1 = A1; and Alternate 2 = A2)

Belleair Beach	Mayor Mike Kelly (V)
Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson (V)
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner Jim Palamara (V)
Indian Shores	Councilor Bill Smith (A1)
Madeira Beach	Mayor Tom DeCesare (V)
North Redington Beach	Mayor Harold Radcliff (V)
Redington Beach	Mayor Bob Fontaine (V)
St. Pete Beach	Commissioner Pete Blank (V)
Treasure Island	Vice Mayor Barbara Bush (V)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Robert Brotherton	Brotherton Engineering
Joe Burdette	Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce
Doris Burns	Legislative Assistant for Senator Dennis Jones
Kristi Cottier	Clearwater Gas
Nick Fritsch	Sand Key Civic Association
Hoyt Hamilton	Commissioner, City of Clearwater
Joan Herndon	Councilor, Town of Indian Shores
Rob Meador	Pinellas County
Ralph Stone	City of Clearwater
Linda Fisher	Pinellas Planning Council
Chief E.D. Williams	Indian Shores Police Department
Russ Sloan	Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce
Nancy Loehr	Progress Energy
Jeff Lyash	V. P. Progress Energy
Bob DiNicola	Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach

Bill Ockunzzi	Commissioner, Indian Rocks Beach
Marry Black	Treasure Island
Steve Sutch	ISPOA
Vince Robertiello	The Reporter, Treasure Island
Eddie Lee	Gulf Beaches Kiwanis
Garner Koons	Treasure Island Artificial Reef
Richard Kraus	Commissioner Treasure Island
Cori Cutter	Legislative Aide/Rep. Don Sullivan
Bob MacPherson	Beach Beacon
Mary Maloof	Mayor, Treasure Island
Marshall Reynolds	Commissioner Redington Shores
John Leahy	Fire Chief, Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue
Mike Nadeau	Building Official, Redington Shores
Maureen Byrne	St. Petersburg Times

2. APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2003 AND JANUARY 2004

The Treasurer’s Report for December 2003 was presented by Mayor DeCesare, with a balance on hand as of December 8, 2003, of \$1,724.84 and January 2004, with a balance on hand as of January 8, 2004 of \$5,225.32.

Motion made and seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Unanimous approval by acclamation.

3. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 10, 2003 MINUTES

Motion made and seconded to approve the December 10, 2003 minutes. Unanimous approval by acclamation.

4. GUEST SPEAKERS: Jeff Lyash, Senior V.P., Progress Energy

Jeff Lyash explained that his position was created with Progress Energy to ensure sharp focus on reliability and customer service in Florida. Mr. Lyash has been with Progress Energy for 11-years, two years in Florida. The merger of Carolina Power and Light, and Florida Power formed progress Energy. The larger company gives the ability to apply technology and resources, but at the same time keeping a local atmosphere level. A recent improvement has been a new system to expedite the response to 911 calls. Mr. Lyash told the Council he realizes that under grounding utilities is a very important issue to the beach communities and Progress Energy is very interested in working with the communities on these projects and is currently working with North Redington Beach on their under ground project.

A brief question and answer discussion followed. Vice President Kelly thanked Mr. Lyash for his presentation.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

5A. HB 409/SB 686

Vice Mayor Blush informed the BIG C on an update concerning House Bill 409 and Senate Bill 686; The Coastal Redevelopment Hazard Mitigation Demonstration Act. Documentation submitted to the City of Treasure Island gave the Council cause to reconsider their support of these bills and at their last meeting passed a resolution opposing these bills and will submit a signed resolution to the BIG C.

5B WEB Site

Vice President Kelly asked all members to please submit their biographical information to Digateel for the BIG-C web page.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

6A. Treasure Island Artificial Reef Project – Garner Koons & Harry Black

Mr. Black provided a handout to all for the presentation, comprising of an article from the Tampa Tribune and several pages from two studies that were done. Mr. Black reviewed with the Council statistics in support of artificial reef programs. A video is available for any who wish to review it.

Motion made and seconded that the Big C will support the Treasure Island Artificial Reef Project. Unanimous approval by acclamation.

6B PSTA

One of the task force reports from the American Assembly was on transportation. The committee for the transportation task force was comprised of non-elected officials, a position opposed by the Big C. The committee came up with two proposals, one being a 6-cent increase in gas tax and the other requiring all municipalities to become a member of the PSTA. When PSTA was established a number of communities, including, St. Pete Beach, Belleair Shore, Treasure Island, Belleair Beach, opted out. Since that time other communities wanting to opt out of the PSTA have been denied. During a recent meeting with Senator Jones, various Mayors voiced their concern of this proposed requirement, and Senator Jones assured that he is opposed to the recommendation and this is not an upcoming agenda item for legislation this year. Councilmen Smith asked if all municipalities are unified in the position of not wanting to belong to the PSTA.

Discussion ensued on services being forced on municipalities, and the expense of these services. This issue with the PSTA needs to be monitored carefully.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

7A Infrastructure Corporation of America – Bridge Inspection Program – David Rader

Mayor Yakes told the Council David Rader was not able to attend the meeting due to transportation issues.

Infrastructure Corporation of America is a total asset maintenance company. This company inspects all the bridges for the Tampa Bay area. Infrastructure Corporation of America is offering to have direct communication with the cities. Coordination possibly can be made as to a preferred time of day for inspections to be done.

7B Beach Renourishment

Nick Fritsch shared with the Council a document “Sharing our story” that was prepared under the advise of Senator Jones. It tells the story of the last renourishment, specifically in Sand Key. Vice President Kelly thanked Mr. Frit for all his work on beach renourishment.

7C Gulf Beaches Kiwanis – Eddie Lee

Eddie Lee represents the Gulf Beach Kiwanis. The Kiwanis is a non-profit service organization. The Kiwanis are offering the services of setting up a Town Meeting/Candidate Forum with an experienced moderator to any municipalities who are interested. The Kiwanis will also be conducting a “Get Out To Vote Campaign.”

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned.

Mayor Mike Kelly, City of Belleair Beach

Prepared by: Mary Palmer, Town Clerk, Town of Redington Shores