

Belleair Beach
Belleair Shore
Clearwater
Indian Rocks Beach
Indian Shores
Madeira Beach



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

OFFICERS

Michael E. Kelly
President

Mayor, Belleair Beach
444 Causeway Boulevard
Belleair Beach, FL 33786
(727) 595-4646 Fax: (727) 593-1409

Tom De Cesare
Vice-President

Mayor, Madeira Beach
300 Municipal Drive
Madeira Beach, FL 33708
(727) 391-9951 Fax: (727) 399-1131

Bob Fountaine
Secretary/Treasurer

Mayor, Redington Beach
105 - 164th Avenue
Redington Beach, FL 33708
(727) 391-3875 Fax: (727) 397-6911

April 28, 2004 Minutes

The meeting of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council, held at the Madeira Beach City Hall, 300 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach, Florida, was called to order by President Kelly at 9:02 a.m.

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**
- 2. ROLL CALL.**

Members:

Belleair Beach	Mayor Mike Kelly
Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson
Clearwater	Councilmember Hoyt Hamilton
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner James R. Palamara
Indian Shores	Mayor Donald L. Taber
Madeira Beach	Mayor Tom De Cesare
No. Redington Beach	Mayor Harold Radcliffe
Redington Beach	None present.
Redington Shores	Mayor J.J. Beyrouiti
St. Pete Beach	Vice-Mayor Deborah Nicklaus
Treasure Island	Vice-Mayor Richard Kraus

Guests:

Rand Baldwin	Governmental Affairs, Southwest Florida Water
Management District	
Katherine Burbridge	Intergovernmental Liaison, Pinellas County
Kristi Cottier	Clearwater Gas
Mary Maloof	Mayor, Treasure Island
Linda Fisher	Program Planner, Pinellas Planning Council
Jerry Knight	Vice-Mayor, North Redington Beach
Nancy Loehr	Progress Energy
Donald Lusk	Administrator, Redington Shores
Bob MacPhersun	Reporter, Beach Beacon
William Ockunzzi	Commissioner, Indian Rocks Beach
Leonard A. Piotti	Commissioner, Madeira Beach
Vince Robertiello	Reporter, Treasure Island
Denise M. Schlegel	City Clerk, Madeira Beach
Steve Schwalb	Senior Account Manager, Digital Eel, Inc.
Sandy Shuler	Councilor, Indian Shores
Tina Skaggs	Assistant to the Mayor, Belleair Beach
Bill Smith	Councilor, Indian Shores
Steve Sutch	President, Indian Shores Property Owner Association

ANNOUNCEMENT. President Kelly requested everyone in attendance with a cell phone to either shut them off or put them on vibrate; because there is a \$1 penalty for each offense to any person whose cell phone rings during the meeting. President Kelly advised the first meeting this rule was enacted; the BIG-C raised \$4.

INTRODUCTIONS. President Kelly:

- Introduced Tina Skaggs as the Assistant to the Mayor in Belleair Beach;
- Advised Belleair Beach, until next March, has a different type of government; explaining the Mayor, currently does not vote as a legislative person; but is the Administrator.
- Requested that anyone with BIG-C issues contact Ms. Skaggs at 595-4646, extension 121.
- Advised he is already receiving transition mail from Redington Shores;

3. **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 28th BIG-C AGENDA.** President Kelly introduced Larry Karisny, with Project Safety; and stated, if there were no objections, he will be added to the agenda under Miscellaneous to give a brief presentation on improving public safety.

Motion made by Mayor Robertson, seconded by Mayor Taber to approve the April 28th agenda, as corrected, carried unanimously by voice vote.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 31st BIG-C MINUTES.** It was noted on page 3 of the minutes, under Miscellaneous, it was indicated that Treasure Island and Indian Rocks Beach were not participating in the Mile Marker Program; however, the minutes should be corrected to reflect those municipalities are participating, but will handle the maintenance of their Mile Marker signs.

Motion made by Mayor Robertson, seconded by Mayor Beyrouti to approve the March 31st minutes; as amended, carried unanimously by voice vote.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 2004 TREASURER'S REPORT.** On behalf of Treasurer Fountaine, Mayor De Cesare provided the Treasurer's Report for April 2004, and stated the balance on hand as of April 8th is \$1,151.78. **Motion** made by Mayor Taber, seconded by Councilmember Hamilton to accept the April Treasurer's Report, as presented, carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

Website discussion - Steve Schwalb, Digital Eel, Inc. President Kelly advised he invited Mr. Schwalb, the BIG-C's Web master, because there has been a lot of changes to the voting delegates and the alternates which must be provided to Mr. Schwalb immediately to update the web site with accurate information.

Mr. Schwalb explained the BIG-C Web site has been operating for six months and provided the following statistics:

- 766 unique visitors;
- 2,349 page views;
- 29,000 hits, including hits from Canada, the United Kingdom, Brazil, the Netherlands, Turkey, Germany, Austria, Australia Poland, and Italy;
- The site has expanded from 10 to 23 pages.

Mr. Schwalb requested that

1. That all the BIG-C municipalities web sites be linked to the BIG-C site to further promote the BIG-C;
2. That a liaison be established to provide Mr. Schwalb with updates;
3. The membership visit the web site (barrierislandscouncil.com) and explained he would like a consistent format with pictures and bio's.

President Kelly advised:

- ◆ Advised Ms. Skaggs, who he introduced earlier as his Assistant, is also the Information Technology Administrator for the City of Belleair Beach and recommended she be the liaison and contact person for BIG-C. The BIG-C members concurred.
- ◆ Stated the new logo and the City of Clearwater will be incorporated on the web site and on its letterhead stationary.
- ◆ Commended Mr. Schwalb on the outstanding job he has done with the web site.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Directory verification of 2004 BIG-C Voting Delegates and Alternates

President Kelly requested that each municipality identify its BIG-C voting delegate and alternates.

B. Arrangements for the July 2004 BIG-C Meeting at a Clearwater site.

President Kelly mentioned the July meeting will be held in Clearwater.

Councilmember Hoyt advised:

- ◆ The tentative plan is hold the July BIG-C Meeting at the Sheraton Sand Key.
- ◆ Chris Hunter and Chuck Warrington of Clearwater Gas have generously agreed to pick up the tab for the refreshments.

President Kelly reminded the members the May 26th meeting will be held in Treasure Island.

C. Mile Marker Marketing options through the BIG-C.

President Kelly explained the marketing idea came to the BIG-C from the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC), because there has been talk that people want to see the fish icon which was chosen as the mile marker marketed in various ways throughout the County (i.e., key chains, vanity plates/license plates, etc.).

President Kelly inquired if this is something the BIG-C can do and whether it wants to do the marketing of the fish icon, which will be the symbol on the Mile Markers along Gulf Boulevard.

Mayor Beyrouti commented:

- ◆ Profits could be used to lobby the legislature for such things as beach renourishment.
- ◆ It is another symbol of united solidarity among the barrier islands.

President Kelly stated that each Mile Marker sign will cost \$18.75. Mayor Radcliffe commented the fish icon itself as the size it is, should be reserved for the Mile Marker signs.

Mayor De Cesare suggested holding off discussion of marketing until the Mile Markers are installed.

President Kelly stated Joe Burdette of the Chamber was not in attendance; therefore asked Ms. Loehr if she thought this might be something the Chamber would entertain. Ms. Loehr stated marketing of the Mile Marker fish icon is an initiative the Chamber might wish to pursue.

Commissioner Palamara recommended the BIG-C secure the legal rights to the fish icon design. The membership concurred.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Legislative Update.

Mayor De Cesare stated many elected officials attended Legislative Action Day on April 14th; however, not much was accomplished since the legislators were in session. Members of the Suncoast League of Cities attend to show a level of force supporting the Florida League of Cities issues.

Mayor Beyrouti advised:

- ◆ The most important thing for the beaches was funding of the beaches; it was lobbied well; and a minimum of \$25 million has already been allocated and secured.
- ◆ This was a record year for tourism, since the September 11th terrorist attack.

On April 27th, the Governor signed into law House Bill 251 (Extra Benefits / Firefighters and Police Pensions), which will have financial ramifications to all municipalities.

Mayor Beyrouti commented that Pinellas County is supporting Senate Bill 686/House Bill 409, the Coastal Redevelopment Hazard Mitigation Demonstration Project Act; however, Redington Shores has verbally declared it does not want anymore density.

Several BIG-C members expressed their concerns the bill will increase density and felt their communities were already crowded and environmentally vulnerable barrier islands because of the legislation's potential for more development pressures.

After much discussion, the BIG-C members felt the BIG-C should stand together and provide leadership to fix that bill for the next session. President Kelly stated this was a huge issue and will be the main topic for the BIG-C's May agenda.

B. ProjectSafety

President Kelly introduced Larry Karisny of ProjectSafety, who gave a brief presentation and showed a video regarding an opportunity to improve public safety for all citizens of the world.

The video explained the U.S. is still not prepared for major attacks. Communications is an essential issue, because on September 11, 2001, New York Police and Firefighters were on different radio frequencies and could not communicate and till this day are less prepared then they were before 9/11. The radio's that did not work on 9/11 still aren't fixed.

After 9/11, to improve public safety communications, the FCC provided 50 megahertz of spectrum in the 4.9 GHz ban for broad ban data communications. The FCC also provided 75 megahertz of spectrum in the 5.9 GHz ban for Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), with the provision for public safety to be given priority access to the spectrum.

The proposed 4.9/5.9 communication system:

- ◆ Will provide services to both public safety and ITS.
- ◆ Will use packet radio mobile adhoc networking. This means that each radio is a potential relay for other radios in the network, and there is no single point of failure and capacity increases with each new radio user that enters the incident response area.

The Tampa Bay Region has been recommended because of its technical and operation business variables most likely seen on a National basis.

Three Tampa Bay areas (i.e., the International Airport, a sea port, and a military base) have been targeted due to their capabilities of offering unique challenges of demonstrating the regional network.

A three phase technology deployment plan has been established that can allow immediate network connections, while defining and testing future network deployments.

Phase I provides local wireless hot spots for public service using existing government buildings with internet access, such as schools, libraries, recreation and community centers, fire stations and police stations.

Phase II extends the hot spot locations by connecting into the ITS fiber that currently runs to many traffic lights.

Phase III upgrades the hot spots to provide full 4.9/5.9 GHz mobile adhoc network capabilities.

Mr. Karisny:

- ◆ Advised the Governor and Congressman Young have been briefed on the project, seen the video, and support the selection of our community.
- ◆ Provided each BIG-C member a digital copy of a support letter and requested that each municipality write to Congressman Young's Office to express support for a test network in the Tampa Bay Region for the beta deployment of the standards, protocols and recommended engineering practices for an Integrated 4.9 GHz Public Safety / 5.9 GHz WAVE radio system to form a Community Network Infrastructure.

9. **ADJOURNMENT.** Being no further business to come before the BIG-C, the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Tom De Cesare, Mayor of the City of Madeira Beach
BIG-C Vice-President

Approved by the BIG-C on
May 26, 2003

ATTEST:

Denise M. Schlegel, City Clerk
City of Madeira Beach