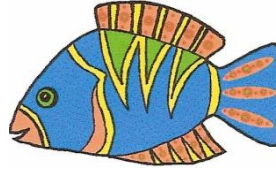


BIG-C

Barrier Islands Governmental Council

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



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

May 26, 2010-Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of Barrier Island Governmental Council (BIG-C) was hosted by the City of Treasure Island, at Treasure Island City Hall located at 120- 108th Avenue, Treasure Island, FL 33706. President Simons called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Minning gave thanks to the staff for putting on the event.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.** President Simons led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance

a. **Roll Call.**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Belleair Beach	Councilmember David Dumville
Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson
Clearwater	Councilmember George Cretekos
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner Terry Hamilton-Wollin
Indian Shores	Councilmember Bill Smith (alternate)
Madeira Beach	Mayor Patricia Shontz
N. Redington Beach	Mayor William Queen
Redington Beach	Mayor Nick Simons
Redington Shores	Mayor Bert Adams
St. Pete Beach	Vice-Mayor Jim Parent (alternate)
Treasure Island	Mayor Robert Minning

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Brian McClure, Bay News 9-Meteorologist

GUEST PRESENT: (according to sign in sheet)

Commissioner Gail Caldwell-Treasure Island
Commissioner Phil Collins-Treasure Island
Wayne Mineo-from Wayne Mineo for County Court Judge
Sandra Knoebel-Pinellas County Planning Department
Rhonda Sanborn-CVB
Commissioner David Will-Redington Beach
Jose L. Coppen-Indian Rocks Beach

Rep. Jim Frishe-State Representative
 City Manager W. D. Higgenbotham-Madeira Beach
 Vice-Mayor Jerry Knight-North Redington Beach
 Senator Dennis Jones
 Andy Squires-Pinellas County Environmental Management
 Vice-Mayor Joan Herndon-Indian Shores
 Melissa Seixas-Progress Energy
 Commissioner Alan Bildz-Treasure Island
 Commissioner Carol Coward-Treasure Island
 Doreen Moore-Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber

2. **Approval of Agenda.** Motion made by Mayor Robertson, seconded by Councilmember Smith to approve the agenda of May 26, 2010, motion carried.

3. **Approval of Minutes of April 28, 2010 Meeting.** Motion made by Mayor Robertson as amended, seconded by Councilmember Smith to approve the minutes of April 28, 2010, motion carried.

4. **Approval of the Treasurer’s Report for April 2010.** Secretary/Treasurer Mayor Minning provided the Treasurers Report for April 2010.

Registered balance as of April 1, 2010.....	\$2,659.81
Total Deposits/Credits.....	00.00
Balance.....	2,659.81
Total Disbursements/Debits.....	107.54
Balance as of April 30, 2010.....	\$2,552.27

Mayor Minning added there were expenditures in the month of May, but they will be reflected on the next statement.

Motion made by Mayor Robertson, seconded by Councilmember Smith to accept the April 2010 Treasurer’s Report, as presented, carried unanimously.

5. **Correspondence**

Mayor Simons said there was no correspondence.

Mayor Simons said he was in communication with Cpt. Close of the St. Petersburg Coast Guard office regarding the oil spill. Cpt. Close stated the wild life management plan is in place and the volunteer plan is almost complete. The loop current has turned into an eddy 93 miles from the coast of Florida.

Councilmember Cretokos asked that the cities please put a link on their websites saying the beaches are clean.

6. **New Business**

- Brian McClure, Meteorologist from Bay News 9 did a presentation on the 2010 Hurricane Season. He showed pictures of the structure of hurricanes to show how they formed. He showed a picture of Isobel which hit Virginia rather than Florida.

Mr. McClure shared some facts about hurricanes:

- 50 year probability of one or more named storms making landfall in Pinellas County 88.1%
- 50 Year Hurricanes making landfall in Pinellas County 51.7%
- 50 year hurricane force wind gusts in Pinellas County 92.7%
- He said we should not be afraid of hurricanes, and he believes the area may see 1 or 2 Hurricanes.
 - 2010 tropical forecast according to Colorado University:
 - Storms 15 (10)
 - Hurricanes 8 (6)
 - Major Category 3 and 4 (2)
 - Probability of major hurricane making landfall on East Coast 45% (average of 31 %), Tampa Bay Area is included in this area. Mr. McClure said he doesn't believe the Tampa Bay Area should be included in the "East Coast"
 - Probability of a major hurricane making landfall on areas on the Gulf is 44 %. He believes we're in the same weather patterns, and should have been included in this stat.
- When storms are weaker there are trade winds and less upwelling. It was very cold in St. Petersburg; on record, it was the second coldest winter in Tampa Bay area.
- There were some analog years with similar weather conditions with the current year. He believes we would be like 1998, 1969, and 1966, which show above average numbers of storms.
- El Nino Pattern: water in the pacific changes and is unpredictable. He believes it is gone and we are in a neutral state.
- He showed some maps of prevailing tracks. The Atlantic is warmer than the gulf right now. In July, the average there is a little activity. August is when you get huge warming and anything that forms moves. There is no prevailing wind. September is the peak of the season. October things jet back NE, and these are the storms they worry about the most. November is very rare for hurricanes to take place.

Senator Dennis Jones asked if there is any data with regards to the depths of the oil in the water. Brian McClure the oil spill will affect 100's of feet deep. Storms pull up the warm water and the cooler water comes up in its place. It is difficult to determine where it is spreading due the flow. It scares him to think where the water could go.

Commissioner Collins asked about burning the oil on the water. Mr. McClure said the loop current may keep the oil away from the Tampa Area. Representative Frishe said the surface winds are a bit rough to burn. Mr. McClure concurred and said they cannot burn every day because the winds are strong. When they burn you can smell it. The eddy in the loop current is good to have. The wind currents are going to keep things away, due to the shape of our coast line. He believes the areas with the biggest threat are the Keys and the area around Destin. Our biggest problem is a hurricane. He said it may hit the east coast and it would be a flow of oil going past the coast and this area may get oil balls. He said it is wise to put on each city's website that there is no oil on the shores.

7. Old Business

FSBPA Update

Councilmember Smith stated the FSBPA held its second director meeting on May 13, 2010. It was held at Tampa International Airport hotel. Directors came from all around the state. The meeting was “touch and go” because several directors were tapped to stay home to plan for an oil spill.

Councilmember Smith commented on the FSBPA year-to-date financial results. Debbie Flack became president of the FSBPA and will be hiring an accounting firm to keep the books. Ms. Flack did a legislative report. The end result was \$15.5 million for beaches, not \$30 million like the Dennis Jones Act provided; the figure is based on the “Top Seven” Projects around the state, Sand Key is number five.

The US Supreme Court met regarding the constitutionality of the Florida Beach Management Program. The Supreme Court will issue their opinion before summer recess. It could come any day. It is one of the oldest undecided cases on this year’s docket for which no opinion has been issued. It may possibly be a split vote which means no change, but a vote in favor of the suit brought by Walton County Beach homeowners means a halt to the State’s current beach renourishment program.

There was a discussion of the Fall conference at the new Clearwater Beach Hyatt. The Annual conference will be held on September 22-24. It’s been a long time since the general membership annual conference has been in Pinellas County. This is a rare opportunity to showcase our area and demonstrate our hospitality. Councilmember Smith believes it is a big deal because it will be held at the brand new Hyatt on Clearwater’s brand new Beach Walk. Ms. Flack will be inviting Mayor Hibbard to give a brief kick-off speech to open the conference.

Councilmember Smith thinks the BIG-C has an opportunity to make their presence known and enhance an influence at the FSBPA. It was suggested at the board meeting that it would be a great gesture if the BIG C buy breakfast for the FSBPA directors, and asked that they consider a \$350 contribution for the breakfast.

The FSBPA is also looking for more members and more individuals who might consider attending the conference. Councilmember Smith is hoping many BIG C members will be attending the meeting. He was also looking for suggestions for names of individuals to send conference information to. The FSBPA is also looking for more individuals to become members.

Mayor Shontz motioned to support the breakfast, it was seconded Vice-Mayor Parent. Mayor Minning was asked if they could afford it, yes. Motion passed.

Councilmember Smith stated there are three FSBPA director meetings a year. Eight hundred dollars a year is the approximate amount of money needed for all the trips. The board believes Councilmember Smith is a good advocate. Each city would need to appropriate \$75. Councilmember Smith said there would be no travel expenses to Miami since he would be going there anyway for his town, so he wouldn’t charge the BIG C. It was expressed that it is a lot cheaper to rent a car than pay the allotted \$.50/mile. Mayor Simons said the Treasurer’s Report stated the BIG C is in good standing, but the cities may need to increase their dues next year. Mayor Minning said he supports this. Mayor Robertson made a motion for annual expenses approval, Shontz seconded, no further discussion, the vote was unanimous.

- **Gulf Blvd. Crossing Flags**

- Sandy Knoebel spoke on behalf of Pinellas County Planning Department. Ms. Knoebel said she received several emails from FDOT pertaining to the Gulf Blvd. Flag program. Information will be supplied by FDOT to towns south of Walsingham Road. Ms. Knoebel explained that flags will be placed in poles on either side of the crosswalks. The initial flags will be supplied, but each town will be responsible for replacing destroyed flags. The program is in place in Clearwater. Ms. Knoebel said the new flags are reflective and higher quality than the ones that were implemented in Clearwater so they should not fade as quickly. Councilmember Cretekos said not many have disappeared. Ms. Knoebel said they are enhancing crosswalks. Councilmember Cretekos said the Sand Key Civic Association provided the first batch of flags. Mayor Queen asked if the flags were mentioned in State Law for his only hesitation is once they get away from the normal routine the public may not know what it is. He believes the cities need to be consistent. Ms. Knoebel said they would be. Councilmember Smith said because there is no standard signalization they are compensating by other ways. Ms. Knoebel said they are trying to enforce by educating people.

Indian Rocks Beach Manager Chuck Coward asked if FDOT was going come in without the Cities' say. Ms. Knoebel said they are looking for input and get everybody on board. City Manager Silverboard said someone from FDOT needs to talk to the Commissions and staff. He invited Ms. Knoebel to speak with the Public Works Department. Ms. Knoebel said they are starting with the Police Departments. Mayor Simons said more information needs to be given to the cities. Ms. Knoebel said the poles are already being put in place. Mayor Simons said an update will follow at the next Big C meeting.

- **Ray's Gulf Beaches Day Update**

The Ray's Gulf Beaches Day is on Sunday June 27, 2010. Mayor Simons just sent out a reminder. Clearwater used one of the Jolly Trolley's which is \$20 round trip. He will get some more info for the next meeting and asked the cities to promote the event. The tickets are \$35 each.

8. Miscellaneous

- **Beach Update:** Andy Squires from the Department of Environmental Management spoke about the Beach Update. He said as of Sunday, May 23, 2010 the first sea turtle nest of the year was found on Sunset Beach. The annual Beach Lighting Survey by Clearwater Marine Aquarium was done on May 18, 2010. A list of beachfront properties with problem lighting is expected to be sent out to each beach city within the next few days.

The Treasure Island and Long Key nourishment project is expected to begin in late July or early August. The most recent beach profile data were used by the US Army Corps of Engineers in the bid documents. The Upham Beach geotextile tubes are scheduled to be repaired after Upham Beach is nourished this summer. The work to design and permit the permanent rock structures on Upham Beach will begin this summer. The next Sand Key nourishment project is scheduled to begin early next year. The State legislature approved \$15.5 million for beach projects in Florida. Both Sand Key and Long Key were on the list of projects to be funded. Now the Governor has until May 28, 2010 to sign the General Appropriations Act to place the funds in the Fiscal Year 2011 State Budget. Mr. Squires urged the cities to inform the beachfront hotels and other property owners of the upcoming nourishment projects for Treasure Island and Upham Beach. He also stated that within 2-3 weeks of the start of construction, the County will mail out post cards with information about the project to the beachfront property owners along the beaches to be impacted by the nourishment construction project. The project status report for the Treasure Island and Long Key Beach nourishment project is expected to be on the County website sometime next week. Councilmember Smith

asked if he was involved in the oil spill stuff, Mr. Squires said he has a water quality background and took samples.

- **Legislative Update:** Senator Jones said the concern is that the governor has until Friday to veto items in the budget. The Governor put no money in the budget for the beaches. Senator Jones said that \$15,536,535 has been reinstated into the State budget for beach replenishment; two of the projects are in Pinellas. FSPBA is very important and Senator Jones urged everyone to go to the conference. Department of Environmental protection does have a 1-800 number to call to help answer some questions about the oil spill. Representative Frishe suggested that each city put the oil spill information on their websites. BP's information is a little shaky. There is no idea where the oil is on the subsurface area. All we can do is be prepared.
- **Penny for Pinellas** the meeting is June 10, 1-4 PM in the Board of County Commissioners' Meeting Room. They will discuss the honor to their commitments and it was mentioned that all are encouraged to send a city representative to the meeting.

Charter Review Commission is proposing a repeal provision to be added to the County Charter. The ulterior motive of this repeal provision is to do away with the dual vote. Commission Members are encouraged to go to the Public Meetings, June 14 at 6 p.m. at the City of St. Petersburg City Council Chambers, and June 28 at 6 p.m. at the Board of County Commissioners' Chambers in Clearwater. Contact representatives and senators.

- Words from Individual City Representatives:
 - Councilmember Cretekos said the July meeting that was to be held at Belleair Shores will now be at Belleair Beach
 - Mayor Minning said Treasure Island will be holding Bands in the Sand on Saturday, May 29.
 - Mayor Shontz stated that John's Pass is quiet.
 - Mayor Robertson said it was all quiet in Belleair Shore
 - Councilmember Smith said there will be no Memorial Day Picnic.
 - Commissioner Hamilton-Wollin stated that Indian Rocks Beach was OK.
 - Mayor Queen stated that all was quiet in North Redington Beach
 - Councilmember Cretekos all was quiet in Clearwater
 - St. Pete Beach spoke about Amendment 4 and its affect on St. Pete Beach. Mayor Simons, said he would like to have someone come to a future meeting to address Amendment 4.
 - Mayor Simons said Redington Beach was fine.

There was a comment from Doreen Moore of the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber. She asked the BIG C members to get the word out that the beaches are clean.

The next BIG C Meeting is on June 30, 2010 and will be hosted by St. Pete Beach

9. **Adjournment:** Being no further business to come before the BIG C, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

NICK SIMONS

Nick Simons, President, Barrier Island Governmental Council

