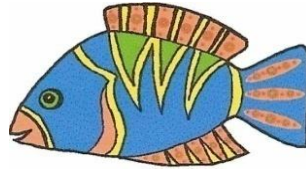


BIG C

Barrier Islands Governmental Council

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



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

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Meeting Minutes **August 28, 2013**

Present: Belleair Beach
Clearwater
Indian Rocks Beach
Indian Shores
Madeira Beach
North Redington Beach
Redington Beach
Redington Shores
St. Pete Beach
Treasure Island

Mayor Rob Baldwin
Mayor George N. Cretekos
Commissioner Terry Hamilton Wollin
Mayor Jim Lawrence
Mayor Travis Palladeno
Mayor Bill Queen
Mayor Nick Simons
Mayor Bert Adams
Commissioner Jim Parent
Mayor Robert Minning

Guest Speaker:
Pinellas Planning Council

Linda Fisher

Guests Present:
City of Clearwater
Clearwater Gas
City of Belleair Beach
State of Florida – District 66
State of Florida – District 66
State of Florida – District 66
State of Florida – District 69
City of Indian Rocks Beach
City of Indian Rocks Beach
City of Indian Rocks Beach
Town of Indian Shores
Town of Indian Shores
Pinellas County
Aide to PC Commissioner Charlie Justice
Aide to PC Commissioner Janet Long

Jill Silverboard
Kristi Cheatham
Councilmember Wanda Schwerer
Representative Larry Ahern
Legislative Assistant Jim Browne
District Secretary Shayra Rosario
District Secretary Eired Jackson
Mayor R.B. Johnson
Vice Mayor Cookie Kennedy
Gregg Mims
Councilor Joan Herndon
Vice Mayor Bill Smith
Andy Squires
Ralph Reid
Mary Scott Hardwick

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Town of Redington Shores	Vice Mayor John Branch
Sand Key Civic Association	Todd Ellson
Sand Key Civic Association	Al Zimmerman
Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce	Kelli Caputo
Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce	Doug Izzo
Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce	Doreen Moore
Tampa Bay Newspapers	Bob McClure
Tourist Development Council/Barefoot Beach	Bill Priakos
City of Clearwater Board Reporter	Patricia Sullivan

BIG C President George Cretekos called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Clearwater Community Sailing Center, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and welcoming comments by Clearwater Mayor Cretekos.

To provide continuity for research, items are in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

3 - Approval of Agenda

Mayor Minning moved to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

4 - Approval of Minutes – July 31, 2013 meeting.

Mayor Queen moved to approve the minutes of the regular BIG C (Barrier Islands Governmental Council) meeting of July 31, 2013, as submitted in written summation to each member. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

5 - Approval of Treasurer's Reports for July 2013.

BIG C Secretary/Treasurer Hamilton Wollin reviewed the Treasurer's Report for July 2013; the balance was \$2,492.87.

Mayor Queen moved to accept the July 2013 Treasurer's Report. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

6 - Correspondence: None.

7 - New Business:

a) Linda Fisher – Pinellas Planning Council

PPC (Pinellas Planning Council) representative Linda Fisher said review of the reapportionment plan to unify the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) and PPC is almost completed and will be forwarded to the Governor for final approval. The BIG C will be advised when the Governor approves the plan and the 60-day nomination process begins. While there is no time limit for the Governor's review, Ms. Fisher hoped final approval would occur in time to seat the new MPO/PPC board by December. As the City of Clearwater will have a seat on the new board, Clearwater will abstain from the BIG C process to nominate an elected official to represent beach communities; the nominee's municipal government must confirm the appointment.

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Concern was expressed that the BIG C may be unable to complete the nomination process by December due to its end of year meeting schedule. Ms. Fisher said the board can be seated before a BIG C representative is appointed. She will advise the MPO/PPC administration re BIG C's meeting schedule.

Consensus was to schedule the November/December BIG C meeting on December 4, 2013.

8 - Old Business:

a) Flood Insurance

Discussion ensued regarding new flood insurance rates. The PowerPoint presentation from last night's open forum in Treasure Island was offered for online posting. It was stated the Property Appraiser expressed concerns the value of beach homes will be compromised if homeowners cannot pay higher flood insurance rates, negatively impacting the beach community tax base and undermining the County's economy. A second open forum is scheduled for St. Pete Beach.

It was stated that Senators Nelson and Rubio have been encouraged to sponsor legislation that delays implementation of the new rates until financial impacts on homeowners can be studied; the House already passed a similar bill. It was reported the City of St. Pete Beach passed a resolution opposing implementation of the new rates; copies will be forwarded to BIG C members. Members and residents were encouraged to contact their legislators and do all possible to encourage the entire Senate to delay implementation, including lobbying through the FLC (Florida League of Cities) and NLC (National League of Cities). It was reported that petitions are available for signature. It was recommended that Pinellas County government actively oppose these increases.

BIG C President Cretokos said he would draft a letter to Congressman Bill Young and Florida's Senators requesting a delay in implementing new flood insurance rates.

It was reported that Palm Beach County formed a technical advisory committee to work with FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) on the next remapping, which likely will further expand flood zones; the latest flood maps significantly expanded the V zone. It was recommended that Pinellas County coordinate a study committee with beach representation to work with FEMA on future flood maps, which will impact the entire County.

9 - Miscellaneous:

Beach Update

Pinellas County Coastal Manager Andy Squires anticipated the contract for the Treasure Island renourishment project will be awarded by mid September and the schedule announced soon afterwards. Due to a shortage of dredges, the May 1 completion date was extended to September 30, 2014; the project may not start until Spring. He said currently, none of Pinellas County beaches is in critical condition.

Mr. Squires said Pinellas County will receive three streams of funds through the Restore Act settlement; Federal rules are not yet available. He requested that a BIG C representative sit on a new countywide advisory panel established to develop plans for gulf-related, multi-jurisdictional projects that focus on the ecosystem and economy to be implemented when funds become available. Treasure Island Mayor Minning said he is Chair of the TBRPC (Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council), which is considering projects

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of regional significance for other streams of Restore Act funds. Mr. Squires estimated that Pinellas County will receive approximately \$23 million over 15 years.

Mayor Simon moved to appoint Mayor Minning as the Big C representative on the countywide advisory panel. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Legislative Update:

State Representative Larry Ahern said to contact him regarding concerns and legislative issues that need to be addressed. He is preparing for committee meetings to start.

It was reported the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners and TDC (Tourist Development Council) will schedule a strategic planning joint-meeting this Fall to review bed tax use.

Penny for Pinellas

Mayor Simons reported the Gulf Boulevard Penny for Pinellas Appropriations Subcommittee had approved submitting reimbursement requests for the City of Belleair Beach and Town of Indian Shores.

Members reviewed recent and upcoming events in their cities.

10 - Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

September 25, 2013 BIG C meeting scheduled at
Holiday Inn Harbourside, 401 2nd Street East, Indian Rocks Beach