

*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*

**August 25, 2010**

Big C President Nick Simons called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at Clearwater Sailing Club, 1001 Gulf Blvd, Clearwater, FL followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson
Belleair Beach	Council member, David Dumville
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner Terry Hamilton-Wollin
Indian Shores	Mayor Jim Lawrence
N. Redington Beach	Mayor Bill Queen
Redington Beach	Mayor Nick Simons
Redington Shores	Mayor Bert Adams
St. Pete Beach	Mayor Mike Finnerty
Treasure Island	Mayor Robert Minning
Clearwater	Mayor George Cretekos
Madeira Beach	Mayor Pat Shontz

Guests Present:

Clearwater Gas, Kristi Cheatham  
Tampa Bay Newspaper, Bob McClure  
City of Clearwater, Pat Sullivan  
Pinellas County, Bob LaSala  
Representative Jim Frishe  
PCCLB, Rod Fischer  
Indian Rocks Beach, Jose Copen  
Pinellas County Planning Dept, Sandra Knoebel  
Pinellas Planning Council, Linda Fisher  
Redington Beach, Vice Mayor Fred Steiermann  
Redington Beach, Commissioner Tom Dorgan  
Madeira Beach, W.D. Higginbotham  
Indian Shores, Carole Ireland  
Indian Shores, Steve Sutch  
North Redington Beach, Jerry Knight  
Indian Shores, Bill Smith  
St. Pete Beach, Jim Parent  
Visit St. Pete/Clearwater, Rhonda Sanborn  
Belleair Beach, Rob Baldwin  
PSTA, Bob Lasher  
Indian Rocks Beach, Chuck Coward

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Progress Energy, Michele Cavalin  
Clearwater, John Doran  
Bioplex Technologies, Carolyn Fries  
University of South Florida, David Fries

Mayor George Cretekos welcomed everyone and thanked Kristi Cheatham of Clearwater Gas for providing the food for the meeting and also thanked Pat Sullivan for assisting in the preparations for the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

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

Minutes Approval July 28, 2010

Mayor Simons asked for a motion to approve the minutes of July 28, 2010. Motion was made by Mayor Robertson to accept the minutes and was duly seconded by Commissioner Hamilton-Wollin and carried unanimously.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Mayor Bob Minning read the treasurer's report. Motion made by Mayor Robertson to accept the July 2010 treasurer's report as read, seconded by Mayor Hamilton-Wollin and carried unanimously

Correspondence

No correspondence.

New Business

Pinellas County Administrator, Bob LaSala covered four topics during his presentation. The first item he covered was in regards to the oil spill and how to communicate on a broader scale if a similar situation would arise again. He indicated that the county would try to get more people together in the earlier stages of a disaster like this and how to get more information out to the public faster.

Mr. LaSala thanked Mayor Simons, Mayor Lawrence and the city managers that were involved and credits them for providing a better understanding to him for the appreciation of the Gulf Boulevard Beautification Project. He stated that the penny program will move more quickly and that the Interlocal agreement has been drafted and should be signed before the end of the fiscal year. He encouraged the communities of the beach to communicate and coordinate with each other for the biggest impact as possible.

In reference to the beach re-nourishment project he stated that the Treasure Island project schedule is projected to continue until December 2010. Dredging at Sunshine Beach is continuing as well as the dredging at John's Pass. He also stated that beach re-nourishment is a high priority with the county.

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The final topic was in reference to the County budget. He stated they have corrected some items that have not worked in the past and are now taking a new approach of a one year forecast instead of a two year plan that was previously taken. The county has a 10 year financial forecast posted on the website and this will answer 95% of the questions the public may have. He addressed the drop in property values and how they are working with the property appraiser on what the estimates may be in the future. Past trends were used to predict the 10 year forecast. In trying to balance the budget it is a choice of either raising revenues or cutting programs. He showed different scenarios to balance the budgets by sustaining the same level of service with reliability and dependability without trying to increase rates.

Old Business

Flags have been distributed along Gulf Boulevard. It was noted that fewer flags should be used in the buckets. Therefore it was suggested that some of the flags may be taken out and put into storage for future use. It was also noted that several promotions will be coming in the future to promote the use of the flags.

Miscellaneous

Carolyn Fries, COO of Bioplex spoke briefly on the Blue City Network Monitoring Program which is a provider of mobile diagnostic systems, samplers, sample preparation equipment, and analytical equipment. She asked for support of the Big C and/or the communities so that her company may take samples of the gulf waters and analyze them for oil. (It can provide up to 24 different items for testing, including red tide.) She indicated that it would cost approximately \$15,000.00 to take samples along 30 miles of Pinellas County Coastline, which in turn would be \$500.00 per mile. A consensus was to have Mayor Simons meet with Ms. Fries of Bioplex for possible support of the project with letters from each community.

Bill Smith reiterated to members that the FSBPA will be holding their annual conference September 22 through the 24<sup>th</sup> and that the deadline for registration is today. He also stated that funding for the beach re-nourishment projects are funded by the federal government (60%), the state (20%), and the county (20%).

Representative Jim Frishe stated that they are out of session now, however if any help is needed, please contact him or Senator Jones.

Pennies for Pinellas was covered by Mayor Lawrence. He stated that members were sent a draft of the Interlocal Agreement via e-mail and if there are any suggestions and/or changes, to please contact him. The goal is to have a meeting in September and sign the agreement in October. Questions were asked if a bond council had reviewed the contract. Mayor Lawrence will contact someone to see if it needs to be reviewed by a bonding council for wording since this is one agreement for the 11 communities and each community may have different needs.

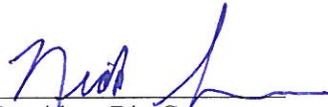
Mayor Queen indicated that the Dali Museum funding has been completed and he would like to resign as the TDC committee member. Mayor Queen made a motion to nominate Mayor Lawrence to serve on this committee and duly seconded by Mayor Adams and carried unanimously. A letter will be written to TDC informing them of the changes. Mayor Queen's last meeting attendance will be in September, in which he will introduce Mayor Lawrence.

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Bob Lasher with the PSTA spoke briefly on the proposed increase in fares and the reduction of some routes. The fares will be posted on the web site and if approved, rate changes would go into affect on October 3, 2010.

Mayor Minning made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:25, seconded by Mayor Cretokos. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on September 29, 2010, hosted by Belleair Beach.



President Big C  
Mayor Nick Simons