

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

September 28, 2011

Mayor Simons called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Belleair Beach City Center, 444 Causeway Blvd, Belleair Beach, FL, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present:

Redington Beach	Mayor Nick Simons
Belleair Beach	Mayor Kathy Mortensen
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner Terry Hamilton-Wollin
Indian Shores	Councilor Bill Smith
N. Redington Beach	Mayor Bill Queen
Redington Shores	Mayor Bert Adams
Treasure Island	Mayor Robert Minning
St. Pete Beach	Commissioner Jim Parent
Belleair Shores	Mayor John Robertson
Madeira Beach	Commissioner Terry Lister
Clearwater	Councilor George Cretekos

Guests Present:

Joan Herndon, Vice Mayor, Indian Shores
John Branch, Vice Mayor, Redington Shores
Bob McClure, Editor Tampa Bay Newspapers
Cori Cuttler, SWFWMD
Jose Copen, Indian Rocks Beach
Frank Yurasko, Redington Beach
Fred Steiermann, Vice Mayor, Redington Beach
Carole Irelan, Councilor, Indian Shores
Phyllis Johnson, Beach Scene
David Dumville, Vice Mayor, Belleair Beach
Chuck Coward, City Manager, Indian Rocks Beach
Andy Squires, Coastal Manager, Pinellas County
Cookie Kennedy, Commissioner, Indian Rocks Beach
Doreen Moore, Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce
Jeril Cohen, Councilor, Belleair Beach
Nancy Gonzalez, City Manager, Belleair Beach
Leslie Notaro, Councilor Belleair Beach
Linda Fisher, Principal Planner, Pinellas Planning Council
Sandra Knoebel, Planner, Pinellas County MPO

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Rhonda Sanborn, Education Director, Visit St. Pete/Clearwater
Cynthia Remley, SKCA Director, SKCA
Robin Grabowski-Sollie, Tampa Beaches Chamber of Commerce
Sue Berfield, Leg. Aide to Representative Jim Frishe

Mayor Mortensen thanked and welcomed everyone for attending this morning's meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Simons asked that "nominating committee" be added under Other Business. He then asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion was made by Mayor Robertson to approve the agenda as corrected and duly seconded by Mayor Adams and carried unanimously.

Minutes Approval Regular Meeting of August 31, 2011

Mayor Simons noted that a change had been made to the minutes and new copies of the correction were given to the members. He then asked for a motion to approve the corrected minutes. Motion was made by Mayor Robertson to approve the minutes as corrected and duly seconded by Commissioner Hamilton-Wollin and carried unanimously.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Mayor Minning read the treasurer's report. Motion was made by Mayor Robertson to accept the treasurer's report as presented and duly seconded by Councilor Smith and carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Mayor Simons received a memo from Cookie Kennedy and invited her to speak. Ms. Kennedy briefly recapped the meeting on the Pinellas Planning Council regarding mixed land use.

New Business

Mayor Simons introduced Robin Grabowski-Sollie of the Tampa Beaches Chamber of Commerce. Robin updated the member on the actions of the chamber. The Chamber now has 600 members and 20 to 25 new members signing up each month. The Chamber has received a grant and has a business assistant developer available to businesses, whether or not they are members of the Chamber. This person will come and meet with businesses and help guide them in promoting their business. She commented on the Visitor's Guides that are available at each of the town halls. If updates are needed, to please contact her as the printing of the new Guide will be in approximately six weeks. On September 27, 2011, Robin attended a meeting with the Pinellas Delegation, a panel that met to discuss integration, beach nourishment and oil drilling. The meeting will either be an annual or bi-annual event. The last topic Robin touched on was Business Tax Abatement. She indicated that St. Pete Beach is going to have this on the ballot this fall and the county is hoping to put it on the ballot in 2012. She described the benefits of tax abatement for businesses. She is also looking for a facility north of Madeira Beach to host an area with wi-fi for the business assistant program.

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Big C Corporation Status: Mayor Simons explained that the Big C has not filed for Corporation Status since 1998 with the Secretary of State and believes this was an oversight due to membership changes over the years. The cost to maintain the non profit status is \$1,032.50. The cost is \$61.25 per year and an application fee of \$175.00. Discussion ensued amongst members in re-applying for not for profit status. The consensus was to proceed with the membership. Mayor Simon will work with staff to obtain the Corporation Status.

Old Business

Pinellas County Inter-local Agreement: Mayor Simons received a memo from Mayor Lawrence on the status of the agreement. Mayor Mortensen requested that on page 3 of the agreement the word “may” be replaced with “shall”. The agreement needs to be approved by each municipality, after which time it will then be sent to the county for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Parent to approve the inter-local agreement and duly seconded by Councilor Mayor Cretekos and passed unanimously.

School Agreement Update: Brian Smith of the PCP/MPO spoke briefly on the transportation committee and that to satisfy state requirements a representative needs to be appointed to represent the beaches. A motion was made by Mayor Queen to nominate Vice Mayor Cretekos and duly seconded by Commissioner Hamilton Wollin and carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous

Beach Update: A beach updated was given by Andy Squires. Sand Key’s contract has been awarded for \$31.5 million to Norfolk Dredging. A notice to proceed will commence on March 1, 2012, and the contractor will have 30 days to start construction. A completion date for the project is set for August of 2012.

Councilor Bill Smith gave a brief recap of the annual FSBPA Conference and the board meeting prior to the conference. The ongoing issue is funding.

Legislative Update: None.

Pedestrian Flag Status: Mayor Simons read a memo from Sandra Knoebel of the Pinellas County MPO. The MPO has been tracking the usage of the flags for the project and based on the three and six month reports, the flag supply will be exhausted by May or June of 2012. Discussion ensued among members on the continuation of the flag program. The Big C had decided previously not to support funding for replacement flags. Brian Smith spoke on the need for consistency along Gulf Boulevard.

Nomination Committee: Mayor Simons indicated that his term as Big C President will end in March of 2012. The vice president will move to president and the treasurer will move to vice president, therefore there is a need to form a committee to nominate a treasurer. A motion was made by Mayor Robertson to nominate Mayor Queen, Mayor Adams, and Mayor Mortensen to the committee and duly seconded by Commissioner Parent and carried unanimously.

Cori Cuttler of SWFWMD indicated that the Basin Board no longer exists. There is twelve million dollars in reserves and this will be awarded by grants. The deadline for the grants is Friday December 2nd at 2:00 pm. She encouraged members to apply for the grant if they have an upcoming project related to stormwater, flood protection, natural systems and water conservation projects. The application is available online.

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The meeting adjourned at 10:25

Next meeting will be held on October 26, 2011, hosted by Indian Rocks Beach at the Holiday Inn, Harborside.



Big C President
Mayor Nick Simons
Town of Redington Beach