

*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*

The Barrier Islands Governmental Council (BIG-C) Meeting was held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at the Indian Shores Municipal Center, 19305 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores, Florida.

President Minning called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M., followed by welcoming comments by Indian Shores Mayor Jim Lawrence.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was led by Mayor Minning.

**2. Roll Call**

**BIG-C Representatives**

Mayor Robert Minning (President) – Treasure Island  
Commissioner Terry Hamilton-Wollin (Vice President) – Indian Rocks Beach  
Mayor Travis Palladeno (Secretary/Treasurer) – Madeira Beach  
Mayor Jim Lawrence – Indian Shores  
Mayor Nick Simons – Redington Beach  
Mayor George Cretokos – Clearwater  
Mayor Bert Adams – Redington Shores  
Mayor Maria Lowe – St. Pete Beach  
Councilmember Wanda Schwerer – Belleair Beach  
Mayor Bill Queen – North Redington Beach

**Guest Speaker:**

Brady Smith, AICP, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

**Guests Present:**

Kristi Pettit, Sales Manager, Clearwater Gas  
R.B. Johnson, Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach  
Joanne "Cookie" Kennedy, Commissioner, Indian Rocks Beach  
Diantha Schear, Council Member, Indian Shores  
Bill Smith, Council Member, Indian Shores  
Mike Petruccelli, Council Member, Indian Shores  
Patrick Soranno, Vice Mayor, Indian Shores  
Elaine Jackson, Town Clerk, Indian Shores

Michelle Tidwell, Building Dept., Indian Shores  
Matt Towson, Resident, Indian Shores  
Andy Squire, Coastal Management, Pinellas County  
Mary Scott Hardwick, Intergovernmental Liaison, Pinellas County  
Sal D'Angelo, Fire Chief, Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue  
Larry Schear, Fire Commissioner, Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue  
Bob Lasher, External Affairs, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority  
Sandra Knoebel Cuddington, Planner, PC/MPO/PPC  
Mark Deighton, Commissioner, Redington Beach  
Al Zimmerman, President, Sand Key Civic Association  
Terri Finnerty, Commissioner, St. Pete Beach  
Doug Izzo, Government Affairs, Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce  
Bob McClure, Editor, Tampa Bay Newspapers  
Pam Middleton, Deputy Clerk, Treasure Island

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Mayor Queen, seconded by Mayor Cretekos, to approve the December 2, 2015 Agenda as presented. Unanimously approved.

### **4. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for the October 28, 2015 meeting in Belleair Beach will be in the January 27, 2016 packet.

### **5. Approval of October & November Treasurer's Report.**

Mayor Palladeno reviewed the October Treasurer's Reports. The balance was \$1,632.35. Motion made by Mayor Lowe, seconded by Mayor Simons, to accept the October 2015 and November 2015 Treasurer's Report. Unanimously approved.

### **6. Correspondence**

Letter from Debbie Flack, Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association, (FSBPA) dated October 24, 2015.

Councilor Bill Smith, Indian Shores, reported DEP has asked for \$25 million for beach renourishment, which includes \$20 million to finish last year's project. DEP has published a list of 51 projects totaling \$98 million designated for the renourishment, one of which is our Sand Key renourishment project. However, we are number 17 on the list and it will fall beyond the \$25 million level, if the list does not change.

In addition, the Governor has specified \$25 million in funds from the Amendment #1 Trust Fund, a budget of less than half of what is actually needed. FSPBA will be putting pressure on to get the funds increased to \$50 million. This can only be done through a lot of contact with our legislators.

Andy Squire: Last year, in addition to the \$25 million from Amendment #1, we did get \$7 million from general revenue. We didn't get funding for the full cost of the Upham Beach groin project, but the rest of the funding is included within the \$25 million this year. Sand

Kay is an important project, so we don't have to panic yet. We will try again when we know the federal funding portion is secured.

## **7. New Business**

Brady Smith, Principal Planner, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council provided a power point presentation relative to Solar Ready Florida Program. Solar PV is a \$13.4 billion market in the United States, with 6,201 megawatts installed in 2014, a 39% increase from previous year. 40% of all new electricity brought online in 2015 was solar, outpacing natural gas. Florida ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the United States for solar potential and 14<sup>th</sup> in installed capacity, creating 4,800 solar industry jobs at 409 companies in 2014. The project is a U.S. Department of Energy initiative, which is striving to remove barriers by reducing soft costs of solar PV install, increasing access to financing and promoting adoption, by urging local government participation, identifying solar best practices, providing training opportunities and researching the regions solar market conditions. The project will run through September, 2016 and focus on engaging local governments, collecting solar metrics data and implementing solar best management practices.

One aspect of Solar best management practices is to develop solar ready guidelines for new residential construction to be distributed as part of the permitting process for new residential construction, through written material or posting on municipal web sites. Another aspect is to create a centralized information source for disseminating information about solar permitting, such as a solar landing page for government web sites.

The U.S. Department of Energy designation program, Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities (SPARC), will launch in March/April 2016, to recognize communities that implement solar management practices. Technical assistance will be available to communities that are chosen. A point person will be assigned to a local government or organization to encourage communities to become designated and provide technical assistance. Implementing solar BMPs will put Tampa Bay local governments ahead of many other regions.

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council held Energy Summit Tampa Bay in May 2015 that presented information on topics that may affect the energy future of the Tampa Bay region. All speakers' presentation slides are available for download from the TBTPC website at [www.tbrpc.org](http://www.tbrpc.org) . For more information, contact Brady Smith, TBRPC, at [brady@tbrpc.org](mailto:brady@tbrpc.org) or 727.570-5151 X 42.

## **8. Old Business**

The Host city schedule for 2016 meeting was distributed with the packet.

Mayor Minning asked Mayor Lawrence to Chair the Big-C Nominating Committee to propose nominees for the two-year term of Secretary/Treasurer for the new Board which will take office in April 2016. Mayors Queen and Lowe volunteered to also be on the committee.

## **9. Legislative Update**

Pinellas County Commission annual meeting with Legislative Delegation on Monday December 4, 2015 and beach renourishment will be discussed.

#### **10. City Events**

Mayors from each city announced the numerous events coming up for the Holiday season, including boat parades, street parades, tree lighting ceremonies, employee parties and festivals.

Mayor Minning reported Treasure Island is considering a ban on straws on the beach, however, beach front establishments have ceased serving plastic straws in an attempt to protect the environment.

Kristy Pettit announced the Toys for Tots Bike Run will take place on Sunday, December 6, 2015.

Andy Squires announced renourishment of Honeymoon Island State Park was just completed in November.

Mayor Palladeno thanked Mr. Squires for working with the County Administrator and working out the logistics for the County to pay the Beach Watch assessment for the Big-C.

#### **11. Adjourn**

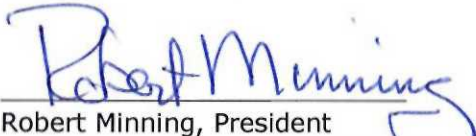
Meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

January 27, 2016

Town of Redington Shores

17425 Gulf Blvd.

  
Robert Minning, President  
Barrier Islands Governmental Council  
Mayor, City of Treasure Island