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

OFFICERS

George N. Cretekos President Mayor, Clearwater PO Box 4748 Clearwater FL 33758 727-562-4040 FAX 727-562-4086 Robert Minning Vice-President Mayor, Treasure Island 120 108th Avenue Treasure Island FL 33706 727-547-4575X229 FAX 727-547-4582

Terry Hamilton Wollin Secretary/Treasurer Vice Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach 1507 Bay Palm Boulevard Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785 727 517-0204 FAX 727 595-4627

Meeting Minutes May 29, 2013

Present: Belleair Beach Mayor Rob Baldwin

Clearwater Mayor George N. Cretekos

Indian Rocks Beach Commissioner Terry Hamilton-Wollin

Indian Shores Mayor Jim Lawrence
Madeira Beach Vice-Mayor Terry Lister

N. Redington Beach
Redington Shores
Treasure Island
Mayor Bill Queen
Mayor Bert Adams
Mayor Bob Minning

St. Pete Beach Commissioner Jim Parent

Guest

Speaker: County Commissioner Kenneth T. Welch

Guests: Councilor Bill Smith Indian Shores

Councilor Matt Towson Indian Shores
Councilor Joan Herndon Indian Shores
Councilor Carole Irelan Indian Shores

Mary Scott Hardwick Pinellas BCC, Aide to Commissioner Long Ralph Reid Pinellas BCC, Aide to Commissioner

County Commissioner Charlie Justice

Kristi Cheatham Clearwater Gas

Linda Fisher Pinellas Planning Council
Sandra Knoebel Pinellas County, MPO
Sarah Ward Pinellas County MPO
Mayor R.B. Johnson Indian Rocks Beach
Vice-Mayor Marc Deighton Redington Beach

Bob McClure Tampa Bay Newspapers
Jose Coppen Indian Rocks Beach

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John Bishop Pinellas County Vice Mayor Leslie Notaro Belleair Beach

Councilmember Wanda Schwerer

Vice-Mayor John Branch Redington Shores

Rhonda Sanborn Visit St. Pete/Clearwater

Commissioner Carol Coward Treasure Island

Doreen Moore Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce Kelli Caputo Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce

Bobby Combs Senator Brandes' Aide William Reed Ford & Associates

Lizbeth Mabry Representative Peters Aide

State Representative Kathleen Peters County Commissioner Janet Long

Andy Squires Pinellas County

BIG C President George Cretekos called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the North Redington Beach Town Hall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and welcoming comments by North Redington Beach Mayor Bill Queen.

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

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Mayor Lawrence to approve the agenda as submitted and seconded by Mayor Queen. Upon voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes for the April 24, 2013 Meeting

It was moved by Mayor Minning to accept the April 24, 2013 minutes as submitted and seconded by Mayor Adams. Upon voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of Treasurer's Reports for March and April 2013

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Hamilton-Wollin. It was moved by Mayor Adams to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted and seconded by Mayor Minning. Upon voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Mayor Cretekos stated there were no correspondences.

New Business

Mayor Cretekos introduced Commissioner Welch. Commissioner Welch discussed some of the issues facing Pinellas County. Commissioner Welch said Commissioner Morroni is back and is cancer free. Commissioner Welch stated that the Tourism Development Council reported 5.235 million people visited Pinellas County in 2011 bringing a record \$26.1 million in bed tax collections.

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In 2013, the county received 5.435 million visitors and \$28.7 million in bed tax revenue for fiscal year 2012. The year to date Bed Tax collections are 10.7% higher than the same period last year including a record \$4.9 million in March.

Commissioner Welch pointed out that there will be some challenges in the future. Three out of ten funds are facing long-term deficit. The General Fund may see a \$30 million shortfall in fiscal years 2014 and 2015. The EMS covered the shortfall by drawing down reserves to a 20% level for next year and the Transportation Trust Fund may deplete its reserves by 2019.

Commissioner Welch discussed the collaboration among county agencies to reduce general fund budget. The county has the lowest number of employees since 1985. He also briefly talked about some other issues.

Several questions were asked by the Council as well as some audience members. After the question and answer session, Commissioner Welch thanked the BIG C for inviting him to speak.

Mayor Cretekos asked Representative Peters to speak. Representative Peters stated that the beach renourishment has been approved at \$3.7 million for Treasure Island and Long Key. The DEP stated that our storm water ponds do not meet the required numeric nutrient levels. She said she will be talking to the DEP to resolve this issue. Representative Peters said the submerged Land Lease was passed and awaiting the Governor's signature. This allows people with condominiums and multifamily homes to have equitable taxes to single home across the canal. She also mentioned that St. Petersburg College will be the Nation's first Center for Excellence for their Orthotic and Prosthetic program.

After a brief question and answer session, Representative Peters thanked the BIG C for all the good they do for Pinellas County.

Old Business

Councilor Bill Smith gave a brief update on the beaches. He stated it was a good year in legislature for \$37.5 million dollars have been appropriated for the beaches. A brief discussion ensued.

Miscellaneous

Each BIG C representative was given the chance to make announcements about their city.

Adjournment

The next BIG C meeting will hosted by St. Pete Beach on Wednesday, June 26, 2013. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

President, Barrier Islands Governmental Council Mayor – City of Clearwater

ELECTED OFFICIALS WORKING FOR YOU"

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