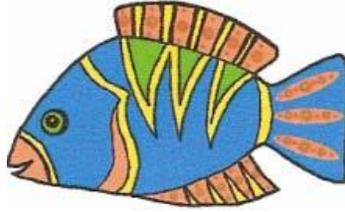


**BIG – C**  
**Barrier Islands Governmental Council**



*Belleair Beach Belleair  
Clearwater  
Indian Rocks Beach  
Indian Shores  
Redington Shores*

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

**February 26, 2014**

Present: Belleair Beach Councilmember Wanda Schwerer  
Clearwater Mayor George Cretekos  
Indian Rocks Beach Commissioner Terry Hamilton-Wollin  
Indian Shores Mayor Jim Lawrence  
Madeira Beach Mayor Travis Palladeno  
North Redington Beach Mayor Bill Queen  
Redington Beach Mayor Nick Simons  
Redington Shores Mayor Bert Adams  
St. Pete Beach Commissioner Jim Parent  
Treasure Island Mayor Robert Minning  
Guest Speaker: Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gaultier  
Guest Speaker: Steve Schwab, Digital Eel  
Guests Present: Carole Irelan Councilor, Indian Shores  
Bill Smith Vice Mayor, Indian Shores  
Diantha Schear Candidate, Indian Shores  
Larry Schear  
Mary Scott Hardwick Commissioner Long's office  
Sandra Knobel Pinellas County MPO  
Bob McClure Tampa Bay Newspapers  
Pinellas County Commissioner Charlie Justice  
Doug Izzo Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce  
R.B. Johnson Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach  
State Representative Larry Ahern  
Fred Steierman Commissioner, Redington Beach  
Alex Sink  
Barclay Harless  
Terry Hughes, Indian Shores Police Department  
Todd Ellson, Sand Key Civic Association  
Linda Fisher, PPC  
Chris Martin, The Ash Group Inc  
Walt Knepper, Redington Beach Property Owner's Association  
Kevin Kennedy, North Redington Beach  
Sarah Ward, Pinellas County MPO  
John Branch Vice Mayor Redington Shores

The meeting of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council (BIG-C) was held Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at the Town of North Redington Beach , 190 173<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, North Redington Beach, FL 33708

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Roll Call**

President Cretekos called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

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

**MOTION** was made by Mayor Queen and seconded by Mayor Palladeno to approve the agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **4. Approval of January 29, 2014 meeting minutes**

**MOTION** was made by Mayor Lawrence and seconded by Commissioner Jim Parent to approve the January 29, 2014 meeting minutes, as published. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **5. Approval of Treasurer's Report for January 2014**

**MOTION** was made by Mayor Minning and seconded by Mayor Adams to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2014. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **6. Correspondence**

Mayor Cretekos stated correspondence was received indicating the MPO-PPC agreement has been signed creating a new combined board.

Linda Fisher stated the first meeting of the new board could be in May unless there is a delay with the interlocal agreement. She stated the council would need to vote on who would serve on the new board as a representative of the BIG-C. Mayor Cretekos requested each municipality submit their nomination. The council will vote and nominate the representative at the April meeting.

### **7. New Business**

#### **a. Presentation by Sheriff Bob Gualtieri – Barrier Island Reentry Program**

Sherriff Gualtieri discussed that each of the barrier island communities currently have different programs, or no program, in place to allow reentry to the beaches following a major disaster. He reported there are 36,000 individual residences on the beaches and 8 entry points from the mainland.

He recommended a new reentry program which would be handled by the Sheriff's Department. The program would consist of bar coded hang tags which would be scanned when a resident is allowed onto the island and then scanned upon their departure. He stated each municipality would have a unique color and processes could be implemented to ensure residents only accessed those areas that were necessary to them.

Sheriff Gualtieri estimated the cost of the program at \$50,000 but stated the Sheriff's Department would absorb the cost. Sheriff's deputies would staff the entry points, however each community would be responsible for distribution to their residents and businesses.

Sheriff Gualtieri stated he would put the information into an email to Mayor Cretekos for distribution. He recommended getting a group together with one of his staff members to determine implementation details.

**b. Steve Schwalb, Digital Eel (BIG-C website)**

Mr. Schwalb explained the BIG-C website had not been updated since its inception. He gave statistics on the amount of hits, page views, time spent, etc. the site has received.

He recommended redesigning the site. He stated the cost would \$1,299. It would contain the same content with a new look and feel.

Mayor Queen made a motion to update the website. Commissioner Parent seconded the motion. All agreed. Discussion ensued that there would be no need for a special dues assessment as the account had funds to cover the update. Mayor Queen and Commissioner Parent agreed to work with Mr. Schwalb on the design of the site. The new site should be live by May.

**c. President to appoint 2-person Audit Committee to report at Annual Meeting**

Mayor Cretekos asked Mayor Lawrence and Commissioner Parent if they would agree to be the Audit Committee again as they did a great job the prior year. They agreed and will report at the annual meeting.

**8. Old Business**

**a. Flood Insurance**

Mayor Cretekos stated there was a House bill scheduled for vote. He stated the bill needed a 2/3 vote. If it passes, will go to the Senate.

Councilor Bill Smith reported on attending the Pinellas County coalition meeting.

Mayor Cretekos asked each of the Big C representative to call Congressman Bilrakis and thank him for his support on the insurance issue.

Discussion took place regarding the beach renourishment funding. Councilor Smith reported there is a push to increase the funding.

#### **b. Nominating Committee Report**

Mayor Queen stated that Mayor Palladeno was being nominated for Treasurer, Commisisoner Wollin for Vice Presdient and Mayor Minning for President. The vote will take place at the April meeting.

#### **Miscellaneous**

Commissioner Justice spoke regarding the one cent bed tax increase. He stated the TDC and the Commission met to discuss the issue. He added there had not been a decision yet due to the possibility of the one cent increase for the Greenlight Pinellas project.

There was a brief discussion on EMS. Mayor Palladeno said he would arrange for an EMS representative to be present at the March meeting.

Each of the towns gave an update on their event calendars.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was duly adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

Next meeting to be held in Redington Beach on March 26, 2014.

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George N. Cretekos, President  
Barrier Islands Governmental Council  
Mayor, City of Clearwater