

MEETING MINUTES
June 25, 2003

PRESIDENT	Mayor J.J. Beyrouti, Town of Redington Shores
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mayor Mike Kelly, City of Belleair Beach
SECRETARY/TREASURER	Mayor Tom De Cesare, City of Madeira Beach

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council, held at the St. Pete Beach City Hall, 155 Corey Avenue, St. Pete Beach, Florida, was called to order by President J.J. Beyrouti at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: (Voting = V; Alternate 1 = A1; and alternate 2 = A2)

Belleair Beach	Mayor Mike Kelly (V)
Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson (V)
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner Bill Ockunzzi (A1)
Indian Shores	Mayor Don Taber (V)
Madeira Beach	Mayor Tom De Cesare (V)
North Redington Beach	Mayor Harold Radcliffe (V)
Redington Beach	Mayor Bob Fontaine (V)
Redington Shores	Mayor J. J. Beyrouti (V)
St. Pete Beach	Commissioner Peter J. Blank (V)
Treasure Island	Mayor Mary Maloof (V)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Donna Draper	City Clerk, Redington Shores
Bob Dinicola	Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach
Larry Nayman	Building Official, Town of Indian Shores
Linda Fisher	Pinellas Planning Council
Vince Robertelli	News Reporter
Bill Smith	Councilor, Indian Shores
Lolly Kreider	Vice Mayor, City of St. Pete Beach
Rod Fischer	PCCLB
John Leahy	Fire Chief, Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue
Steve Schwalb	CEO – Digital Eel
Larry Pflueger	Principal Planner, Pinellas Planning Council
Lee Daniel	Assistant Director, St. Pete/Clearwater Area CVB
Nick Fortesh	Beach Commission Chair, Sand Key Civic Assn.
Rand Baldwin	Government Affairs, SWFWMD
Debbie Stambaugh	President, Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber

Mary Burrell
Sandy Shuler
John Carassas
Gay Lancaster

Beacon Newspaper
Councilor, Indian Shores
State Representative District 54
Chief Assistant County Administrator, Pinellas
County

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mayor De Cesare presented the Treasurer's Report for June, which had an ending balance of \$2,875.26. Motion made by Mayor Radcliffe, seconded by Mayor Kelly, carried unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Mayor Kelly, seconded by Mayor DeCesare, carried unanimously by voice vote.

GUEST SPEAKER:

President Beyrouti introduced the Guest Speaker Larry Pflueger, Pinellas Planning Council to speak regarding Evaluation Appraisal Reports (EAR)

Mr. Pflueger spoke regarding the state requirement to submit an EAR. An EAR is periodic evaluation of the state mandated comprehensive plan. Goals are identifying major issues for the community, view past local government actions in implementing the comprehensive plan and assess the degree to which the objectives have been achieved. Also assessed are successes and the shortcomings of the plan, identification of ways the plan needs to change for the better and to ensure intergovernmental coordination.

EAR's are required every seven years. Pinellas County's EAR is due in August 2005. The EAR's for the beach communities are due in August 2006 and June 2007. This schedule ensures that the cities can use the data from the county's EAR.

He proposed that the members of the BIGC form an interlocal agreement to contract for joint development EAR's. He noted that there are some issues that are common among all of the members of the BIGC. Some of the commonalities he mentioned were Gulf Boulevard, coastal redevelopment issues and drainage issues.

He suggested that the first issue would be for the municipalities to make a commitment to the project. He said that a joint planning sub-committee should be formed to decide details on how to approach this issue. Because there will some issues that are unique to individual municipalities, there would be a major document and then appendices to the EAR for each municipality.

Some other communities around the State have attempted to approach the EAR's in this manner. Some were successful and some were not. He reported that the project would take a lot of cooperation among the parties to the agreement.

Some issues to consider were as follows:

- who will facilitate
- how costs will be assessed
- who will be participating
- how conflicts will be resolved
- how the agreement will be developed
- setting milestones
- who will be on the planning subcommittee.

He requested that the BIGC begin considering the concept he presented. He asked to come back to speak with the BIGC regarding this issue. He stated that he has discussed this concept with the DCA and they seemed anxious to meet with those involved.

Some discussion was held regarding local planning agencies and their involvement in the process and grass roots citizen participation.

Mr. Pflueger said that DCA would assist in finding areas that are common.

Discussion was held regarding other groups of cities that have attempted this kind of process for their EAR's.

Discussion was held regarding when this process should begin. Mr. Pflueger recommended that a subcommittee should be formed within six months.

Mr. Pflueger discussed the Pinellas Planning Council involvement and that their role should be facilitator, coordinator for the project. Some discussion was held regarding funding and grant possibilities.

It was decided that each member would take this concept to their boards for input and report back to the BIGC.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Gulf Boulevard Undergrounding and Beautification Report

Nothing to report since last meeting other than a small committee is forming to present the project for congressional funding. Mayor Beyrouti advised that he will be approaching Senator Dennis Jones. He asked that the other cities submit names of leaders to serve on the committee. He stated that he would like to see someone from the county on the committee.

B. Legislative Issues

Representative John Carassas reported on the legislature and its current status. He said that it is anticipated that another special session will be necessary regarding the medical malpractice limitations proposed. Discussion was held regarding windstorm insurance and the states involvement on the issue.

Discussion was held regarding doc stamps and restrictive reserves. It was noted that the proposal on the table is not good for coastal communities. Those funds are dedicated to beach renourishment. The proposal was defeated this year, but will resurface next year for the Governor and Legislature to act upon. The funding sources for renourishment are federal, state and local. It is felt that if one of the sources is diminished or eliminated, the other two will not remain committed to funding the renourishment. The state amount is about \$30 million.

Representative Carassas reported that he will be assuming a position as Deputy Attorney General for Central Florida and will no longer be serving as Representative of District 54. He stated that by working together toward a common goal, the BIGC has accomplished a lot and expressed his hope that they will remain strong.

Mayor Beyrouti thanked Representative Carassas for all of his hard work and his accomplishments.

C. American Assembly

Mayor Beyrouti reported that the committees are all meeting, a webpage has been developed (pinellascounty.org) and a report will be made to the Mayor's Council in November.

D. Webpage

It was noted that all of the BIGC have responded with funding for the Webpage. Discussion was held as to whether or not Clearwater should be a participant. It was noted that Clearwater Beach is not a city. It was decided to leave it as it is for the time being. Steve Schawlb, Digital Eel addressed the Council. He advised that work is currently ongoing on the layout. Mayor DeCesare inquired as to whether a logo will be developed for the BIGC. Mr. Schawlb responded that his company can work on a logo.

Mr. Schawlb asked for a contact person or a liaison for input on the webpage.

Motion made by Commissioner Blank, seconded by Mayor DeCesare to allow Digital Eel to approve the beginning work on the Webpage, unanimously approved on voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Purple Heart Recipient (free parking) Senator Jones

Senator Dennis Jones was unable to attend so this item was tabled until a later meeting.

B. Appoint Building Official to PCCLB

Discussion was held regarding the need to appoint a building official from the coastal communities to serve on the PCCLB. Three names need to be submitted.

Motion made by Mayor Beyrouti, seconded by Mayor Radcliffe to nominate Mike Nado for PCCLB unanimously approved on voice vote.

Motion made by Mayor Tabor, seconded by Mayor Robertson to nominate Larry Nayman unanimously approved on voice vote.

Motion made by Commissioner Ocknuzzi, seconded by Mayor Beyrouti to nominate Steve Andrews unanimously approved on voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Gay Lancaster, Pinellas County, reported on the gas tax issue.

Debbie Stambaugh spoke on the issue of hours of operation for sale and consumption of alcohol.

She stated that it is anticipated that issue will pass.

She discussed the Mile Marker Program. She asked for resolutions from Cities that have not already submitted them regarding the mile marker program.

She reported that the Chamber is considering a software package that would enable mass broadcasting on positions for legislative issues.

She requested that names be submitted from each city to the Chamber to form a small focus committee to decide what issues need to be included in an economic impact study. Discussion was held regarding the impact of redevelopment on hotels to condos, bed taxes etc.

She said that some corporations have expressed an interest in providing sponsorship for the study. It will be necessary to first determine the scope of the study, then work on sponsorship.

The committee will be Chamber of Commerce driven, with participation from the various communities.

She reminded everyone that the City Partnership Program has requested annual funding.

Discussion was held regarding Gulf Boulevard being placed on the 5 year state road program.

Discussion was held regarding beach nourishment program and the scheduling. The trigger for nourishment is when 50% of the beach has eroded. The current schedule is for 2006. The process is about 2 years.

Discussion was held on Gulf Boulevard. It was requested that the BIGC advise what type of project it would support.

Motion made by Mayor DeCesare, seconded by Commissioner Palamara to adopt a resolution advising the BIGC's support, unanimously approved by voice vote.

Some discussion was held regarding fireworks and enforcement of the new ordinance.

There being no further business, the meeting was then adjourned.