

BARRIER ISLANDS GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL (BIG-C)
AUGUST 31, 2005 MEETING MINUTES
City of Belleair Beach City Hall

Call to Order:

The meeting of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council, held at the Belleair Beach City Hall, 444 Causeway Boulevard, Belleair Beach, Florida, was called to order by President Don Taber at 9:00 a.m., followed by a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call: Each person present was asked to introduce him/herself.

Members Present:

Belleair Beach	Mayor Rudy Davis
Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson
Clearwater	Councilmember Hoyt Hamilton
Indian Rocks Beach	Mayor Bill Ockunzzi
Indian Shores	Mayor Don Taber
Madeira Beach	Commissioner John Wolbert
North Redington Beach	Vice Mayor Jerry Knight
Redington Beach	Mayor Bob Fountaine
Redington Shores	(None Present)
St. Pete Beach	Vice Mayor Deborah Nicklaus
Treasure Island	Commissioner Richard Kraus

Guests Present:

Rand Baldwin	Southwest Water Management District
Katherine Burbridge	AICP, Pinellas County Administration
Joe Burdette	Census Group
Doris Burns, Representative	State Senator Dennis Jones
Nicole Elko	Coastal Coordinator, Pinellas County
Linda Fisher	Program Planner, Pinellas Planning Council
Rodney S. Fischer	Director, Pinellas County Licensing Board
Nick Fritsch	Sand Key Civic Association
John Hayes	Commissioner, Town of Belleair Shore
Joan Herndon	Vice Mayor, Town of Indian Shores
Phyllis Johnson	Sand Key Sun
R. B. Johnson	Commissioner, City of Indian Rocks Beach
Larry Karisny	Project Safety
Bob MacPherson	Beach Beacon Newspaper
James R. Palamara	Vice Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach
Missy Pike	President, Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce
Harold Radcliffe	North Redington Beach
Vince Robertiello	St. Pete Post
Janet Recca	Director of Marketing, PSTA
Ed Ruttencutter	Commissioner, St. Pete Beach
Melissa Seixas	Progress Energy, Community Relations
Bill Smith	Councilor, Town of Indian Shores

Ron Stambaugh	St. Pete Beach Planning Committee
Steve Sutch	ISPOA, Town of Indian Shores
Lynn Webb	American Cancer Society
Linda Wilson	Vice Mayor, Town of Redington Beach
Don Skelton	District 7, Secretary, FDOT
Jim Moulton	District 7, Operations Director, FDOT
Debra Kennaugh	District 7, Traffic Ops. Engineer, FDOT

3. Approval of Agenda:

Mayor John Robertson moved and Vice Mayor Knight seconded to approve the Agenda. The **motion** carried unanimously by voice vote.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Mayor John Robertson moved and Mayor Rudy Davis seconded approval of the July 27, 2005 BIG-C Minutes. The **motion** carried unanimously by voice vote.

5. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report for August 2005, was presented by Secretary/Treasurer Bob Fountaine with a balance on hand as of August 15, 2005 in the amount \$2,339.30.

Mayor John Robertson moved and Mayor Rudy Davis seconded approval of the August, 2005 Treasurer's Report as presented. The **motion** carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mayor Don Taber read a letter from Rodney Fischer, Director of the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board advising the Council there is a vacancy on the PCCLB Board. He explained the Board consists of twenty-one members one of which is an acting Building Official from one of the Barrier Island communities. He stated Board members serve a two-year term and are appointed by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners from a list of three nominees submitted by the Barrier Island Governmental Council. He advised to be eligible for these appointments each member must be actively engaged as a Building Official. The current member of the Board Mike Nadeau, Building Official of the Town of Redington Shores is leaving his position. He stated the only two people who meet the requirements are Jerry Sparks, Building Director, City of St. Pete Beach and Building Official Steve Andrews, City of Indian Rocks Beach.

Vice Mayor Deborah Nicklaus moved and Vice Mayor Jerry Knight seconded the nomination of Jerry Sparks to be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for appointment to the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board.

Vice Mayor James Palamara stated Steve Andrews should have the opportunity to be asked if he would be interested in serving on the PCCLB Board.

An amended motion was made by Vice Mayor Deborah Nicklaus and Mayor John Robertson seconded the amended motion to submit the names of Jerry Sparks and Steve Andrews to the Board of County Commissioners for consideration of appointment to the PCCLB Board. The **motion** carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. Correspondence:

Mayor Bob Fountaine reported that the Department of Transportation has agreed to reduce the speed limit on Gulf Boulevard to 35 mph where it is now 40 mph. He advised beginning in November for a period of seven months and at the end of the seven-month period five speed studies will be conducted to determine if traffic has calmed to that level. He further advised if traffic has calmed down to that level DOT will maintain the speed limit at that point.

Mayor Don Taber congratulated Mayor Bob Fountaine on the tremendous work he has done in such a short period of time.

7. Old Business:

Nick Fritsch, Sand Key Civic Association, reported that he had spoken to Wit Tuttlell, Public Relations Director, at the Convention Visitors Bureau in regard to a "Beach Facts" brochure on some ideas to target our message to the mainlanders. He advised Mr. Tuttlell expressed the importance of publicity. Mr. Fritsch asked the Council for their permission to write an editorial as a guest columnist in the Clearwater Times, North and South Pinellas Times. He suggested we write a thank you letter to the Board of County Commissioners for the Public Hearing on Beach Renourishment and also to thank Nicole Elko for her good management and progress in our projects.

Mayor John Roberson moved and Vice Mayor James Palamara seconded approval to have Nick Fritsch prepare an editorial and draft a letter to the Board of County Commissioners. The **motion** carried unanimously by voice vote.

8. New Business:

Ron Stambaugh, St. Pete Beach Planning Committee, discussed holding a Gulf Boulevard Safety Workshop. He advised that each City has requested to authorize staff, elected and appointed officials to attend the workshops. He stated the purpose of the workshop is to develop a needs and objective to ensure a safer environment for pedestrians, to share information and to establish a unified effort with the Department of Transportation. He advised this could only be effective with the endorsement of the BIG-C.

Vice Mayor Jerry Knight moved and Vice Mayor Deborah Nicklaus seconded endorsement from the BIG-C to hold a Gulf Boulevard Safety Workshop. The **motion** carried unanimously by voice vote.

Don Skelton, District Seven Secretary, FDOT, introduced Debra Kennaugh, District Seven Operations Engineer and Jim Moulton District Seven Operations Director. He advised FDOT has been working with the BIG-C to work through pedestrian issues and increase pedestrian and safety awareness along Gulf Boulevard. He stated this has resulted in crosswalks being planned and designed and the installation of signs to make the drivers aware to yield for pedestrians in the crosswalks. He discussed the speed studies that will be conducted from November 2005 through the end of May 2006. He asked for another Resolution from the BIG-C that supports the proposal as outlined in the letter dated August 30, 2005. (Please see Exhibit A, attached)

Discussion ensued in regard to changing the classification of Gulf Boulevard.

Mayor Bob Fontaine moved and Commissioner John Wolbert seconded to approve the proposal of the Florida Department of Transportation, dated August 30, 2005, to reduce the speed limit to 35 mph where it is currently posted at 40 mph. The **motion** carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion ensued in regard to increasing density.

Vice Mayor James Palamara moved and Mayor Bob Fontaine seconded to approve to ask our Commissions for goals and objectives for the Barrier Islands Governmental Council. The **motion** passed.

9. Miscellaneous:

A. Legislative Update –

Doris Jones, Senator Dennis Jones Office reported that Senator Jones had attended the Public Hearing on Beach Renourishment held at Sand Key and commented how well Pinellas County had put the meeting together.

B. Beach Renourishment Update – Nicole Elko, Coastal Coordinator, Pinellas County:

Nicole Elko advised everyone Hurricane Katrina had not affected our beaches in anyway. She stated the project at Upham Beach is nearing completion. She discussed hot spots at Dan's Island and an exposed seawall. She gave an update of the Public Hearing held at Sand Key on August 17, 2005. She stated the sand for our renourishment project would come from Egmont Shoals. She advised the project will begin at Dan's Island with sand being pumped on the beach in early October then working south to the Belleair Beach City line. She reported that portion of the project would take approximately three months. She discussed that possible locations are being looked at for other landings in Indian Rocks, Indian Shores and Redington. She advised she will keep everyone informed of the possible locations.

Mayor Taber announced the next BIG-C Meeting would be held on Wednesday, September 28, 2005, 9:00 a.m. to be held at the City of Belleair Beach and hosted by the Town of Belleair Shore

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned in due form at 9:50 a. m.

Mayor Donald L. Taber, President
Barrier Islands Governmental Council

Nancy G. McCollum, City Clerk
City of Belleair Beach