

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

Town of Redington Shores BIG C Meeting
Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Madeira Beach City Hall, 300 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach, FL 33708

- 1. The BIG C Meeting was called to order by President Mayor Alan Johnson at 9:00 A.M. on January 25, 2023, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 2. Roll Call**

BIG C Representatives:

Mayor Alan Johnson, BIG C President
Mayor MaryBeth Henderson, BIG C Vice President
Mayor Joanne “Cookie” Kennedy, BIG C Treasurer and Secretary
Mayor Dave Gattis
Vice Mayor Diantha Schear (Present for Mayor Patrick Soranno)
Mayor John Hendricks
Mayor Tyler Payne
Mayor Bob Schmidt
Mayor Bill Queen
Councilmember Lina Teixeira
Mayor David Will

City of St Pete Beach
Town of Redington Shores
City of Indian Rocks Beach
City of Belleair Beach
Town of Indian Shores
City of Madeira Beach
City of Treasure Island
Belleair Shore
Town of North Redington Beach
City of Clearwater Beach
Town of Redington Beach

Guest Speaker:

Peter Clark, President and Founder of Tampa Bay Watch

Also Present from Sign-in Sheets:

Brian Lowack
Cinda Krouk-Vice Mayor
Christina Chilbert
Jenna Byrne
Rita Bishop-Executive Assistant
John Bishop
Tevi Lawsen
Robin Miller
Robin Gomez-City Manager
Sandra Knoebel-Peeples-Planner
Suzy Sofer-Commissioner
Stan Sofer-Commissioner
Lindsey Flynn-Program Manager
Carly Dolinski-Senior Biologist
Barbara Colucci-Clerk/Treasurer

Pinellas County
Town of Redington Shores
CMC Synergy Fundraising
Water Warrior Alliance
St Pete Beach
Coastal Mgt PC
Caldwell Banker Realty
TBBCOC
City of Madeira Beach
Forward Pinellas
Belleair Bluffs
Belleair Bluffs
Clearwater Marine Aquarium
Clearwater Marine Aquarium
Belleair Shore

Bonnie Dhonau-Town Administrator
Jeff Shoobridge-Town Administrator
Larry Schear-Commissioner
Kathleen Beckman-Vice Mayor
Melissa Hill-Program Manager
Megan Powers-Exec Asst City Manager
Kylyn Collins-Realtor
Jill Dunavin-Office Manager
Chiquita Clark
Christopher Hollands
Clint Belk-Fire Chief
Chris Kelly
Yvette Fernandez-Senior Biologist
Tyler Pollert-Associate Biologist
Diantha Schear-Vice Mayor
Jennie Blackburn-Commissioner
Sam Jenkins-Associate Director
Jessica Morrow-Marketing
Carla Bolling
Zach Westfall

Indian Shores
Redington Shores
PSFRD
Clearwater
National Wildlife Federation
Madeira Beach
Madeira Beach
TIMB Chamber
Duke Energy

Madeira Beach
Waterfront Realty
Clearwater Marine Aquarium
Clearwater Marine Aquarium
Indian Shores
Redington Shores
ISPS
TBBCOC
Indian Shores
Pinellas

3. Changes to the Agenda and Approval

Motion by Mayor Johnson – seconded by Mayor Kennedy to approve the January 25, 2023, BIG C meeting agenda. All ayes. Motion Carried 11-0.

4. Approval of Minutes- Town of Indian Shores-Wednesday, December 7, 2022 BIG C Meeting

Motion by Mayor Queen – seconded by Mayor Henderson to approve the December 7, 2022, BIG C meeting agenda. All ayes. Motion Carried 11-0.

5. Approval of the November and December 2022 Treasurer’s Report

Mayor Kennedy presented the Treasurer’s Report. December 2022’s opening balance was \$1,498.10. Nothing received, nothing disbursed. Ending balance for the month \$1,498.10.

Mayor Henderson moved to approve the August and September 2022 Treasurer’s Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Schmidt. All ayes. Motion Carried 11-0.

6. Correspondence

None

7. New Business

Guest Speaker Peter Clark, President & Founder, Tampa Bay Watch- “The historical problems in Tampa Bay and economic benefits”.

Mr. Clark gave his presentation with a slideshow overview on the problems Tampa Bay has had historically and what is currently being done to rebuild and preserve.

- **Tampa Bay Watch was established in 1993 and is dedicated to fostering a healthy Tampa Bay watershed through community driven restoration projects, education programs, and outreach initiatives. We are currently celebrating 30 years of restoring and protecting the Tampa Bay Estuary.**
- **Water quality in the 1970’s was poor until the 1980’s when we began restoring and protecting. Around 2000, we began seeing great improvement and a difference in water quality. Seagrass restoration also improved.**
- **As they began to look into the future, other issues arose as new factors came into consideration like Piney Point discharge, red tide and large macro algae blooms in the Bay. These factors greatly affected seagrass coverage and water quality. When water quality improves, seagrass grows and we have a better habitat for fish and wildlife. We saw a decline in seagrasses between 2018 and 2020 and lost nearly 7000 acres of seagrass in the last five years due to water quality impacts.**
- **A clean Bay contributes approximately \$22 billion to the region’s total economic activity and one in every five jobs depends on Tampa Bay.**
- **Mr. Clark gave an overview of the Community Oyster Reef Enhancement (CORE) and explained how one oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water in one day. Vertical Oyster Gardens are one way to promote oyster growth and preservation and are available upon request from Tampa Bay Watch.**
- **To keep progress moving forward, we can all play a part by taking action in restoration. Some of the current restoration efforts already in progress are: Native grass planting, oyster relief ball installations and vertical gardens, fishing line recycling, derelict crab trap removal and more.**

Mr. Clark concluded his presentation by inviting anyone interested to sign up for their weekly email blast.

Conversation ensued regarding the availability of the vertical oyster gardens and the hours of operation for the Discovery Center at the Pier.

8. Old Business

None

9. Discussion Items

“County Beach Lighting Regulation” by Dr John Bishop, Pinellas County

Mr. Bishop spoke on the turtle lighting status on the beach. Although they have instituted a turtle lighting task force, the lighting situation has not improved. He reported that there were 184 disorientations this past year. Nesting is increasing. Recently some turtles ended up on Gulf Blvd. He would like to see Pinellas County make a turtle lighting Ordinance and is here to get input from the municipalities.

Mr. Bishop concluded with a question and answer session.

BIG C Officer's length of term

The Officer's discussed, consensus was to leave the term as is.

10. Legislative Update

Robin Miller from Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce read a message from Representative Chaney stating that her Balloon Release Bill refers to balloons as "litter" giving local authority to issue a litter fine for any amount of balloons released. Florida Statute still allows for 9 balloons or less to be released but you could incur a litter fine for it so do not do it. You can issue a litter fine or citation under your Ordinances on your discretion. She also reported that RJ is expecting another Short-term rental bill to be filed. Committee discussed.

Conversation ensued regarding the short-term rental regulations and possible outreach to legislators.

11. City Events

The BIG C Representatives listed their City's upcoming events

12. Adjournment: 10:24am

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 9:00 A.M.

Hosted by Town of North Redington Beach

Location: Madeira Beach City Hall | 300 Municipal Drive, | Madeira Beach, FL 33708

Minutes Prepared by: Tracy Campbell
Town Clerk, Redington Shores, FL

Date Approved: 2/22/2023

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



Amber LaRowe, MMC, City Clerk
City of St. Pete Beach



Alan Johnson
Barrier Islands Governmental Council President
Mayor of the City of St. Pete Beach, FL