

## MINUTES OF MEETING WEDNESDAY, January 19, 2005

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President B.J. Galberaith at 1:00PM. She welcomed everyone and thanked Gulf-To-Bay for allowing us to use their clubhouse. She turned the meeting over to Stan Parker, Vice President, who told a couple of jokes leading up to his introduction of Jorge Perez, Planner III, from the Charlotte County staff.

### GUEST SPEAKER

Mr. Perez gave an excellent and informative presentation about the Community Plan, which had evolved from a grass roots initiative from residents concerned about the rapid development on our island. He explained that most of the lots we see which contain small cottages are actually zoned for high density (condominiums). The much publicized code changes that are soon to be voted upon by the County Commissioners will slightly reduce the number of units per acre and provide for slightly more green space between buildings than the County currently requires. He went into detail in telling us how height restrictions, previously measured from the maximum FEMA heights, may soon be measured from AHWL (sea level), since FEMA regulations frequently change. Mr. Perez emphasized that the Code changes now being considered are for new construction only and do not affect existing structures. He told us that the matter of code compliance when rebuilding after a disaster was being looked at and that there are meetings scheduled to gather input on that issue. Call Doug Wallace – 473-1931 – for information. There was an extensive question and answer period. Mr. Perez was given a big hand for his excellent and informative presentation.

### NEW OFFICERS

Judy Hoffstatter presented our outgoing President, BJ, with a large gift box which turned out to contain a serving platter in the shape of a Horse Conch shell, the Florida State Shell and logo being adopted by our Key. Wayne Largent, our new President voiced our heartfelt appreciation for the years of untiring service BJ has given this organization and its members. BJ thanked everyone for all the support and cooperation she had received and promised to remain an active and involved member of SMKA.

Betty Ann Keiser was introduced as the new Treasurer and a big hand of applause was given Judy Hoffstatter who has served from 2000 to the present as Treasurer and, at time, as Secretary and Treasurer.

### SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The minutes from the last meeting were summarized and accepted. Betty Sue Carroll told us that our group now numbers over 450 members and described a new email system of distribution for notices from SMKA. Anyone who would like to receive their notices electronically may note that on their 2005 membership application or call Betty Sue – 475-8191. This will be especially useful for people who are not here continuously from November through April. She also asked for a volunteer to help in setting up the new system. Wayne added that the membership directory will not be published until next fall. We need a volunteer to solicit advertising which can help defray half or more of the cost of the directory.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Judy Hoffstatter gave her final Treasurer's report. Our Treasury has a balance of \$4614.14 as of January 15, 2005. Wayne urged everyone to pay their dues for 2005.

### MSTU/BEAUTIFICATION

BJ announced that our gulfside benches still have not been replaced. Representatives of the County and State will meet to decide their fate on January 26. MSTU is underwriting a study of our flooding problems at a cost of \$49,000. There will be a meeting about that project April 6 at 1:00PM in The Englewood Beach Villas clubhouse. She then told us that the revised Turtle Ordinance has been delayed again and is being rewritten to be more people-friendly. Bids have gone out for the landscaping to be placed at the entrance of our Island, the intersection of Beach Road, North Beach Road, and Gulf Blvd, in conjunction with the Roundabout project. Irrigation will be installed shortly and planting is scheduled to start in June.

### MAILBOXES/WASTE CONTAINERS

Bonnie Littrell reported that the final three secure cluster mailboxes have been installed. Anyone interested in starting a group needs to sign up 9 or more people before contacting her. However, there are spots open in previously installed cluster boxes. Anyone interested may call her – 475-2533.

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Betsy McCallum gave us an update on the Community Plan project. The land use portion of the Plan has been put into an overlay Code for Manasota and Sandpiper Keys only and is in the process of being presented to the Commissioners for passage. The second BCC hearing concerning this will be 2/15/05 in room 119 of the County Administration Building in Murdock Circle. She asked everyone to come to show their support.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Don Pease asked about our street signs, many of which have been missing since Hurricane Charley. Apparently, Charlotte County alone lost 40,000 street signs and it is not yet possible even to purchase the material needed to construct them. We will have to be patient.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Wayne brought up the subject of the Interim Development Control, which was imposed on new construction last November. In effect, this puts a stay on new development while the County's legal staff writes the Code for the Community Plan. Any projects permitted during that six-month period must conform to the general requirements of the Plan. One large developer, Peter Page (Barefoot Beach) will go before the Commissioners on January 25, at 10:00AM, to request exception from the IDC for two of his projects. Wayne asked for discussion about SMKA recommending against the exception.

During discussion our By-Laws were checked and the concept deemed appropriate. There was a question about whether this gathering was representative of our more than 450 members. Again the By-Laws were checked and a quorum was found to be members present. Bonnie put forth a motion "that a member of SMKA attend the meeting on January 25, representing the membership of SMKA and recommending that the BCC vote against an exception to the IDC for Boulder Point and Venetian Sands". Betsy seconded the motion, which carried with a show of hands, mostly in favor with one opposed.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Doug asked that anyone living in a condo meet with him directly after adjournment to discuss the post-disaster condo planning.

Wayne announced a tentative date for our next meeting – Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The President thanked everyone for coming, and, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Sue Carroll, Secretary