

MINUTES OF MEETING Wednesday, March 8, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne Largent at 1:30PM. He welcomed everyone and thanked Gulf-To-Bay for allowing us to use their clubhouse. He told us that this excellent facility might not have been built without the support of our past Commissioner, Mac Horton. He then turned the meeting over to Stan Parker, Vice President, who gave us some humorous facts about Mac Horton, who is now Supervisor of Elections.

GUEST SPEAKER

Mr. Horton began by giving us a brief historical review of West County and Manasota Key. He told us that there have been several spurts of growth in the last 50 years. After a plateau in the 80's and 90's we are now in another cycle of increasing prices and rapid growth. His greatest concern for our area is the diminishing amount of water access for boaters as well as beachgoers. His greatest concern for the County as a whole is the pressure to increase density. He was complimentary about our voter registration and voter turnout record and said that is noticed by Tallahassee. He fielded a number of questions from the floor, both concerning new voting procedures and his view of the future of our area. He asked for people to be Precinct workers. Each candidate must attend a training two weeks before the election. Anyone interested should call the Supervisor of Election's Office.

SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The minutes from the last meeting were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer was not in attendance but had reported a current balance of \$8139.44.

MSTU/BEAUTIFICATION

In BJ Galberaith's absence, Steve Stump reported that the irrigation of the Roundabout gardens is nearly complete, but that there are still problems about the Shell sculpture. A letter of intent for possible easements necessary to the Little Court drainage project has been written. He said that the broken street lights are going to be fixed soon. He also told us that he is keeping a list of the broken Acorn lights and notifying the County periodically.

MEMBERSHIP

Betty Sue Carroll reported that total membership was 460. She asked anyone who needs to check on their dues to see her after the meeting.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wayne Largent reported that the Committee is working on a Sound ordinance and on getting Code Enforcement more actively involved with the new buildings. He spoke of the 5 lawsuits concerning the new land use rules and said that after these are settled the new rules will prevail.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no new information about possible surveillance equipment for the light poles and the Roundabout sculpture.

NEW BUSINESS

The President announced plans for a Candidate's forum to be held in late July or early August. All candidates have to declare by July 14 and primaries are held in late August or early September. He said that the SMKA will try to get a mailing out, at least by email, following the forum. For those who go North in the summer absentee ballots can be obtained from the Supervisor of Elections.

There was a question about the sign at the White Elephant, but no one knew any details.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Sue Carroll, Secretary