

MINUTES OF MEETING WEDNESDAY, March 23, 2005

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 turned the meeting over to Stan Parker, Vice President, who told a couple of jokes leading up to his introduction of Tom Moore, our representative to the Board of County Commissioners.

GUEST SPEAKER

Commissioner Moore gave an excellent and informative presentation about County matters, particularly those affecting our area, West County, and answered a number of questions from the audience. He said that Stump Pass will probably be re-dredged in November, '05, and that sand bags will be placed in the Gulf to help slow the drift of sand. He told us that the Placida area will probably receive 1600 new housing units, including a hotel, but the developers are not asking us to lift height restrictions. Concerning Red Tide, he said there are no answers yet, but the subject needs to be higher on the agenda. We can expect the Tom Adams Bridge to be closed for repair in June, 2006. The repairs will take an estimated 45 days. When asked about plans for upgrading public recreational facilities, he said there are plans for 2 or 3 new boat ramps and several parks. There is no current plan for off-island parking for the Chadwick Park Bridge. Commissioner Moore was thanked for his and the BCC's support of our Community Plan and the audience gave him a big hand.

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 465 members. She asked that people be sure they have mail forwarded or ask to have notices sent to their "distant" address in the summer. She urged people to sign up to have their material sent by email. Wayne will increasingly use email to send out information and has started a new mailbox for SMKA, largentwayne@yahoo.com.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Betty Ann Keiser gave the Treasurer's report. Our Treasury currently has a balance of \$5378.83.

MSTU/BEAUTIFICATION

BJ Galberaith told us that 34 new lights will be installed in the Roundabout area at County expense. In addition, Coastal Wildlife will fund 8 more lights through a grant they have received from the license plate sales. The DEP has determined that our benches can be replaced if they are put on pilings, and BJ asked for an engineer who could help with design. Our new street signs have been installed, and anyone who needs one or still has the old green sign should contact Wayne. BJ also asked everyone affected by drainage problems to attend a meeting April 6 at Englewood Beach Villas. The \$60,000 drainage study will be explained and discussed.

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. Some of the side streets at the south end of the island are good candidates for cluster boxes.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Betsy McCallum gave us an update on the Community Plan project. Since the last SMKA meeting, the Land Use portion was put into code and unanimously approved by the BCC. Three developers have filed for exception from the IDC, and two were refused by the Commissioners. The third was asked to provide additional information. Several more requests for exception will be heard in the

coming weeks. She and Wayne thanked everyone for their support. The next sections of the plan that are being implemented are Signage and Disaster Recovery/non-conformity amendments. Other sections, including a noise ordinance, will be tackled in time.

The first few of the many planned condo developments are now being constructed, and residents and tourists have been subjected to the noise of pilings being pounded into the ground. This process can also compromise nearby structures, break glass, etc. The Advisory Committee is sending a letter to the BCC asking that builders be required to auger in pilings instead of driving them, and has asked SMKA to co-sign the letter. Wayne read the letter aloud, and, after discussion, a motion was made and passed to add SMKA to the letter.

NEW BUSINESS

Wayne asked the floor for suggestions or initiatives for our group during the coming year. Three ideas were to help with or sponsor the plan to number houses and condos; work on supporting the success of local businesses which are increasingly being replaced by condos; and supporting the research on Red Tide.

OTHER BUSINESS

Tommy Brock and others asked about other portions of the Community Plan such as the Noise Ordinance and the problems with live-aboards in Chadwick Cove. Wayne explained that those issues will be dealt with as soon as possible.

Carol Kennett thanked the Advisory Committee for all its work on behalf of the Community.

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