

SMKA MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 13, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: President Steve Stump called the meeting to order and introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Tom Minnich, President and co-founder of the Lemon Bay League, a cross county organization working to preserve the health of Lemon Bay.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Minnich is a tireless advocate for Lemon Bay and he spoke of the importance of maintaining the health of the Bay and the efforts of his organization to do so. There are 80,000 residents in the Lemon Bay watershed and many of those residents still use septic systems. The watershed plan is to replace all of the existing septic systems in the area. He spoke on other issues which affect the quality of the water in the bay and gave an overview of what the organization is working on i.e.: public transportation system; transforming River Road into a major connector to I-75; and a community garden.

President Stump then introduced Commissioner Bob Starr who spoke about the budget and the county's efforts to get spending under control. He also reminded us of the importance of voter input to help guide the actions of the commissioners.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes were accepted as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer reported that the treasury has a balance of \$10,283.33.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MSTU: Chair Mike McLain reported that the drainage project is moving along once ownership issues have been resolved. Other projects completed are: painting of Swepson Bridge; installation of benches on Beach Rd from Swepson Bridge to Tom Adams Bridge. County has cancelled landscaper contracts so there will be no landscape maintenance for a while.

MASKAC: no report.

MEMBERSHIP: Chair reports that the goal of the committee is to increase membership and member involvement.

DATABASE: Betty Sue Carroll reports that work on the data base is coming along.

SOCIAL: no report. *(See page two for social opportunities)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Marine Watch Program - similar to Neighborhood Watch Program - a volunteer program to prevent vandalism, alert officials of illegal immigrant landings, promote safety on the water. If interested call 941-764-1533.

Board of Directors' workshop on April 20.

Next meeting May 11 the guest speaker will be Sheriff Bill Cameron

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Dunham-Card, Secretary

If you use a different email address while you are away for the summer, PLEASE let us know, so we can keep sending you the news from paradise. Email Betty Sue with the information at betty suecarroll@comcast.net .