

MINUTES OF MEETING WEDNESDAY, November 16, 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 bridge jokes leading up to his introduction of Chuck Koons from Public Works, who is project manager for the repair of the Tom Adams Bridge.

GUEST SPEAKER

Mr. Koons gave an excellent and informative presentation about the long-anticipated project, the rehabilitation of the Tom Adams Bridge. Mr. Koons told us that there are no plans to replace or expand the bridge, which was built in the '60's, and it is in need of a complete overhaul. This will be done in three phases, beginning in spring, 2006. The first phase is structural rehabilitation and will require a 45 day closing, tentatively scheduled for July 5 – August 9, 2006. The second phase, scheduled for 2007, will include a new Tender House and a new wider walkway. The final phase will emphasize esthetics, beautification and lighting. Upon completion, most likely in 2008, Mr. Koons envisions the Bridge as an impressive gateway to Charlotte County's beaches. There were a number of questions from the floor, mostly concerning essential and emergency services during the 45 day period when our area will only be accessible via the North Bridge in Sarasota County. Mr. Koons outlined some of the planning that has already been done to work out these potential problems. Mr. Koons was given a big hand.

SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The minutes from the last meeting were summarized and accepted. Betty Sue Carroll told us that the new Directories will be available after the meeting. She added that BJ Galberaith had collected enough local advertising to cover the printing of the booklets.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Betty Ann Keiser gave the Treasurer's report. Our Treasury currently has a balance of \$7762.50.

MSTU/BEAUTIFICATION

BJ Galberaith reported on the many projects that MSTU is currently working on. DMK is finalizing their report on the drainage project for the area from Angler's Resort to the South end of the Island. The next area to be studied will be north from Angler's to the Roundabout area. She said 2 new fire hydrants are planned for area north of the Circle K. New hydrants are also needed in the South end, but the current water main is inadequate. There are plans being considered to set up a new MSBU to collect tax money for dredging of canals. A bid has been accepted for the landscaping of the Roundabout area, and the shell sculpture is completed and stored in Sarasota. Neither project can be initiated until the new lights are turned on and evaluated. Two local boat operators are considering the possibility of providing passenger ferry service next summer while the bridge is closed. BJ also asked for volunteers to provide dockage and housing for EMS and Fire personnel and boats during that 45 day period. Golf carts may be needed also.

MAILBOXES/WASTE CONTAINERS

Bonnie Littrell reported that no further cluster mailboxes are planned at this time, but 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

Wayne Largent summarized the current activities of the Manasota and Sandpiper Key Advisory Committee. There are two new ordinances currently being studied by the County Legal staff. They set standards for noise and signage in our area. The Committee is now meeting twice a month.

NEW BUSINESS

Wayne asked for volunteers for a nominating committee to look for candidates for a President-elect and a Treasurer. Each office will require a full-time resident.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 12 at 1:30PM, in the Gulf-to-Bay Clubhouse. The guest speaker will be Wayne Salade, Charlotte County Emergency Manager.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bonnie Littrell told the membership about FISH of Englewood, a volunteer organization that provides transportation for the elderly or disabled to shopping or doctor's appointments. She urged people to volunteer for this interesting and rewarding activity. She can be reached at 475-2533.

Betty Sue Carroll said that those not present can pick up their Directories. Please call first, 475-8191.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Sue Carroll, Secretary