

**MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
MARINE RESOURCES TASK FORCE**

Town Hall – Council Chambers
2523 Estero Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Chair Veach. Members present: Tree Andre, Cristina Denegre, Bill Veach, and Keri Weeg.

Excused: Cheryl Clark, Peter Pine, and Ted Schindler.

Staff present: Keith Laakkonen

Council Liaison: Dan Andre

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of March 12, 2014

MOTION: Ms. Weeg moved to approve the minutes; second by Ms. Andre.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

VI. NEW ITEMS

Mr. Andre pointed out that external rack card holders need to be ordered for the brochures. Discussion was held regarding where to display the brochures and who would be responsible for distributing to specific areas.

Mr. Andre listed items implemented by the city of Dunedin that resulted in a platinum award from the Florida Green Building Coalition. Mr. Andre suggested that MRTF peruse the website. Chair Veach suggested creating animal silhouettes at beach accesses.

VII. CURRENT ITEMS

A. Beachscape Program (Veach)

Chair Veach reported that he was unable to locate contact information for property owners who had not responded to correspondence. Chair Veach indicated that the next step would be to submit newspaper articles. Chair Veach shared pictures of the

plantings and stated that they were doing well. Ms. Weeg stated that she would submit an article and Chair Veach would provide pictures.

B. Adopt a Beach (Andre)

Ms. Andre reported that Dave from Crusty Pete's offered to rework the original t-shirt design free of charge. Discussion was held regarding which area to focus on for a MRTF sponsored Adopt a Beach section. Consensus was reached for each member to independently research beach accesses.

Discussion was held concerning t-shirt design and color. Mr. Laakkonen reviewed the budget. Ms. Andre suggested ordering fourteen shirts in burnt orange. Mr. Laakkonen stated that he would order the shirts with input from Ms. Andre.

C. Community Outreach (Weeg)

Ms. Weeg reported that Taste the Beach was scheduled in May. Discussion was held regarding the feasibility of having a booth at the event. Mr. Laakkonen suggested that MRTF hold its own event next year.

D. Newspaper Articles (Denegre/Veach)

Ms. Weeg reported that the blue heron article written by Chair Veach was scheduled to run in the paper. Mr. Veach suggested creating a shore bird identification guide.

E. Water Quality - Rain Gardens (Weeg)

Mr. Laakkonen indicated that funding was available for three rain gardens. Discussion was held regarding training. Ms. Weeg and Ms. Andre volunteered to be trained to be trainers. Discussion was held regarding site selection, visibility, and publicity.

F. Water Quality - Position Paper (Veach)

Chair Veach discussed swales, Estero Blvd. improvements, and right of way. Mr. Andre stated that swales and culverts were built into the waste water management plan.

G. FAQs (Weeg)

Ms. Weeg provided a list of FAQs to members for their review.

H. Informational Sticker for Rental Boats (Clark)

No report.

I. QR Codes

No report.

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS

Mr. Laakkonen revealed that he was giving a presentation to the Audubon of Southwest Florida at the Calusa Nature Center on April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Laakkonen discussed required training concerning best practices for vendors driving on the beach. Chair Veach questioned if permits were required to be visible on vehicles. Mr. Laakkonen replied that they were instructed where to display the permit.

Ms. Andre requested clarification regarding enforcement of beach violations. Mr. Laakkonen replied that Beach Patrol was authorized to write tickets.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

X. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Add Florida Green Building Coalition, animal silhouettes on beach accesses, and brochures. Delete position paper and community outreach.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Andre moved to adjourn; second by Ms. Weeg.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Adopted 5/13/14 with/without changes. Motion by Andre
(DATE)

Vote: 5-0 Signature: Dei Weeg

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