



MINUTES

**FORT MYERS BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL/COMMUNITY RESOURCE ADVISORY BOARD
TOWN HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2523 ESTERO BOULEVARD
FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA 33931**

WORKSESSION

Monday January 26, 2011

2:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kiker called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Present with Mayor Kiker, Vice Mayor Raymond, Council members Babcock, Mandel and List, Town Manager Stewart and Town Clerk Michelle Mayher along with the Staff liaison Theresa Schober. Present for CRAB Miffie Greer, Jim Wray, Nancy Haengel, Mark Ludvigsen, Pam Koch and Jim Rodwell.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment Opened

No Public Comment

Public Comment Closed

IV. PUBLIC BEACH/BAY ACCESSES

Jim Rodwell requested additional guidance from Council regarding what Council would like CRAB to do with bay accesses, adding that he had taken the issue up with past Town Manager Janke, who advised him that there were no surveys on the properties.

Mayor Kiker stated the beach accesses were in different stages of repair, asking CRAB to look at the accesses and develop some standards, such as a look for the accesses and how best to operate them and possibly coming up with a budget number Council could later place into the budget.

Vice Mayor Raymond indicated it was a research project for CRAB, not one that they had to actually work on.

Councilmember Babcock felt the issue should be a low priority one for CRAB, making sure they contacted Public Works to find what they had planned for the beach accesses on the Gulf side, feeling the bay side accesses could be more complicated.

Mark Ludvigsen indicated the need to make the accesses more visible.

Mayor Kiker indicated he would give the issue a high priority, especially for those living on the accesses.

Pam Koch suggested CRAB obtain the plan from Public Works to assist the board.

Town Manager Stewart suggested CRAB be a bit creative and come up with a nice design that could be repeated from one access to another or rotate a design for the accesses. Mr. Stewart indicated there was a local design service wanting to do community work who may be a good source to contact. Town Manager Stewart continued by suggesting they move forward with the title search and surveys for the accesses.

Jim Wray asked if CRAB needed to intersect with the Comp. Plan while they were coming up with ideas.

V. PUBLIC RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

Jim Rodwell asked for guidance from Council since they had been told Council had programs for CRAB to address.

Theresa Schober indicated there was a donor recognition as well as a volunteer recognition program for the Mound House that needed to be addressed. Mayor Kiker stated there was a recognition program for Bay Oaks divided into levels regarding the amount of donation and the John Mulholland award program. Mayor Kiker noted he was hoping to see some continuity within the programs reminding the committee to keep in mind budgets.

Councilmember Babcock voiced his concerns over the varying amounts of money given and the recognitions, wanting to make sure that everyone was recognized for their donations, whatever they might be.

Discussion continued regarding the various ways CRAB could go in gathering ideas and processes to deal with public recognition programs.

VI. CRAB MISSION IN RELATION TO PUBLIC EDUCATION

Jim Rodwell asked Council if they still wanted CRAB to continue working toward educating the public regarding town programs. Mayor Kiker reviewed the earlier meeting with MRTF stating that they too could utilize the communications trailer during island events. Mr. Rodwell indicated the committee was thinking of bringing in outside people from the county or state to speak as a lecture series.

Discussion continued on all the various topics that could be addressed in a public lecture series.

VII. LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Jim Rodwell presented Council with copies of the rough draft for this year's 4 day Leadership Conference, providing a quick review of proposed speakers.

Mr. Rodwell indicated additional work needed to be done on the presentation manual and actually scheduling each aspect of the conference. CRAB had asked for \$4,000.00 from the town toward the conference.

Mayor Kiker asked if possibly the conference should be held every other year and whether there should be a cut off for attendees to which Mr. Rodwell stated there would need to be a minimum of 15 persons signed up to go forward.

Councilmember Mandel questioned the timing for the conference asking if it might not be better to hold the series during season as opposed to after a lot of people had left the island.

Mr. Rodwell indicated attendees needed to be a property owner or resident of Fort Myers Beach. Councilmember Babcock noted his hope to see the conference expand to twice a year and possibly more often, such as the Lee Grows program.

VIII. DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN TOWN COUNCIL & CRAB

Vice Mayor Raymond indicated the committee had the option to come before Council twice a month at the regular Council Meetings, as well as Mr. Raymond himself attending as many of the CRAB meetings as possible if he remains on Council after the election. Councilmember Babcock reminded the committee that the Council's place was to come to their meetings and listen not as a participant. Mayor Kiker did state there had been committees who did not want a Council member to attend their meetings.

Jim Rodwell addressed Council regarding how issues would be sent to CRAB, stating he had received information from all sorts of people.

Jim Wray asked for prioritization from Council regarding legislation, and what should be addressed and when.

Councilmember List suggested Council send the information to the committee liaison to pass along to the committee. Mayor Kiker noted that there needed to be an agreement that the committee did want to work on an issue.

Discussion continued on better avenues of communication between Council and CRAB as well as other committees.

Town Clerk Mayher noted that when Council presented an issue to the Town Manager and then on to the committee liaison and then on to the committee it should go to the entire committee to stay within the sunshine law.

Mayor Kiker allowed Mr. Ludvigsen to address his concern over the need for sidewalks and a bike path for the entire length of the island, as it had been 21 years he had been waiting for it to happen.

Mayor Kiker encouraged Mr. Ludvigsen to take a look at North Estero where the project had nearly been completed, anticipating that to be the outcome for the entire length of the island.

Councilmember Babcock addressed the time frame for a bike path, suggesting the committee look into the topic of the hidden bike path that had been discussed in the past.

Mr. Wray asked about some sort of signage, possibly electronic, in front of town hall providing information to the locals, regarding upcoming meetings, hurricane information, etc.

Councilmember Babcock suggested a town calendar indicating all events throughout the year on the island.

Mayor Kiker thanked all committee members for their time and efforts.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kiker adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM

Adopted _____ With/Without changes. Motion by _____

Vote: _____

Michelle D. Mayher, Town Clerk

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