

SIESTA KEY ASSOCIATION MEETING

Thursday, April 5, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Gene Kusekoski called the meeting to order. Present: Joyce Kouba, Gene Kusekoski, Catherine Luckner, Bob Miller, Marilyn Romanus, and Joe Volpe.

MINUTES

Joyce Kouba

February minutes were approved.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

Sheriff's Office

Sgt. Jason Mruczek

Sgt. Mruczek reported that this was the busiest spring break week yet there were no major problems. Extra deputies and patrols are on the beach. Beach access 2 has required additional patrol. Dave Thomas reported that speeding boats on the canals pose a danger to people and wildlife and requested additional patrol and enforcement. Residents' current enforcement is yelling at the boats. He also reported that the signs regarding speed are no longer in place. An attendee thanked the Sheriff's office for responding to crosswalk lighting that was not working properly. Another attendee thanked the Sheriff's office for responding to missing handicapped parking sign. An attendee requested help with dogs running loose at Beach Access 1 and enforcement of no parking after 9 p.m. Bob Miller thanked the Sheriff's office for ticketing people parking on Midnight Pass Road.

Make Siesta Drive Safer (MSDS)

Dee Ream

SKA supports the MSDS initiative. MSDS provided letter templates for individuals to communicate their support of MSDS initiatives to both the City and County Commissioners. Letters request lowering the speed limit to 30 mph, crosswalks, and better lighting. The speed limit will decrease if the County takes over the road. A letter template will be available on the SKA web site.

Emergency Services

Catherine Luckner

Officers from the fire station were all on call and could not attend the SKA meeting. However, they will make their presentation at the May meeting. Bob Luckner exhibited and provided information on home use of assisted defibrillators. PulsePoint.org is a national program where defibrillators are registered so that in an emergency you can find the those near you. The Pulsepoint.org app can be downloaded to your phone. Bob also provided information about ambu bags for CPR.

BOARD REPORTS

Membership

Bob Miller

SKA needs your support to continue the Big Pass litigation and to advocate with the County to preserve Siesta Key. Bob asked attendees to take SKA decals, offer them to friends. and ask them to join. Memberships give SKA more voice with the County Commission. Donations to the Siesta Key Environmental Defense Fund (SKEDF) allow SKA to continue its challenge to dredging Big Pass. Please join or renew your membership, get your friends to join, and donate what you can to SKEDF.

Lido/Big Pass Dredge

Catherine Luckner

The Administrative Appeal hearing was held December 12-19, 2017. SKA and SOSS2 jointly filed a brief outlining our recommendations to the judge, stating that the judge deny the proposal. If the judge decides to approve the permit, SKA will ask the civil court to impose the immediate injunction which it promised in the January hearing. SKA needs your financial support to pay for these legal expenses.

Promenade Development

Gene Kusekoski

Benderson submitted documents to address the insufficiencies identified by County staff, including a traffic survey. SKA is communicating with the Pine Shores organization on this project.

SKOD Zoning Ordinance Amendment

Gene Kusekoski

SKA's survey on the proposed amendment to the Siesta Key Overlay District (SKOD) setbacks resulted in 89% of members opposing any changes. SKA will voice that position to the County Commissioners and include comments made by survey respondents. The Commission continued the hearing to April 11 at 1:30 p.m. SKA encourages people to attend. A bus will be available for transportation. The proposed amendment has been modified to relate only to the CG property near the south bridge, rather than all CG property on the Key. New wording should be on the County web site.

PAID PARKING

Gene Kusekoski

Paid Parking for Siesta Beach will be discussed by the County Commission. SKA, the Siesta Key Condominium Council, and the Chamber of Commerce all did surveys on this issue. Results show that most people favor paid parking. There was divergence of opinion regarding whether County residents should get passes and how revenues should be spent. SKA's survey revealed that people felt that off-island parking was an important part of the parking solution for the Key.

GBSL VARIANCE for BEACH ACCESS 10

Catherine Luckner

SKA will send a letter to the County Commissioners supporting the Gulf Beach Setback Line (GBSL.) Contact County Commissioners with your thoughts on this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

SKA is working with a condo association on south Midnight Pass Road to get a crosswalk installed.

SKA is communicating with FDOT to get the existing crosswalks on Midnight Pass Road coordinated.

SKA is working on a new web site so you may notice things disappearing from the old web site.

Gene asked whether people would be receptive to starting the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Attendees felt this was not acceptable.

ADJOURNMENT

Gene adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kouba, Secretary

Siesta Key Association of Sarasota, Inc.

Next SKA monthly meeting is May 3, 2018 at 4:30 pm.