

# **SIESTA KEY ASSOCIATION MEETING**

**Thursday, February 1, 2018**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **MINUTES**

**Joyce Kouba**

January minutes were approved.

## **COMMUNITY REPORTS**

### **Sheriff's Office**

**Sgt. Jason Mruczek**

Sgt. Mruczek reported that there were no crime trends. The Sheriff's office continues to prepare for spring break and has developed an informational brochure including beach rules and tips for avoiding thefts from cars. The horse patrol will be on duty March through May.

### **Code Enforcement**

**Susan Stahley**

You can only advertise less than 30-day rental in appropriate zoning district. First case is coming up for this new code. An attendee reported that the porta-potty has not been removed from beach access at Avenida Messina. There should be a hearing on this case next month.

### **Candidate Forum**

**Catherine Luckner**

SKA is co-sponsoring a candidate forum with the Siesta Key Chamber of Commerce at the Gulf and Bay Clubhouse at 4 p.m. on February 5. The three candidates running for the vacated State representative position will introduce themselves and answer questions. Voting is February 13.

## **BOARD REPORTS**

### **Volunteer**

**Joyce Kouba**

SKA is looking for volunteers to help with various projects. If interested, contact Joyce.

### **Membership**

**Bob Miller**

SKA needs your support to continue the dredging litigation. Please join or renew your membership, get your friends to join, and donate what you can to the Siesta Key Environmental Defense Fund.

### **Lido/Big Pass Dredge**

**Catherine Luckner**

The Administrative Appeal hearing was held December 12-19, 2017. SKA is waiting for the certified transcript of the hearing so that we can file a brief outlining our recommendations to the judge. Once the transcript is available, we have 30 days to submit our brief. The judge will then issue his decision, possibly in 45 days. Catherine believes that SKA presented a strong case and demonstrated the modeling done by the US Army Core of Engineers (USACE) was not adequate to find “no significant impact.” Many of the numbers supplied by the USACE were grossly erroneous. 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. SKA has a \$10,000 matching fund. Every dollar you donate will be matched up to \$10,000. For a tax-deductible donation, donate to SKEDF.org.

### **Promenade Development**

**Gene Kosekoski**

Mid 2017, Benderson submitted a proposal to the County. The County responded that information provided was insufficient. In December, Benderson refiled, addressing the County’s comments. Benderson provided two documents: a 71-page response to staff concerns and a 544-page traffic study. Links to the documents will be on the SKA project page. Promenade is characterized as a horizontal mixed-use development which will capture traffic, meaning that people who live there will utilize services

there rather than traveling elsewhere. The project includes 417 condos and 65 hotel rooms. Benderson states that the project is under 18 units per acre. However, calculations show more like 20 units per acre. It appears that the hotel rooms are not counted in the density. Some road rerouting is proposed which appears to direct more traffic into the Pine Shores subdivision. Benderson committed to provide a shuttle. The County review should be available soon.

### **SKOD Zoning Ordinance Amendment**

**Joe Volpe**

The January 30 hearing for the proposed amendment to the Siesta Key Overlay District (SKOD) setbacks drew a standing-room only audience. Staff did not support the amendment as presented but would support working with the petitioner to reword his application. The Commission continued the hearing to April 11 so that staff and petitioner can work on the reworded amendment. Commissioner Maio stated he would never vote for a 50-foot tall building with a 2-foot setback. SKA and the Condominium Council will provide input to county staff. Two attendees objected that it appeared that the staff and petitioner were working hand in hand. SKA's letter to the County Commissioners was provided.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **BEACH ACCESS 10**

**Victoria Ochoa**

Victoria has set up a Facebook page, "Save Siesta Key Access 10," which you can join to get updates on what is happening with this property. The owner of property adjacent to Beach Access 10 has petitioned the County for a variance to build seaward of the Gulf Beach Setback Line. The County has requested additional information from the petitioner. Contact County Commissioners with your thoughts on this issue.

## **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

**Bob Luckner**

Bob reported that:

- The plant is mechanically complete and ready to go.
- Backup includes two electric pumps, a diesel and backup generator, two electric lines.
- After a few days of testing, the system will be online.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Catherine adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kouba

Secretary, Siesta Key Association

**Next SKA monthly meeting is April 5, 2018 at 4:30 pm.**