

Minutes
Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee
Thursday, May 1, 2008
Charlotte County Administration Center
Room #207B

Members Present

Dick Whitney, Acting Chair
Bruce C. McLean
John (Jack) Landis
Bill Weller

Staff Present

Commissioner Tom D'Aprile
Missy L. Christie, Environmental Specialist
Michael Poff, Coastal Engineering
Jane Starr, Recording Secretary

Members Excused

Robert Pierce
David Nellis

Guests

Kevyn Schweim, Coastal Wildlife Club

I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

The **Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee** meeting of May 1, 2008, began at 9:03am noting a quorum was present.

II. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Missy L. Christie will address the problem of dog control on the beach and **Bill Weller** will discuss the current vacancy in District IV.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was presented by **Bruce McLean** to accept the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee minutes as written. This was seconded by **Bill Weller** and the minutes for **April 3, 2008** and **April 10, 2008** were unanimously accepted.

IV. Chairman Comments

Acting Chair Whitney stated he investigated concerns that the lighting arrangement at Bayshore Park was objectionable to turtle nesting. He reported nesting is not occurring on this beach and the shielding on the lights does not pose a problem.

V. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner D'Aprile advised that bird nests have been cited on Stump Pass Beach and confirmed the geotextile tubes will not be removed until after October 31st when turtle nesting season is complete. **Acting Chair Whitney** offered the Committee's support and assistance as needed.

Acting Chair Whitney inquired about a notice in the newspaper advising of a septic system failure along Manchester Waterway and Spring Lake and asked if this was a concern for the County. **Commissioner D'Aprile** disclosed information he received from the Health Department saying this will be closely monitored.

Acting Chair Whitney inquired about the Regional Waterway Authority's plan to dredge a pipeline along the Peace River. **Commissioner D'Aprile** clarified the location and spoke on installation procedures.

VI. Old Business

Michael Poff provided an update on environmental monitoring and **Ms. Christie** spoke about the nesting locations on Knight Island. **Mr. Poff** added that an active season is anticipated and beach monitoring will be done in June.

Acting Chair Whitney welcomed **Kevyn Schweim** and invited him to introduce himself.

Ms. Christie presented members with the DVD presentation on Shorebirds that was originally shown last month without sound. Information was provided on additional species of nesting birds and it was stated this was filmed on a Charlotte County beach last year.

Acting Chair Whitney spoke further on the geotextile tubes stating he spoke with state park employees who expressed their concern about the possible erosion of the beach after the removal of the tubes.

Bill Weller offered information on candidate, Nate Cooley, who is eligible to apply for the vacancy in District 4. A discussion took place on the requirements for serving on the Committee. **Kevin Schweim** indicated he would also apply for the position.

VII. New Business

Ms. Christie spoke on the issue of dogs on the beach stating that in addition to health and public safety concerns, there is a detrimental effect to the nesting population and to the quality of our beaches as a result. She discussed steps the County has considered to rectify the situation and members and staff added their comments and suggestions. **Commissioner D'Aprile** confirmed there are no ordinances in place regarding beach access of animals other than a no dog law and a leash law that are already in place. **Ms. Christie** discussed a recent magazine article highlighting Don Pedro Island as being "Fido Friendly" and her concerns that this would only add to the problem. She will provide a copy of the article to the Recording Secretary for distribution. Discussion continued. **Acting Chair Whitney** thanked Ms. Christie for bringing this to the Committee's attention. It was decided to table the discussion to allow members time to formulate ideas and recommendations.

VII. Action Items

Acting Chair Whitney called attention to the memo from Commissioner Moore regarding the Committee's Goals and Objectives. **Jack Landis** provided an update on progress made to date. Comments were made by **Mr. Poff** and discussion ensued. It was stated the Charlotte County side of Manasota Key has already been deemed critical for erosion and Sarasota County is in the process of updating their side. **Mr. Poff** stated the best way to proceed would be to team with Sarasota County. **Commissioner D'Aprile** advised he will contact Dan Quick regarding negotiations. Discussion continued regarding beach renourishment on the north end of Palm Island and the south side of Stump Pass as well as a time line and costs. Other items were addressed including boat transportation to Manasota State Park and Don Pedro State Park.

VIII. Committee Reports

Acting Chair Whitney reported Laura Kleiss Hoeft will be scheduling a joint meeting between the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee, and the Marine Advisory Committee. Discussion took place concerning the best time and date for the meeting. **Acting Chair Whitney** will contact Parks and Recreation about advertising and advised he will also be attending their next regular meeting.

Mr. Landis reported on information he received concerning abandoned vessels in Chadwick Cove. **Ms. Christie** stated six vessels in this area have been tagged and will be removed in one week. Information was provided to **Mr. Poff** regarding the Feasibility Study for the mooring field.

(Commissioner D'Aprile left the meeting at 10:09)

IX. Correspondence and Communication - None

X. Staff Comments - None

XI. Public Comments

Ms. Christie and Mr. Poff responded to a question by **Kevyn Schweim** concerning an escarpment at Stump Pass stating the area is being closely monitored.

XII. Member Comments

Mr. Landis spoke about private sign posting on the beach and asked Missy to explain. She said letters have been submitted to Tallahassee to have them removed but she is unsure of the outcome at this time. Signs have infringed on federal waters making this a state issue. She will contact the Building Department regarding signage at Manasota Key. **Mr. Poff** discussed construction easements.

XIII. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, **October 2, 2008**, at 9:00am, in Room 207B. Members are encouraged to attend the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on May 7th, at 1:00pm at the Charlotte Sports Park, Bldg. A. A date for the joint meeting will be announced.

XIV. Adjournment

Acting Chair Whitney called the meeting to a close at 10:15am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Starr

Jane Starr
Recording Secretary