

Minutes
Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee
Thursday, October 2, 2008
Charlotte County Administration Center
Room #207B

Members Present

Robert Pierce, Chairman
Dick Whitney, Vice Chair
John (Jack) Landis
David Nellis

Staff Present

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

Excused

Kevyn Schweim
Bill Weller
Bruce C. McLean

Guests

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

The **Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee** meeting of October 2, 2008, began at 9:05am noting a quorum was not present at the start of the meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was presented by **Jack Landis** to accept the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee minutes as written. This was seconded by **Dick Whitney** and the minutes for **May 1, 2008** were accepted.

III. Additions/Deletions to Agenda - None

IV. Chairman Comments

Chair Pierce commented on the new dredging technique stating he felt this issue should have been acknowledged by the Committee before going before the Commission.

V. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner D'Aprile provided an overview of the experimental Catch Basin project and addressed **Chair Pierce's** concerns. He stating an informational presentation was viewed at a recent BCC meeting and suggested the speaker be contacted to present at the next BSAC meeting. He added that, like the Geo Textile Tubes, this is experimental and more information is needed before this could be authorized.

(David Nellis arrived at 9:10 establishing a quorum)

Chair Pierce pointed out it should be part of the Committee's function to assimilate information and report to County Commissioners before decisions are made. **Commissioner D'Aprile** agreed and stated he has suggested that further statistical information and costs be directed to BSAC. **Dick Whitney** proposed inviting the speaker to present at the November BSAC meeting. **Commissioner D'Aprile** said his office will provide contact information.

Michael Poff acknowledged he was asked to meet with the above mentioned individual on behalf of the County. He stated he had met with him approximately three years ago

and had asked the same questions to no avail. It was his impression that they expected the County to take the patent and do all research and testing. He said he offered his opinion on a better way to proceed and advised of issues that would need to be addressed.

Commissioner D'Aprile reported on the GEO Textile Tubes stating he has a meeting with Bob Ballard of DEP later in the month and advised Mr. Ballard has agreed to view the area by boat. It is his feeling the tubes have been working and he is hoping this meeting will reverse the decision to have them removed. He is confident that whoever fills his seat after the election will continue with this endeavor and he will inform them accordingly of its importance. **David Nellis** inquired about DEP's reasons for removing the tubes and discussion continued regarding the initial purpose of the experiment and problems that will result following removal. **Commissioner D'Aprile** said he felt the decision to remove the tubes was political in nature and he did not feel it would be cost effective. **Jack Landis** reported he responded to the Editor regarding a recent newspaper article on this issue and to his knowledge, his concerns were never addressed.

VI. Old Business

Update by Michael Poff – GEO Tubes/Dredging

Michael Poff expressed his view that the original premise of the project to restore Stump Pass to its alignment has been forgotten and the majority of the erosion on the south end of Manasota Key occurred when the channel was realigned in 2003. He provided historical data prior to the tube installation and stated he felt Beach Restoration, Inc. should be held accountable if proper monitoring reports were not provided. **Bob Pierce** added that the channel has moved tremendously to the south and noticeable deterioration to the lagoon needs to be addressed. **Michael Poff** advised the Board approved Coastal Engineering Consultant's contract for the 2009 dredging project and a recommendation will be provided by year's end. Discussion returned to the removal of the tubes, problems that could occur, and the costs involved. **Mr. Poff** confirmed that Beach Restoration, Inc. has stated they do not have the resources for removal and bids are now being accepted. **David Nellis** suggested reviewing previous meeting minutes as these issues were addressed when the project was first proposed. **Michael Poff** and **Commissioner D'Aprile** addressed additional questions and concerns.

Missy L. Christie advised she has received calls from residents inquiring about PVC pipes in a Palm Harbor lagoon. **Mr. Poff** and **Chair Pierce** stated they had no knowledge of any engineering projects in the area indicated.

Discussion continued regarding the GEO Textile Tubes and Dredging of the Pass.

Commissioner D'Aprile stated he will attend one more meeting with BSAC before his term expires. **Jack Landis** thanked the Commissioner on behalf of the Committee for his attendance and dedicated service.

(Commissioner D'Aprile left the meeting at 10:00am)

Dog Control on the Beach – Missy L. Christie

Missy L. Christie advised they are currently looking into many different projects and doing a collaborative effort with different enforcement agencies. She anticipates having things in place before the start of next season. **Jack Landis** inquired about a future dog park on South Beach. At **Chair Pierce's** request, **Ms. Christie** provided an update on the issue and stated they are working closely with Animal Control to enforce the ordinances presently in place. Through education, understanding, and acknowledgement, there has been good success and greater awareness has resulted in more cooperation from homeowners in protecting nesting habitats. Turtle nesting within the tube area was also addressed.

VII. New Business

Joint Advisory Board Meeting

Chair Pierce stated four (4) members of the Committee were in attendance. He felt that although it was nice to have a joint meeting, it was not necessarily pertinent to BSAC. **Jack Landis** agreed and noted there was no input from BSAC or MAC when creating the agenda. He added that the idea of having a joint meeting on a yearly or every other year basis would be a good idea.

Jack Landis gave an update on the recent Parks and Recreation Field Trip he attended stating only seven (7) people were in attendance, but it was very well done and he learned a lot. Questions were addressed and **Mr. Landis** described the area viewed and plans for the future.

VII. Action Items

Chair Pierce identified topics of discussion for the upcoming year and asked for additional topics that members would like to address. **Michael Poff** suggested looking into the acquisition of property near the Pass for a dog beach. **Chair Pierce** said he supported this idea and a discussion ensued. Missy L. Christie will obtain aerials of the Lemon Bay area.

Michael Poff suggested requesting Betty Staugler to provide an update on the Mangrove Restoration Project in Charlotte Harbor. **Dick Whitney** confirmed survey work has been done in this area and also suggested an update on the status of natural restoration. **Mr. Poff** added that it would be beneficial to have Ms. Staugler speak on what Florida Sea Grant does within the County and her role as Sea Grant Extension Agent.

VIII. Committee Reports - None

IX. Correspondence and Communication - None

X. Staff Comments

Missy L. Christie suggested inviting a speaker from the Florida Beaches and Shores Preservation Association to present on the Beach Watch Program. **Michael Poff** provided additional information and said he felt the Committee should recommend the County's participation in this program. A discussion ensued. **Chair Pierce** will contact Debbie Flack for more information.

Michael Poff confirmed that the application has been submitted for reimbursement of the 2009 dredging project and led a discussion regarding funding.

Missy L. Christie addressed a question about abandoned boat removals and stated the program will resume when more funding is available. She advised of an additional project sponsored by FWC and said she will be meeting with them next week. Seventeen boats have been identified and she anticipates moving forward in the next few weeks.

(Missy L. Christie left the meeting at 10:41a.m.)

XI. Public Comments - None

XII. Member Comments - None

XIII. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, **November 6, 2008**, at 9:00a.m. in Conference Room 207B.

XIV. Adjournment

Chair Pierce called the meeting to a close at 10:42am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Starr

Jane Starr
Recording Secretary