

**Little Gasparilla Island Advisory Board Meeting
August 15, 2008
Cedar Point**

In Attendance

Bob Hill
Bill Dallas
Barry Hurt
Phyllis Nesmith
Jie Shao – Growth Management

Absent

Rande Ridenour
Ken Bonds
Carolyn Dupree

Meeting was called to order.

Bob Hill recognized that there was a quorum.

The first item on the agenda for Old Business was a report from Steve Farmer. Steve was not yet in attendance so this item was tabled for the moment.

Second item on the agenda for Old Business was the attendance issue for LGI Board Members. Bob Hill discussed the letter that he sent to LGI Board members on August 3, 2007. This letter indicated the need for the Board to adhere to the attendance guidelines set forth by the County Commission.

Jie Shao provided members a copy of resolution 2004-062.

The problem comes with owners associations having many part time residents. The guidelines indicate that a member of the board can be removed from office, with or without cause, by a majority of the Board of County Commissioners, if a committee member is absent form three (3) consecutive committee meetings without satisfactory excuse acceptable by the Committee Chairman. Any member who is absent for more than one-third of the Committee's meetings in a given fiscal year, it shall be deemed, that the member has tendered his/her resignation from such committee.

The Board discussed having the ability to appoint an At Large position to complete a term of an Owners Association committee member leaving the Board if the Owners Association does not name a replacement.

There was further discussion of what to do when an At Large member term is expiring.

Barry Hurt made a motion asking the resolution be reworded to allow Owner Associations to have someone appointed 60 days **prior** to the expiration date of an At Large member.

Phyllis Nesmith seconded the motion.

There was no discussion. Vote taken. Unanimous Vote in favor of motion.

Jie Shao will take this amendment before the Board of County Commissioners by September 9, 2008.

Bob Hill recognized Steve Farmer for discussion on the Little Gasparilla Island Fire and Rescue.

Steve Farmer first announced that the volunteer department was back in business after the departure of Gene Surdam. He indicated that a Sarasota firefighter/EMS, Michael Anderson, is retiring and currently lives on the island. Steve has talked with him about providing some assistance with the LGI Fire and Rescue. He has indicated his willingness to do so.

Steve met with Chief DiDio to discuss the volunteer fire department and the possibility of establishing an Independent Fire District.

Steve has met with Bob Cripp, an attorney from Naples who set up the Capitiva Independent Fire District (IFD). Capitiva and LGI are similar. Steve is gathering information from experienced personnel in order to assist him in creating the IFD for Little Gasparilla Island. This would replace the volunteer department and be funded by the island residents. Capitiva established their IFD 10 years ago. Their annual budget is much higher than LGI would need.

Bob Hill asked if there was an anticipated amount per resident and if it would be ad valorem or per unit.

Steve indicated that decisions on this would be made when documents for the IFD are created.

Steve indicated a fundraising letter would be going out to residents of the island to assist in funding the volunteer department. This letter will include information on the establishment of the IFD.

Barry Hurt asked if LGI would need to meet requirements of the State Fire Marshall. Steve indicated that we would have to meet these requirements. For example we would need equipment to meet requirement for a continuous water flow. Jack Boyer cannot supply the water necessary so a pumper would be necessary to pump the water from the bay or ponds on the island.

Bob Hill suggested that Steve start preparing a plan/budget for the IFD. Steve will get the committee a list of things that must occur before and IFD can be established. Steve indicated that it would be at least 1 ½ years before the establishment of an IFD.

Steve asked the Board to ask islanders to email him with pros/cons on the establishment of the IFD.

Bob Hill thanked Steve for attending the meeting and keeping the Board up to date.

Bob Hill indicated that the new business to be discussed was to have a preliminary discussion on the Zoning Ordinance for LGI.

Jie Shao indicated that she needs to know what kind of usage the residents want besides Single Family Residences, conforming and legal non-conforming condos. What kind of commercial businesses are wanted on the Island?

There was a question from a homeowner about businesses that are currently run out of homes on LGI and whether they would be approved in the Zoning Ordinance.

Jie Shao indicated that these home occupational licensed businesses could continue and would not be included in the 3 acre commercial maximum for the island.

Bob Hill stated that these business need to conform to the standards set by the Charlotte County Board of Commissioners, i.e., possession of an Occupational License.

Bob indicated that the Board would be advising the CCBCC on the approval and issuance of commercial businesses on LGI.

Barry Hurt stated that the LGI Board should set up guidelines for commercial businesses that are for the good of the island residence.

Phyllis Nesmith asked if it would be appropriate to appoint a sub-committee to work with Jie to prioritize business with the needs of the island. She suggested three members of the LGI Board and 2 or 3 non Board Members.

Barry Hurt, Bob Hill volunteered to be on the sub committee.

Jie Shao also indicated that the LGI Board needs to think about signage, design standards and landscaping buffers. The Zoning Ordinance has to be completed by October so it can go before the County Planning and Zoning in December and the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners in January or February.

Bob Hill expressed his appreciation for Phyllis Nesmith and her service on the Board. This is her lasts meeting. Paul Holmes has been nominated to replace Phyllis.

Bob indicated to Jie that he would like the next board meeting to be in Murdock on September 12 and have the following county staff attend the meeting:

James Evett
Shawn Horton
Erin Mullen-Travis

The meeting room to be announced.

Meeting Adjourned