

Little Gasparilla Island Advisory Committee Minutes  
November 13, 2009 1:00 P.M.

- Call to Order and Roll Call
  - Bob Hill called the meeting to order and noted all committee members were present except Carolyn Dupree.
- Introduction of Guests
  - Bob Hill introduced Mr. and Mrs. Honeycutt as guests of the meeting
- Minutes of the Last Meeting
  - Bob Hill noted that copies of the minutes from the October meeting will be forwarded to all committee members and approved at the next meeting.
- Old Business
  - Fire/EMS Survey  
Bob Hill stated that Chief DiDio suggested he change the wording in the survey to read Fire Fighter/Medical First Responder (MFR) instead of FF/EMT. MFR is able to perform tasks such as administer AED's , splints, CPR, etc. and work toward stabilizing the patient for transport off the island.

Bob Hill updated all present regarding a meeting between himself and several people from the county (county attorney, personnel from finance and MSBU, etc.) regarding the latest draft version of the survey. Bob gave a summary of the options: 1. Essentially keep the current arrangement 2. The "Useppa Model whereby each home/condominium would pay \$350 per year and each lot would pay \$125 per year. This would generate approximately \$200,000 annually. Mike Anderson asked if there was any mention of taxes that were paid currently. Bob Hill went over how the Useppa Model worked with two people being crossed trained as FF/EMT's, 2% paid to the county for collection of funds, etc.

Bob Hill explained how two letters would go out to all island property owners, the first letter being 5 pages and including a cover letter and descriptions of options 1 and 2, a Useppa model fact sheet (which Bob Hill read to all present) and the Useppa model budget. The second letter to be mailed about four days later would be the survey mailed by us with a return envelope stamped and addressed to Tara Musselman with Charlotte County. No one on the island would see the completed, returned surveys

Bob Hill explained by the second county meeting in January we should have the results of the survey and find out if we should move forward. Paul Holmes noted that the cover letter should read that the Triboard concluded that two options should be outlined. The surveys will have a required return date of two to three weeks. Bob Hill stated that two public hearings would be held. He also explained that the LGI MSBU isn't a typical MSBU because

the county involvement was basically collecting money. The County Commission will vote on the MSBU after the survey is collected.

- Old Business
  - DEP Docks/Enforcement

Bob Hill gave a summary of issues regarding the DEP and unpermitted docks. Bob explained the correct procedure regarding the permitting and building of docks and the payment of submerged land leases. Owners that have added on to their docks have been told to rip off the unpermitted portions or pay a \$10,000 per day fine. Several of the island residents have spoken with the DEP noting that Little Gasparilla Island is unique and DEP has agreed to discuss possible solutions. Bob Hill suggested possibly banding together to form associations to maintain their docks and enter into submerged land leases with the DEP. Bob asked for constructive ideas and solutions from everyone and Tom McCoy suggested forming a committee to address this issue. Barry Hurt spoke about legislation proposed in the Florida Senate originating in Hernando County regarding this issue at a residential level. He said it will be important to make sure this is appropriate for Little Gasparilla Island.
  
- New Business
  - Attendance

Bob Hill went over the Little Gasparilla Island Advisory Committee rules regarding attendance of its members. He stated that the board members needed to be present at 2/3 of the meetings. Bob Hill and Roxann Read spoke about advertising to fill the vacancy on the board and Bob said he would contact her further about this issue.
  
- Comments From Committee Members
  - Barry Hurt spoke about a proposal to take affect in 2011 regarding oyster harvesting between the months of May and October. He said that oysters from any gulf state could not be sold during this period unless they were treated post harvest. He asked that anyone concerned with this issue voice their opinion on the petition at [saveourshellfish.org](http://saveourshellfish.org).

Bob Hill thanked Midge O'Hara for helping Charlotte County collect the correct addresses for all island property owners which will be used in the mailing of the surveys. Bob Hill adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m. The next regular meeting will be 12/11/09 at Cedar Pointe Park @1 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Carey Beychok