

DRAFT MINUTES
SOUTH GULF COVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SGCAC)
Wednesday, May 28, 2008

Growth Management Conference Rm. B-207 – 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kendall Leach
April Chattinger
Yvonne Erimirio
Jim Benson

STAFF

Jie Shao, *Staff Liaison*
Gayle Moore, *Recorder*

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Sandy Slater, *Chairperson*

GUESTS

Karen Ireland
Karen Price
Darcie Nicolosi

I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Vice-Chair Kendall Leach called the May 28, 2008 meeting of the SGCAC to order at 9:02 a.m. in the Growth Management Conference Room B-207 and it was noted a quorum was present.

Mr. Leach introduced Ms. Nicolosi from Code Compliance and spoke about the signs that had been placed in the community for Advisory Committee functions. Discussion ensued on the types of permitted signs the Advisory Committee could use and where the signs can be placed in terms of the County's right-of-way (ROW). ***Ms. Nicolosi*** indicated that "sandwich board signs" such as those the Committee currently used, were illegal signs under Charlotte County Code, and that no signs of any description are allowed in the ROW, which was defined as 15 feet from the edge of the road pavement, on both sides of the road. ***Guest Karen Price*** spoke about allowable signs, referencing the 2008 County Code about signs on private property; it was agreed that signs on private property were OK with permission of the property owner. Further discussion ensued on signage alternatives the community could consider.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

After review of the draft minutes, ***Ms. Chattinger*** moved that the minutes of the April 23, 2008 meeting be approved as corrected, and ***Mr. Benson*** seconded the motion.

III. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

IV. **OLD BUSINESS**

Community Plan Review

Mr. Leach related that Chair Slater, Ms. Chattinger and he had gone before the Board of County Commissioners with their plan review material, to have the committee renewed for another five year term. In particular, he noted a comment made by Commissioner D'Aprile that was complimentary to the Committee and included the other organizations in South Gulf Cove, remarking on how well the members worked together. The Commission did pass the resolution renewing the Committee for another five years.

Public Safety/Health, Pedestrian/Bikeways, FireWise Community, Cove Connection

Ms. Chattinger noted that the Community's FireWise group was created so recently that they were not eligible to apply for the million-dollar grant available to communities with the

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FireWise designation; another requirement is that they must be a municipality. Therefore, the group has approached Charlotte County for their help and cooperation in applying for the grant. Mr. Herbert is the County liaison who will be assisting the group. **Ms. Chattinger** also noted the requirement that the community contribute 25% in either money or hours; because they would need to contribute hours, the point was made that they would need to have very good record-keeping for all hours volunteered.

Regarding the Penny Tax allocation for bikes and pedestrian pathways that the South Gulf Cove community had requested during the public hearings, **Ms. Chattinger** stated that the allocations were made to specific roads that were not within the community, and also limited to sidewalks around schools. She felt the community would not receive funds, but that the Commissioners now were more aware of the Cove Connector group and their goals.

Ms. Chattinger also reported on the most recent brunch which netted about \$600. The next brunch will be held the second weekend in September as the group will take the summer off. A Harvest Festival is also being planned for the month of October.

She also raised the notion of an ordinance to require sidewalks be installed for all new construction in the community; that would leave the "blanks" to be filled-in at some point, but all the construction would be less expensive if done at that point rather than later on. Further discussion ensued on this topic.

Parks, Park Master Plan, Entranceways, Land Acquisition, Funding Resources

Ms. Ermirio reported first on the entranceway signs, noting that there had been a design update to answer the concern that lettering needed to be large enough to be read from the road. Further discussion ensued, especially regarding the additional cost for including separate signs for each individual street name, and the varying space issues at the different streets.

[At this point, Guest John McGuire entered the meeting.]

Discussion also turned to the "bulletin board" sign that would be near the entranceway sign, facing so that travelers leaving the community could read it. **Mr. Leach** reminded all that the HOA membership would expect to see a graphic of the final design before the design was finally put out for bids for construction. **Ms. Price** clarified that it is the residents that want to see the final design, since the construction of the signs is being paid for with MSBU funds. **Guest John McGuire** asked how the funding would be handled for the bulletin board signs; **Mr. Leach** suggested that the most logical thing would be to fund that out of MSBU monies as well.

Ms. Ermirio continued her presentation, next discussing Parks. She noted that even though Doc Pickhardt did get the mangrove-trimming permit, he was not able to get the project done before he left to go up north until October. He did give a well-attended workshop before he left, and said he was willing to give another when he returned.

Regarding the Master Park Plan, **Ms. Ermirio** stated she was in the process of starting another park committee to deal with this issue. There was discussion whether current Advisory Committee members could also serve on the Parks Committee; the consensus was that it was not a good idea. Regarding the Master Park Plan itself, **Guest Karen Ireland** gave her comments, which were essentially negative as the Plan appeared to be a rehash of what the original committee had done. **Ms. Ermirio** agreed, stating her concern that the cost of the Master Park Plan was coming out of the community's MSBU funds when it did not

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represent new work; there was general agreement that it was not worth the money as it now stood. **Ms. Ermirio** advised the Committee members that she would be out of town until early August and would not be addressing the matter before she left.

Zoning and FLUM; Stormwater Report

Mr. Leach noted that the group was awaiting information from the HOA attorney in order to circulate the amended and revised Deed Restrictions for membership approval.

Regarding the intersection of SR 776 and 771, **Mr. Leach** had not spoken to the engineer recently, but is looking for the work to be going forward before the end of the month; **Guest Karen Ireland** said she had seen DOT workers doing prep work at the intersection very recently, so it seemed to be underway.

Regarding the LakeWatch program, **Mr. Leach** said he had received further clarification about what the community volunteers need to do as part of the project; he also indicated he currently has about 12 volunteers. He spoke briefly about what the volunteers' activity would entail. Further discussion ensued about what collection points would be used.

Scenic Highway

Mr. Benson spoke next regarding a Scenic Highway trash pick-up event along SR 771, advising that he had commitments for a trailer, some golf carts, disposal, etc., and the next thing would be to establish a date and get some signs created to encourage community involvement. Regarding the Scenic Highway designation, he reported no progress at present, but noted that he would be attending the June 3rd meeting and getting immersed in the project.

There was a brief discussion regarding the recent rash of burglaries in the South Gulf Cove and Rotonda communities.

Guest John McGuire asked a question regarding the trash pick-up event, particularly what area was being targeted. **Mr. Benson** responded that he hoped to cover the entire length of the 771 roadway bordering the community because they had golf carts available; he conceded that it might be a bit much to hope for, but it would depend on the total number of volunteers. **Guest Karen Ireland** suggested identifying particular problem areas as a place to start and then working outward from those spots. The suggestion was made to utilize the HOA website to help advertise the event.

There was a brief break and then **Staff Liaison Jie Shao** joined the meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Summer Schedule

Members discussed their availability during the summer, in order to set the meetings. Tentatively (pending further information about Ms. Slater's availability) the committee decided to schedule a meeting in June and then to skip the July meeting, and have a meeting in August.

SGCAC Display and Contributions at Community Events

This agenda item was suggested by Ms. Slater; Guest Karen Price explained that it referred to setting aside tables at events like the Brunch fundraiser, so that different groups within the community can have a presence there to answer questions.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

VII. **STAFF COMMENTS**

Ms. Shao stated she had received the plan amendment application from Dennis Fullenkamp for the 1,279 acres just north of the community, adjacent to the Village of Holiday Lakes. She said she would keep the group up to date on the progress of the application, but noted that staff would be working with the applicant to meet the best interests of Charlotte County citizens. **Guest Karen Price** indicated where the tract of land was located along the Interceptor; she also said she thought the State had concluded that development there had to be on one-acre parcels. **Ms. Price** said she would gather any documentation she had on the status of the land usage. Further discussion ensued on possible impacts from the proposed development.

VIII. **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Leach asked Ms. Shao if she knew anything about the airport expansion in Rotonda Airport Park; she was not aware of it, but community members had heard about it on the news. **Guest John McGuire** said he had a DRC case number for the project, DRC-P-08-10; the meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 29th. Ms. Shao left the meeting to get more information on the project; when she returned, Ms. Price gave her the dimensions being requested for the expansion of the runway and the construction of new airpark residences with hangars. Further discussion ensued.

IX. **NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the **South Gulf Cove Advisory Committee** is **Wednesday, June 25, 2008** from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon in the **Growth Management Conference Room (B-207)**.

At 10:39 a.m. **Vice-Chair Leach** stated: There being no further business to come before this committee, I declare the meeting adjourned.