

MEETING MINUTES
ALLIGATOR CREEK WATERWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 12, 2014 – Regular Meeting
10:00 a.m. – Public Works Conference Room

Attendees: Ken Fahrbach, Ed Minzer, and Mark Vaivoda

Absent: Howard Brooks (excused), Robert Robinson (unexcused), and Michael Shaughness (excused)

County: Dawn Harrison and Sandy Wright

Membership terms were reviewed.

The minutes from January 9, 2014 were approved as written.

Unfinished Business:

- Dredging Update – There were no updates provided to the Committee. Ms. Harrison has a call into Coastal Engineering and will update the members via email once the information becomes available. The Committee requested a status update that includes a timeline for the project. Mr. Minzer stated that he spoke with Mr. Mopps a couple weeks ago and was told then that the County is still waiting for approval of the maintenance dredge to 5 feet and it would likely be June before work would begin. There was discussion regarding saving time on the project by having the Purchasing Department put the project out for bids while waiting for the permits to be approved. Mr. Quick stated that projects are not put out to bid prior to permit issuance due to State and Federal agencies sometimes changing permit conditions; the contractors must comply with those conditions and the bid specifications are written based on the issued permit. The State has always stated that they would not allow dredges deeper than 5 feet; however they maybe reconsidering.
- There was extensive conversation regarding dredging internal canals. Citizens are complaining of big rocks at the entrance of some of the canals. Maps were reviewed that showed the areas in question are outside of the MSBU main channel area. It was suggested at a previous meeting that the residents be petitioned to join the MSBU. If 51% of the citizens are in agreement with joining the MSBU there would have to be a special assessment to fund a study and survey for the inner canals before the amount of the assessment could be determined. After a survey is complete, maybe new properties would pay more to make up for the fees they have not paid in the past, due to being outside the MSBU. It may be possible to form a sub unit to address the inner canals. Mr. Marty stated that he has the same problem. There are many large rocks that cause him to have to zig zag down the canal. A resident had a boat lift installed in his area and he has to really hug the pilings to get through without hitting the rock and causing damage to his boat. A large rock can present a different problem and may or may not be able to be removed. Ms. Harrison stated that internal canals are not in the ordinance so the Committee can't fund this. Dedication of the waterways may also be an issue if they are not dedicated to the County.

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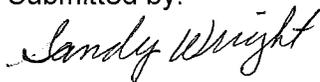
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- Mr. Marty identified an area where undeveloped and unmaintained lots are growing into the canal and have almost closed off access. Ms. Harrison will follow up to see if there is something that can be done. Funding would come from another source and not from the MSBU. This MSBU only maintains the main channel. Windmill Village dredges their private canals when deemed appropriate using funds from the Association. The Village discussed turning the canals over to the County or City of Punta Gorda at one time however; the residents didn't want to make the canals public. Mr. Marty stated that he is extremely reluctant of investing and building a home on his lot with these issues.
- Mr. Fahrback sent an email regarding spoil sites. There is no update at this time. The property owner is willing to talk to the County. Ms. Harrison will follow up with Mr. Mopps.
- The Committee would like to invite Coastal to the next meeting.
- The Committee members want to attend the pre-bid meeting and the opening of the bids. These meetings are open to the public and are available on the purchasing website.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 5, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Submitted by:



Sandy Wright
Public Works Department

