

MEETING MINUTES
HARBOUR HEIGHTS WATERWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 15, 2008
9:30 a.m.

Attendees: Joe Fleming, Larry Rand, Ken Wangler, Lee Phillips, Mel Staudmyer
County - Dawn Harrison, Chuck Mopps, Kim Raymond
Absent - Steve Johnson, Jr.
Guests - Maggie Scott, David Steele

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Minutes: The Committee unanimously approved the February 13, 2008, minutes as submitted.

Business:

- Mr. Staudmyer was welcomed as the new alternate member on the Committee.
- Mr. Fleming reported that the County Attorney will not approve the off-water properties, because there is no direct benefit. No further action will be taken.
- Mr. Staudmyer reported that countywide dredging is being discussed again by the Board of County Commissioners, and a program is being developed by a variety of state agencies. The program will not be ready for about eight years.
- Mr. Mopps stated there is one County permit for all interior man-made canals, and a permit is needed for the outside channels. Mr. Fleming stated that studies for their waterway reflect an eight to nine year cycle.
- A map of the dredging survey was presented to the members. The survey shows that approximately 16,841 cubic yards of material will need to be removed. Mr. Mopps stated that, due to multiple projects in progress, contractors are not bidding on new projects. He suggested advertising in mid-January 2009. Mr. Staudmyer made a motion that Mr. Mopps be given the discretion to advertise the bid at a time that is to the Committee's best advantage. Mr. Wangler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. Mopps explained the difficulty the contractor will have during the Winter tides.
- Mr. Mopps said more spoil sites are needed. There is a large site at the end of San Marino, but the property owner wants his seawall rebuilt and dock removed. The County does not guarantee the type of material placed on these sites, which has led to unbuildable lots in the past. The County now removes the material and transports it to a permanent site, once it is dried. Mr. Mopps explained that temporary spoil sites will be placed back into their original condition.
- Mr. Wangler inquired about the ratio of cost to quality between a mechanical dredge and a hydraulic dredge. Mr. Mopps explained there is no quality difference.

- Coastal Engineering will do a bathymetric survey after dredging is completed.
- The Committee reviewed the 2008/09 budget. The MSBU collects about \$156,520 a year from 391 ERU's (equivalent residential unit). An ERU is considered one buildable lot. There was discussion about decreasing the assessment rate after April 2009, but members agreed to wait until after the bid was submitted. Mr. Phillips suggested that a plan be established, along with a cost estimate, to determine an accurate rate. Mr. Staudmyer motioned that the Committee hold a budget and assessment meeting between April 15, 2009, and May 15, 2009. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- There was discussion about acquiring permanent spoil sites for future dredging. Mr. Mopps will research County and MSBU-owned property for viable sites. Mr. Wangler inquired about the property on Peace River Drive and Balboa. Ms. Harrison will submit the list of properties designated as good locations.

Open Floor:

- Ms. Maggie Scott inquired about a possible spoil site at Broadpoint and Voyager. Per Mr. Fleming, this would be a good permanent site, as it is not on the water.
- There was discussion about the MSBU purchasing property for permanent spoil sites. The County Attorney will need to rewrite the ordinance to allow this.
- Ms. Scott inquired about cleaning Desoto Canal, which affects their area.
- Mr. Fleming requested posting the MSBU meeting minutes on the Civic Association website. Ms. Harrison explained the minutes are not approved until the next meeting. Mr. Fleming will post a synopsis of the meeting to the website.

Action Items:

- Ms. Harrison will provide a new 2008/09 budget and clarify the interest paid.
- Mr. Fleming will suggest other spoil sites to Ms. Harrison and Mr. Mopps.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the Charlotte County Public Works Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Harrison
Municipal Services District Representative