

CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, September 2, 2008

**Board Members present:** Jerry Murphy, Ron Delp, Lisa Cowley, Anne Garris, Ross Concklin, Mara Basic, Rosemarie Swisshelm Bonnington, Patrick Gallagher, David Ramos, Ellie Holmes

**Board Members absent:** Kim Porte, Candy Zimmerman, Allan Avery, Pat Power

**Guests:** Fire Chief, Jamie Geer, Operations Chief, Richard Riley, Beach Branch Librarian, Linda Hamrell

Chief Geer announced the relocation, effective Sep 1, of the Emergency Medical Service vehicle from Clearwater Beach Fire Station to The North Greenwood station. He explained that there will be a trial period for this reallocation of resources. The Beach EMS unit will be posted to the North Greenwood area and the remaining beach engine will be upgraded to an Advanced Life Support (ALS) engine with 4 personnel. This change is the result of many factors including budget reductions as a result of Amendment 1 and more calls from the Greenwood area than from the Beach area. After the trial period there will be an evaluation. Chief Geer stated that there should not be any difference in response times.

Linda Hamrell reported that effective Sep 29, the Library will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The City Library System must reduce expenditures for 2008-2009 by \$400,000 without closing any branches. For the present, Linda has a helper, but volunteers are sorely needed. Prospective volunteers please contact Linda at work by calling 462-6890; or by stopping by the Library; or E-mail her at: [linda.hamrell@myclearwater.com](mailto:linda.hamrell@myclearwater.com). Linda will lead monthly book talks starting this month and will meet the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM at the Beach Recreation Center.

Anne Garris will be starting a writing group for people who wish to develop their writing skills. Call Anne at 446-4410 for dates and times. The next meeting for The Friends of the Library will be announced at a later date.

MINUTES of the previous board meeting (May 2008) were approved as published on the website.

The TREASURER'S REPORT was presented and accepted after discussion. David Ramos drew our attention to the costs involved in the Triangle Park project.

#### **Committee Reports**

Beautification: Jerry reported that Pat and Susanne continue to maintain and plant!

Government: Jay Keyes reported that the City Council unanimously approved funding for the Jolley Trolley for another year. The Council is also contemplating buying the Royalty Theatre for five million dollars. Jay also discussed the two South Beach parking proposals. The first proposal involves the City purchasing parcels of land in order to build a parking garage. The second proposal came from a local developer. His proposal would involve the City leasing his parking garage spaces for a certain amount of time and with certain concessions from the City.

Business: Rosemarie Swisshelm Bonnington reports that businesses have closed and that business isn't good for those still hanging in there.

Membership: Jerry Murphy reported that there are now 129 member households. Of those 129 households, we have 86 email addresses. The membership rosters were mailed recently.

Charter Review: Jerry Murphy asked the board members to read and review the charter; taking note of any typos and content. He will be asking directors to critically look at our charter to see if changes are in order and to forward comments to David MacNamee, Charter Review Committee Chair.

Ad Hoc Committee for Fund Raising Golf Tournament 2008: Jay Keyes reiterated that this year the fund raiser was cancelled due to the overall poor economic environment. Maybe next year we will have a "Sponsored" golf tournament.

Ad Hoc Committee re: Post Office: Anne Garris reported that there is nothing to add.

### **Current Business**

Clearwater Awards to Neighborhoods: Ron Delp reported that he had submitted the report mid-August. The report encompassed 7 social events and 9 civic activities. The next step is a presentation on September 16 at 3:30 PM at a location to be announced. The team of 5 plus 2 consultants diligently prepared the presentation, honing the hours worth of material to a lean 25 minutes. There are 12 to 14 Neighborhoods competing this year.

STR/NCE with the City: Ron Delp and Jerry Murphy discussed the current status of the meetings with the city in reference to illegal STR. Jerry, Ron, Dave Ramos, Ray Massieu, and Ross Concklin have met with City personnel eight times since the first meeting on March. These meetings involved working with the City in an attempt to start the development of processes for gathering information on illegal STR; enforcement processes of those properties violating city codes with respect to STR; and processes for identifying and removing non-conforming properties that lose their status for various reasons. There was also a meeting with State Representative Frishe to explore the possibility of STR remedies at the state level.

Legg-Mason Plan for Cabana Club on Sand Key: Jerry Murphy reported that Legg-Mason has asked for postponements of earlier scheduled hearings. The Community Development Board is scheduled to consider this proposal at their meeting on Sep 16 at 1:00 PM. Jerry stated that the City Council will probably Rule on the Plan, Staff recommendation and CDB recommendation at the City Council's September 18 meeting. Jerry reiterated our support of the SKCA position and the CBA opposition to L-M plans. Jerry has committed CBA support to the Save Our Neighborhoods (SON) committee. Last July CBA sent letters to all levels of the City involved in the decision; supporting SON and objecting to the developer's overly intense and overreaching requests for variances.

### **Unfinished Business**

Status of Triangle Park Improvements: David Ramos reported that the City had provided him with a listing of plants that would work well for the park. With this listing David has approached the City recommended nursery and obtained prices for the plants. David will approach another nursery in the hopes that he will be able to obtain the same plants at a reduced cost. The irrigation system is in place and working. The City provided the labor for the installation of the irrigation system. There will be a monthly utility charge for the irrigation. The original plan called for an electrical power source at the park. Upon further investigation David found that the cost to provide power was exorbitant and therefore we will not have a power source at the park. The original estimated costs of \$ 8,000.00 have been reduced by approximately \$ 2,000.00 to \$ 3,000.00.

Carlouel Entrance Improvements: Jerry Murphy mentioned the completion of the entrance. The result is a greatly enhanced entrance to Carlouel.

### **New Business**

CBA Position Regarding Beach Parking Facility: The CBA has taken the position that we will communicate to the City urging the City not to build a parking garage on the beach without a plan that outlines needs, assets available, impact on businesses, compatibility with Beach By Design and considers ALL sites. Jerry will send a letter to this effect to the City within the week.

Directorship Status: Jerry Murphy reviewed the current tenure status of the board. It was determined that a replacement for the vacancy during year group 2008-2010 should be filled as soon as possible by the Board of Directors. This was caused by a person who had expressed a willingness to stand for election as a Director for three years, was elected to serve during the December Annual meeting, but later declined to serve and asked to be disassociated from CBA.

Nominating Committee for CBA Board: Ellie Holmes volunteered to chair this committee. Jerry is asking two more members to come forward to assist Ellie. The committee's slate of nominees is due at the October meeting.

Jerry asked the Directors to review the CBA Board Meeting September 2, 2008 Agenda and be prepared to express thoughts and opinions when his Email is sent on Sep 3.. Specifically, those items that were not addressed at this meeting are to be considered..

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00pm. Most of the new business agenda was not addressed due to the two-hour limit on use of the room. Jerry will communicate with directors right away and solicit responses to that part of the agenda.

Submitted by Lisa Cowley for Kim Porte