

**MINUTES
LONGBOAT KEY TOWN COMMISSION
SARASOTA BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION
JOINT MEETING - OCTOBER 1, 2012**

Town of Longboat Key

Jim Brown, Mayor
Dave Brenner, Vice Mayor
Jack Duncan, Commissioner
Lynn Larson, Commissioner
Hal Lenobel, Commissioner
Phillip Younger, Commissioner
Pat Zunz, Commissioner

Also Present:

Dave Bullock, Town Manager
Trish Granger, Town Clerk

Sarasota County Commission

Christine Robinson, Chair
Carolyn J. Mason, Vice Chair
Joseph A. Barbetta, Commissioner
Nora Patterson, Commissioner
Jon Thaxton, Commissioner

Also Present:

Randall Reid, County Administrator
Stephen DeMarsh, County Attorney
Spring Dickson, Deputy Clerk
Patti Mazzie, Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Sarasota County Commission Chair Robinson called the October 1, 2012, Joint Meeting, to order at 1:30 p.m. at the Sarasota County Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Boulevard, Third Floor, Sarasota, Florida to order and Sarasota County Commr. Mason led the pledge of allegiance.

1. Open to the Public - No items were presented.

2. Town of Longboat Key

A. Discussion on Tourist Development Tax (TDT) allocations

Town Manager Dave Bullock commented on the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) and the Interlocal Agreement between the County and the Town relating to the distribution of the TDT allocations.

Sarasota County Commissioner Patterson provided historical information on the allocation agreement for Longboat Key, noting that the Agreement was different than the agreements drafted for other municipalities.

Subsequent to discussions on the existing contract provisions, there was consensus to begin negotiations for an updated contract.

B. Update on the Longboat Key Club and Resort and the Longboat Key Colony Beach Resort

Town Manager Dave Bullock provided an overview of the proposed development initiative at the Longboat Key Club. Vice Mayor Brenner noted the status of the Court challenge on the existing property between various owners.

Mayor Jim Brown noted the complications of the redevelopment of the Colony Beach and Tennis Resort advising that the Commission is in the process of considering an extension of their grandfathering pertaining to the density on the property.

Commr. Zunz noted that the Town has received indications that the Longboat Key Hilton Hotel is proposing a remodeling and will add additional tourist rooms.

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2. Town of Longboat Key - Continued

C. Update on the Bayfront Park Recreation Center

Town Manager Dave Bullock noted the County's purchase of property (Albritton parcel) on Longboat Key adjacent to the Town's Bayfront Park Recreation Center for park purposes, noted that the Town has purchased additional land on the other side of the existing Recreation Center, and provided a historical review of the steps achieved to develop a Concept Plan for the parcel.

Commr. Mason inquired and Town Manager Bullock noted the date of the Town's purchase of the adjoining parcel.

Community Services Parks and Recreation General Manager Carolyn Brown displayed the approved Concept Plan for the development of the property.

Commr. Thaxton noted the support of the Longboat Key residents and voters on past referendums supporting Environmentally Sensitive Lands and the Park's/Land Acquisition programs.

Mayor Brown noted past consideration for development of a Community Center and the review of conceptual issues for development of the property.

Commr. Mason inquired and Town Manager Bullock confirmed that the parcel has beach access that was deeded with the property.

Commr. Duncan noted the revitalization efforts being expended by the Town for various projects under consideration.

Vice Mayor Brenner thanked Commr. Thaxton for his comments relating to the additional taxing referendums initiated by the County and/or School Board. Individual comments followed.

D. Discussion on Town of Longboat Key Library Services

Following comments by Town Manager Dave Bullock, Community Services Libraries General Manager Sarabeth Kalajian commented on the services previously provided by the Library System (weekly bookmobile) and advised that Longboat Key residents can reserve books that would then be delivered to the Longboat Key Library.

Town Manager Bullock noted the impact of the economy on the operating budget of the Longboat Key Library, the challenges being faced by the volunteer library with reduced donations to run the operation, and the anticipation that the future may require collaboration with the County on the library services provided.

Ms. Kalajian noted a similar library operating on Casey Key, advised that she has provided the Longboat Key organization the contact information for the Casey Key model, and reviewed future plans for library services.

Individual comments followed on opening discussions with Longboat Key on library services, issues to be considered on housing a library collection on a barrier island, efforts of the volunteer library, and opportunities for utilizing the "buying" power of the County to provide current literary resources.

2. Town of Longboat Key - Continued

D. Discussion on Town of Longboat Key Library Services - Continued

Ms. Kalajian noted the opportunities to provide services to residents of Longboat Key through the Talking Books Program and available deliveries of library materials directly to the residents' homes.

Mayor Brown noted consideration of various opportunities to improve services to Longboat Key residents.

E. Opportunities for Shared Services

Town Manager Dave Bullock noted areas currently enhanced by shared services with the County.

County Administrator Randall Reid commented on the opportunity for shared services and noted that County Staff will be providing regular updates to the Commission on additional areas for sharing services.

3. County Administration

A. Update on the Federal RESTORE (Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies) of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012, Relating to the Deepwater Horizon Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Event

Following comments by County Administrator Randall Reid, Environmental Services Coastal Resources Manager Laird Wreford provided a PowerPoint presentation and overview of the RESTORE Act. Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- infrastructure projects/types of projects included
- presentation by the Florida Association of Counties/necessities for Counties to establish the consortium to determine funding distributions
- regional plan development by the local Estuary Programs (Tampa Bay, Sarasota, and Charlotte).

Town Manager Dave Bullock noted the municipal governments supported the County's efforts during the oil spill threat and requested consideration to include the municipalities in the consortium to be developed.

Individual comments followed on the clarity of Staff's presentation and explanation of the RESTORE Act. Upon inquiry, Mr. Wreford discussed the following topics/issues:

- time period to file direct claims to BP Oil Company may be closed
- timeframe for filing for funding distribution not established
- estimated timeframe for settlement amount to be declared.

B. Update on Discussions Between Sarasota County and Manatee County Relating to the Emergency Services 800 MHz Public Safety Communication System

Sarasota County Administrator Randall Reid noted discussions between the Counties relating to collaboration with Manatee County and a regional services approach.

Emergency Services Public Safety Communications General Manager Robert Stuckey reviewed the status of discussions held with Manatee County relating to a regional Emergency Services system. Individual comments followed.

C. Update on Transit Services.

Planning and Development Services Mobility Transit General Manager Glamariet Carter and Planning and Development Services Transit Senior Planner Sarah Blanchard provided a PowerPoint presentation on the MCAT/SCAT (Manatee County Area Transit/Sarasota County Area Transit) Coordinated Route 18 through Longboat Key. Discussions were held with Ms. Blanchard and Planning and Development Services Director Rob Lewis, on the following topics/issues:

- Average Daily Ridership Comparisons (number of riders versus "trips")
- condition of trolleys donated to Sarasota County by Manatee County
- time frame for determining "average daily ridership"
- spikes in ridership/seasonal fluctuations
- inability to utilize advertising on Sarasota County Transit vehicles
- change in route times for the Longboat Key route hindering ridership
- routine monitoring between Longboat Key and County Staff
- consideration of advertising on Sarasota transit vehicles
- compilation of ridership for a full year (April 2011 - March 2012) to incorporate seasonal use
- hours of operation of Longboat route (5:30 a.m. to 8:07 p.m.) at 60 minute intervals
- awareness and promotion of available transit services on Longboat Key
- options to reduce the headway from sixty minutes to thirty minutes during seasonal peaks
- impact on the ridership count due to lost jobs with the closing of the Colony and the recent closing of the Publix Supermarket during redevelopment of the shopping center
- lack of full support from Manatee County to maintain a thirty minute headway
- current budgetary approvals for transit route/joint meeting between Counties to include discussion of Transit Route 18.

D. Update on the New Pass Inlet Management Plan

Environmental Services Coastal Resources Manager Laird Wreford commented on the New Pass Inlet Management Plan. Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- funding cap/required Federal action
- historical information on how New Pass was created
- New Pass sand source distribution options
- authority to dredge Longboat Pass and associated costs
- volume of sand available in the New Pass location
- alternative dredge methods to reduce costs
- opportunity to collaborate with the City of Sarasota on dredging projects.

E. Update on Beach Management/Renourishment Projects

Environmental Services Coastal Resources Manager Laird Wreford commented on the regional coordination for beach management/renourishment projects and the opportunity to reduce costs when collaboration exists. Mr. Wreford noted efforts of Longboat Key Public Works Director Juan Florensa to advise regional entities of upcoming projects in an effort to combine project schedules to reduce costs.

Discussion ensued with Mr. Wreford and Longboat Key Public Works Director Juan Florensa on the options to proceed with collaboration/coordination efforts between governmental entities, efforts required to move forward, and coordination efforts expended to date.

4. Open to the Public - No items were presented.

5. Other Business

A. Town of Longboat Key Commissioner

Following comments by Sarasota County Chair Robinson, Longboat Key Mayor Brown noted an upcoming event to honor former Commr. Hal Lenobel on October 21, 2012, at the Longboat Key Club.

ADJOURNMENT

Sarasota County Chair Robinson adjourned the Joint Meeting at 3:49 p.m.

Trish Granger, Town Clerk

James L. Brown, Mayor

Minutes Approved: _____

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End of Agenda Item