



Longboat Key Garden Club

P.O. Box 8375
Longboat Key, Florida 34228

RECOMMENDATIONS for TOWN COMMISSIONERS GOALS & OBJECTIVES 2014-2015

*Continuing Projects
and Grant Recipients
include:*

- *Arbor Day
Celebration*
- *Bicentennial Park*
- *Butterfly Garden,
Bayshore Elementary
Butterfly Farm*
- *Camp Wekiva
College Scholarships
for Environmental
Studies*
- *Crowley Museum
and Nature Center*
- *F.I.S.H.*
- *Florida Federation of
Garden Clubs*
- *Joan Durante Park*
- *Just for Girls*
- *LBK Beautification
Award*
- *LBK Center for
the Arts*
- *LBK Historical
Society*
- *LBK Library*
- *Manasota 88*
- *Mote Marine
Laboratory*
- *Selby Gardens*
- *S.T.A.R.T.*
- *Town of Longboat Key*
- *Anna Maria
Elementary School*
- *Sarasota Bay Watch*

The Longboat Key Garden Club would like to see the Commissioners accomplish the following:

[Vision Plan Goal 7 \(1\)](#)

The implementation of the recreational facility at Bay Front Park. If this includes a building for recreational purposes, we support this.

[Vision Plan Goal 6 \(7\) & \(12\)](#)

The continuation of the beautification of Gulf of Mexico Drive. Though progress has been made towards this goal, there is still need for more landscaping.

[Vision Plan Goal 9 \(1\)](#)

Looking at the possibility of implementing crosswalks at certain strategic locations on Gulf of Mexico Drive.

The Longboat Key Garden Club, Inc. is a 501(c)3 registered non-profit

From: Eileen Hassel
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2014 4:22 PM
To: Jo Ann Mixon
Subject: Goals and Objectives Meeting

This is my RSVP for the meeting on Monday, April 21, 2014 at Town Hall.

I wish to speak on behalf of the **Longboat Library**.

In Section 1: The Vision

The 4th bullet point fails to mention the Longboat Library as one of the island's amenities. I would like to have the Library included in this Vision Plan.

As the newly elected President I felt it would be good to get the Library included and update our continued involvement with our members and friends of the library who visit the island each year.

Thank you.

EILEEN HASSEL

Kiwanis Club

[Vision Plan Goal 2 \(9\)](#)

The Longboat Key Kiwanis Club would like to present at this meeting.

We want to express our gratitude for the Towns continued support of our annual Longboat Key Gourmet Lawn Party.

Richard Crawford

Longboat Key Turtle Watch

To: Longboat Key Mayor and Town Commission
From: Longboat Key Turtle Watch
Date: May 21, 2014
Subject: 2014 Goals & Objectives Meeting

Thank you for extending the invitation to our organization for this meeting. The following items are of continued concern and hope our Mayor and Commission will take into consideration when keeping with the core values that involve the natural resources of Longboat Key.

Vision Plan Goal 6 (15)

Amending of the Ordinance 87.16 (Chapter 100 of the Town Code):

The Town of Longboat Key was one of the first communities in Florida to establish a lighting ordinance to protect sea turtles and we believe it is time to examine this ordinance and follow as a guide, the Model Lighting Ordinance for Marine Turtle Protection <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/legal/Rules/marine/62b-55.pdf>

This has been recommended by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and is the model for the ordinances that have been adopted by several of our surrounding communities.

The City of Venice:

<http://www.venicegov.com/Files/Misc/Seaturtlelighting.pdf>

Sarasota County

<http://library.municode.com/HTML/11511/level3/PTIICOORCH54ENNAREARTXXIIIMATUPR.html>

City of Anna Maria:

<http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=13976>

Parts of these ordinances in our surrounding communities-also include language prohibiting temporary structures on the beach during nesting season. We would like to see the amended ordinance include similar language.

New construction is a great opportunity to get in literally on the ground floor with people safe and turtle friendly lighting fixtures. Cast Lighting has a helpful white paper at this link:

<http://www.cast-lighting.com/userfiles/file/documents/cast-turtle-wp-8-10.pdf>.

They are among several lighting companies that recognize this need. The technology is also available for lighting the streets and sidewalks. Some have recently been put to use on the key. Keeping the light down where it is needed and keeping the sky dark will preserve Longboat and why many of us decided to live here.

We request that the town maintain the current Ordinance 91.2 as it pertains to not allowing dogs on the beach.

Several members of our group have firsthand experience with working with our

professional Police Dispatch employees. We believe it is important that this department maintain its physical location here on the key. The local knowledge and close working relationship with our Police Officers here on the key is an asset to our community.

Thank you again for the opportunity to pass along our concerns. We certainly appreciate all the work that the town staff does to enforce the current ordinances. The Public Works, Code Enforcement and Police Department are always a great assistance and pleasure to work with when called upon.

Cyndi Seamon
Vice President
Longboat Key Turtle Watch

Longboat Key Historical Society

Vision Plan Goal 8 (6)

A free society is dependent upon an educated public and that is dependent on free or low cost access to information. Libraries have been serving this function and are available **off** the island, but the only library on the island is supported by dues paying members with minimal contributions from the town. Information about our past is important to current residents, those who lived here in the past and their families who have fond memories of their island, as well as newcomers who want to become part of its continuing rebirth.

The Longboat Key Historical Society has filled that informational role for 35 years. In 2012, the Society had to give up its museum in Whitney Plaza. Part of the town's heritage is now being stored in an offsite storage facility. Thanks to a dedicated volunteer who rescued deteriorated documents, the role of the museum is being filled today digitally online, and through lectures available to all at no expense to them. Member's dues and special events provide funding necessary to continue these activities.

The Historical Society continues to seek the rich historical artifacts that would preserve the history of LBK for future generations. Thanks to the support of the Longboat Observer, people are becoming more aware of the importance of these items. Most families do not realize the importance of the papers or mementos that are in their possession and discard them.

Having a strong visible presence for the Historical Society on the island would increase the awareness of the importance of this material. Archives are intimately associated with libraries as sources for information. The town needs to support a facility that will provide both recreational reading and preservation of the town's history. Inter-library loan requests should be provided so that residents will not need to travel off the island to have access to information not available here.

Combined with digital access, provided by the History Archives, this would be part of the aging in place facilities initiative as well as educational opportunity on the island.

Pamela Coleman

FEDERATION OF LONGBOAT KEY CONDOMINIUMS

Recommendations for Town Commissioners Goals & Objectives 2014-2015

Vision Plan Goal 8 (7)

1. The Town Commission should immediately enable the means necessary to allow providers to implement all necessary facilities required for essential, reliable cellular services throughout the key.

Vision Plan Goal 7 (1)

2. Longboat Key is a barrier island with no hospital facilities and minimal medical services. We therefore support the Town Commissioners efforts to continue to provide quality emergency response services.

Vision Plan Goal 8 (6)

3. We encourage the Town Commission to pursue the creation of a Town Center to include among other things a cultural center and a medical facility.

Vision Plan Goal 7 (1)

4. We encourage the Town Commission to implement the development of Bayfront Park which should include a viable recreation facility.

5. We compliment the Town Commission for taking steps to solve the pension problem, however it is necessary to address the unfunded liability.

Vision Plan Goal 10 (7)

6. We support the continuation of the Longboat Key trolley service.

Vision Plan Goal 3 (2)

7. We encourage the Town Commission to support the restoration of the historic balance between the residential and commercial communities as well as the revitalization of aging buildings and infrastructure.

Written Comments Submitted - Not in Attendance

SLEEPY LAGOON HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

April, 2014

Rosemary Dilgard, President SLHA
683 Marbury Lane
941-383 3505

Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

Due to the Easter holiday, I will be in transit and cannot attend the Vision Plan meeting on April 21st. However, I asked and did receive feedback from Sleepy Lagoon members about our neighborhood goals as they relate to the Town Vision Plan for 2014. In summary:

Vision Plan Goal 6 (7) & (12)

1. Appearance: We would like to see the north end of Gulf of Mexico Drive landscaping appear as attractive as the south end key entrance. Perhaps, planting more shrubs as you have at the south end; getting rid of some of the Australian pines might be a start. We would like to see the North entrance look physically attractive without disturbing the residential quality of the north end.

Vision Plan Goal 8 (3) & (5)

2. Whitney Plaza: The new owner did do a quick fix up and clean up - but is still basically empty and looks a disaster. We believe that there is opportunity for business at the Plaza but expect it needs to be year around and unique. We of course have some ideas of what could be successful. Small movie theatres draw from local and nearby communities and tend to have more year round demand; I can think of only one theatre in West Bradenton and Anna Maria Island and several in Sarasota area.

Vision Plan Goal 10 (3)

3. Relieve traffic: Getting off the island after 1 pm using the North Bridge during season is almost impossible. We have seen GMD traffic stopped to Bayview Drive on a regular basis and down to Cannons Marina on a very bad day. We understand the town has considered a roundabout at GMD and Broadway, but we can only see that as adding to the traffic's inability to get on and off the island. Floridian and tourist confusion at the Bradenton Beach continues to seriously contribute to our traffic woes. The two draw bridges - Key and Cortez - opening and closing, appears to further add to our traffic problem.

4. Investments and Investors: Investors purchase property with risks. It is not the duty or the responsibility of the town to lessen those risks for the investor, at the expense of the home owner. Investors should be smart enough to see through 'sales talk' and know the rules prior to investing.

The town Vision Plan states that we are to maintain LBK as a premier residential Community. How can home-owning residents boast a premier community, when private homes next door are marketed and sold as investment properties? Many homes are already rented like hotels, some for the weekend or weekly and semi-monthly. Yes, in spite of the rules.

SLEEPY LAGOON HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

In areas like ours, we in Sleepy Lagoon are at the mercy of the Town to protect our property. Most homes in the North end are not in gated communities, so the resident home owners must rely on the town to enforce the rental restrictions. To make matters worse, there are many loopholes in the rules that appear to allow renting two or three times a month. The town places the burden of proof on the complaining homeowner all in the name of tourism, while the tenants come and go before the town can take action against the property owner.

A residential community- is just that - residential - not business use. Sleepy Lagoon is a mix of old and new homes. Most of these homes are very well kept. It is important to maintain the ambience and quiet of our neighborhood. We have to think exclusive, desirable and expensive like (Jupiter) not rental like (Anna Maria).

Many of our members believe our rights, as owners, are being trampled on, in order to keep LBK as a prime tourist destination. Remember the homeowner is paying the taxes that keep LBK running. The homeowner should not be ignored in the name of tourism, especially when tourism enhances the pocketbooks of a few.

LBK neighborhoods are just that, they are not hotels or condos. Many residents in our neighborhood are families with children who play in our streets. Yes, school age children live on LBK and probably most of them live in Sleepy Lagoon.

To add insult to injury, the Town of LBK allows large mobile homes, RV's, to be parked in driveways for overnight use. Some rental homes now have more renters living in their POP OUTS using their driveways as the camp site. Again, unless someone calls and complains - nothing is done. Homeowners on LBK must be vigilantes to keep our sleepy little neighborhood just that.

Vision Plan Goal 6 (10)

5. The Beach: The responsibility of the town of LBK is to protect the assets of its taxpayers. LBK's unique and natural resource is our beach. Even if everyone doesn't use it, it singularly defines our town. The town should avail itself to ALL services available, in order to do so - Federal, State, and County.

Vision Plan Goal 1 (4)

6. Revenue and growth: Business only grows with revenue opportunities. The town can seed and support opportunities, but always must look into the long term and that there will be no added cost to the taxpayer to support these opportunities. The Town should always think revenue first - not -how nice it would be - !!!

Vision Plan Goal 2 (8)

7. Town enterprises: It is not the province of the town or the commission to be in real estate and development business. Most likely it will only waste tax payer's dollar. Remember any land purchased by the town immediately comes off the tax roll. Who will make up the difference in our anticipated tax revenue?

The town of LBK should not be in competition with other businesses. Current public enterprise is in competition with privately owned clubs - it hurts everyone - the taxpayers and the business owners. What is done is 'done'. But the Town should not be expanding its enterprise role.

SLEEPY LAGOON HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

Vision Plan Goal 2 (8)

8. Motion: At our annual Sleepy Lagoon meeting this February, the resident homeowners present, unanimously passed a motion that said:

"We the SLHA oppose the use of taxpayers' money for facilitating, construction or operation of a town center in LBK."

We thank you for including us in your discussions and look forward to working together to keep LBK a beautiful place to visit and a better place to live.

Thanks,
Rosemary Dilgard President, SLHA

F The Friends of Tennis, Inc.

O A not-for-profit Corporation

T 1 WINSLOW PLACE, LONGBOAT KEY, FLORIDA 34228

Goals and Objectives Meeting April 21st, 2014

Vision Plan Goal 2 (2)

The Friends of Tennis, Inc is a 501C3 Tax exempt entity supporting member events, tournaments, special needs, and future enhancements of the Tennis Center. (written statement only)

R. Schlorf, 3-14-2014



End of Agenda Item 2