

**MINUTES
LONGBOAT KEY TOWN COMMISSION
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES SPECIAL WORKSHOP
APRIL 11, 2012 - 2:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Jim Brown, Vice Mayor David Brenner, Commrs. Lynn Larson, Jack Duncan, Pat Zunz, Phill Younger, Hal Lenobel

Also Present: Town Manager Dave Bullock, Town Deputy Clerk Jo Ann Mixon, Town Attorney David Persson (arrived 3:57 p.m.)

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the Goals and Objectives Special Workshop of the Longboat Key Town Commission to order at 2:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Brown requested and Commr. Lenobel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. MAYOR'S INTRODUCTION

Mayor Brown welcomed the Community Leaders, explained the process, and thanked the representatives for their participation and for providing their written comments in advance of this meeting.

2. REPORT ON STATUS OF 2010-2011 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Town Manager Bullock reported on the status of the FY 2011 Goals and Objectives and commented on the following:

- license plate recognition cameras
- municipal pension plan issues
- redevelopment/scale of community
- north end master plan/peacock removal
- library funding (grant from Sarasota County)
- beach management plan/beach nourishment
- on island medical facility/Aging in Paradise
- Bayfront Park/Community Center
- telecommunications
- bridge openings
- trolley service
- cost containment
- Fiscal Year 2013 budget preview (presentation at the April 19, 2012 Workshop)
- effective lobbying.

Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- license plate camera
- bid opening April 25, 2012 utilizing Law Enforcement Trust Fund monies for the purchase locating a medical center on Longboat Key

3. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (G&O): REPRESENTATIVES OF CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCHES, AND ASSOCIATIONS

A. Written Comments Submitted

1. Federation of Longboat Key Condominiums

Federation of Longboat Key Condominiums Secretary Roger Goldstein commented on the following topics/issues:

- quality emergency response services and creation of a satellite medical facility
- foster an environment which is advantageous and compatible with residential, visitors, and business interest
- partnering with Sarasota and Manatee counties for services
- freezing existing pension plans and move toward a fixed contribution plan
- implement the development of the Bayfront Park/Community Center
- request neighboring municipalities to remove hazards along evacuation routes
- bridge openings every 30 minutes
- license plate recognition cameras at the entrances to Longboat Key
- encourage water conservation and provide usage metrics
- support of the Longboat Key trolley service

Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- bridge openings and U.S. Coast Guard connections
- removing hazards (trees) along evacuation routes
- evacuation plans
- traffic light timing (intersection of US 41 and John Ringling Blvd.)

2. Friends of Tennis, Inc.

The Friends of Tennis, Inc., Representative Dick Schlorf commented on the following topics/issues:

- competitive tennis at an affordable price
- cardio-tennis
- refurbishment of the grounds
- sponsored tournaments (2 per year)

Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- financial operation of the Longboat Key Public Tennis Center
- fee schedule
- Friends of Tennis contributions
- membership (approximately 400)

3. Longboat Key Garden Club

Longboat Key Garden Club President Madelyn Spoll expressed support for the development of a Community Center located at Bayfront Park Recreation Center.

3. G&O: REPRESENTATIVES OF CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCHES, AND ASSOCIATIONS - Continued

A. Written Comments Submitted - Continued

4. Longboat Key Public Interest Committee (PIC)

PIC Co-President Gaele Barthold commented on the following topics/issues:

- resolve the municipal employees' pension plan crisis
- support the island-based physical, mental, and emotional health initiatives
- funding a new Community Center
- improve communication infrastructure
- long-term beach management and nourishment program
- Island-wide revitalization efforts
- Commission formally report to PIC on the status of each requested initiative
- entice community members to volunteer

Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- PIC organized forums on Town issues
- PIC developed volunteer base
- "Meet & Greet" opportunities with the Town Commission

5. Solutions to Avoid Red Tide (START)

START Representative Sandy Gilbert commented on the following topics/issues:

- development of a Low Impact Design (LID) to limit pollutants from stormwater runoff
- create an ordinance regarding stormwater runoff
- research effects of legislative changes and publish a study

Discussion was held on the Publix redevelopment project and the stormwater runoff requirements.

6. Longboat Key Kiwanis

Longboat Key Kiwanis Club Representative John Wild requested the Town provide an expanded space for youth baseball and softball, and offered financial assistance.

Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- average age of the children living on Longboat Key
- development of a multipurpose field
- usage of the basketball courts at the Recreation Center.

B. Responses Received For Attendance – No Written Comments Submitted

The following Organizations did not submit written comments but were in attendance and spoke:

3. G&O: REPRESENTATIVES OF CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCHES, AND ASSOCIATIONS - Continued

B. Responses Received For Attendance – No Written Comments Submitted - Continued

1. The Education Center

The Education Center President Susan Goldberg expressed support of a Community Center and identified 80% of the registrants at the Education Center had their second home on Longboat Key.

2. Emerald Harbor Homeowners Association

Emerald Harbor Homeowners Association Representative Robert Craft commented on the following topics/issues:

- Australian pine tree removal
- license plate recognition cameras
- no dogs on the beach (available locations at Durante Park instead)
- mulch stock pile
- maintaining building height restrictions on the North end of Longboat Key
- balanced development

3. Longboat Key Library Association

Longboat Key Library Association Representative Patrice Greene commented on the following topics/issues:

- membership (between 800 and 1200)
- receiving a capital improvement grant from Sarasota County (\$20,000)
- requested the Town add a line item in the Town's budget for the Library

(See item later this meetings.)

4. Longboat Key Center for the Arts

Longboat Key Center for the Arts Representative Jane Buckman commented on the following topics/issues:

- upcoming 60th Anniversary of the Longboat Key Center for the Arts
- providing programming that fits the needs of the boomer retirees
- the value the Longboat Key Center for the Arts brings to the community

5. Longboat Key, Lido Key, and St. Armands Key (LLSA) Chamber of Commerce

LLSA Chamber President Tom Aposporos commented on the following topics/issues:

- membership (60% to 65% of the members/businesses are not on Longboat Key)
- enhancing the residential portion of Longboat Key
- tourism units levels

3. Longboat Key Library Association – Continued

Longboat Key Library Association Representative Eileen Nassel requested funding to assist with library programs.

3. G&O: REPRESENTATIVES OF CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCHES, AND ASSOCIATIONS - Continued

B. Responses Received For Attendance – No Written Comments Submitted - Continued

6. Sleepy Lagoon Homeowner's Association

Sleepy Lagoon Homeowner's Association Representative Rosemary Dilgard commented on the following topics/issues:

- beach sand quality
- building heights on the North end of the Longboat Key
- beach erosion
- adding vegetation on the North end of Longboat Key.

7. Longboat Key Estates

Longboat Key Estates Representative Robert Steskal commented on the flight path over the northern portion of Longboat Key and questioned the agreement with the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport.

Mayor Brown indicated an agreement existed and the program was administered out of Tampa. Vice Mayor Brenner suggested resident Mr. Andrew Aitken update the Commission on this item since he attends the Airport Authority meetings.

8. Longbeach Village Association

Longbeach Village Association Representative Michael Drake commented on the following topics/issues:

- bay access
- Linley Street boat ramp
- bicycle rack at the Linley Street boat ramp
- speed limit reduction on the North end of Gulf of Mexico Drive
- trash cans and recycle bins replacement at the beach-side access at Broadway St
- opening of the waterway under Broadway Street
- gas lanterns on Broadway Street

Public Works Director Juan Florensa provided an update and indicated a 50/50 matching grant was received from the West Coast Inland Navigational District (WCIND) to build a new boat ramp at Linley Street and replace the bicycle rack.

RECESS: 3:46 p.m. – 3:57 p.m.

TOWN COMMISSION COMMENTS

Discussion was held regarding the following topics/issues:

- beach nourishment/white sand
- regional traffic issues/St. Armands Circle parking and crosswalks
- crosswalks on Gulf of Mexico Drive/Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) representative attending the May 24, 2012 Town Commission Regular Workshop

TOWN COMMISSION COMMENTS - Continued

- Community Center development
- financial implications related to requested programs/services
- multiple-year budget projections
- Longboat Key Library lease review
- producing an annual report related to the Longboat Key Public Tennis Center
- outsourcing opportunities.

There was consensus for Town Manager Bullock to report to the Commission on the Community Leaders comments/suggestions.

PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

A. Dry Dock Waterfront Grill Setback Request 412 Gulf of Mexico Drive

Dry Dock Waterfront Grill owner Eric Hammersand explained a letter was sent to Mayor Brown requesting an overlay district for waterfront dining to reduce the current setback from 50 feet to 20 feet, to make it consistent with existing setback for covered roofs, and limiting the overlay district to M-1, and requested direction from the Town Commission.

Discussion was held regarding obtaining an application from the Dry Dock Waterfront Grill for a variance.

Planning, Zoning, and Building Town Planner Steve Schield noted the strict requirements for variances and explained a hardship would be difficult to identify.

Discussions were held on the proposal and direction was provided to Mr. Hammersand to submit an application to the Planning and Zoning Board.

4. Discussion Regarding Review of Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code

Mayor Brown explained the title to this issue was confusing, and the discussion would be regarding the hiring of professionals to perform an Overview Planning Study of Longboat Key. Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- Longboat Key Vision Plan and Core Values
- Gulf of Mexico Drive corridor (visual consistency)
- overlay districts for Whitney Beach Shopping Center and creation of a Town Center
- Community Center
- issuing a Request for Proposals for professional services
- moving Longboat Key planning efforts forward by obtaining outside advice
- maintaining a residential active community
- identifying a planned vision for Longboat Key
- professional services estimated cost of \$125,000.00
- alternative suggestions
- allowing the Town Manager and Planning Zoning, and Building Director to make a determination and interview prospective companies.

4. Discussion Regarding Review of Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code - Continued
Islandside Property Owners Coalition (IPOC) Representative Bob White stated he believed revisions to the Town Code and Comprehensive Plan were triggered by the court's ruling regarding the Longboat Key Club project, and was designed to retroactively legitimize what the Court found to be illegal.

Mayor Brown explained the issue under consideration. Town Attorney David Persson advised the Town was attempting to get a perspective on where the Town was heading regarding future planning.

Additional discussion was held on the Longboat Key Vision Plan and hiring a consultant.

Mr. John Wild, 435 Longboat Club Road, suggested options to establish new districts, and consider paying off the pension liability through municipal bonds.

Mr. Bob Craft, 701 Binnacle Point Drive, commented on maintaining a strict zoning code.

There was majority consensus to hire a consultant for professional planning services to advise the Commission on the future of Longboat Key, and that the Town Manager and new Planning, Zoning, and Building Director would report back to the Town Commission on this issue.

Town Manager Bullock reported the Town would issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for professional consulting services regarding future planning of Longboat Key, and the Town Commission could review the RFP and provide input.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Brown adjourned the April 11, 2011, Goals and Objectives Workshop at 5:10 p.m.

Trish Granger

Trish Granger, Town Clerk

James L. Brown

James L. Brown, Mayor

Minutes Approved: 05-07-2012