

VOLUSIA COUNTY BEACH POLICY ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes for September 14, 2010
VCBP HQ

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of September 14, 2010 was called to order by Chairman LaMotte at 5:35 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman David LaMotte
Vice-Chairman Glenn Storch
Mr. Steven Strawn
Mr. Worley Pruett
Dr. P.T. Bud Fleuchaus
Ms. Judith Craig

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Nick Conte
Mr. Jason McGuirk
Mr. David Rigsby

STAFF PRESENT

Tony Sopotnick, Staff Liaison
Judith Hallock, Administrative Support

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dr. Fleuchaus moved to approve the minutes of May 11, 2010. Mr. Pruett seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There were no speakers during public participation.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Beach Driving:

Vice Chairman Glenn Storch: stated that the Beach Management Plan recently revised by the board had addressed both beach driving and beach safety. He added that in light of the number of recent issues and as an effort to preserve beach access while improving the pedestrian public's safety, he feels the board should make recommendations to compliment the County Council's recent decisions on the subject. He made a motion to hold a special meeting for this purpose on October 21, 2010. Dr. Fleuchaus seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Fleuchaus asked Mr. Sopotnick for an update of the council actions taken so far in relation to beach driving and safety.

Tony Sopotnick: responded to the board with a list of initiatives implemented by staff at the direction of Council for beach driving and safety:

- a new informational brochure was developed by Community Information and is being distributed at toll booths to patrons as they enter beach (copy provided to the board);
- “electronic message boards” are being placed on the weekends at major arteries leading to the beach with directions to traffic-free zones;
- new “children playing” signage has been placed on the beach in traffic lanes;
- signage is being placed directly adjacent to the traffic-free areas designating @ 200’ of parking for “families with children” in hopes they will park there and walk to the traffic-free area.

Vice Chairman Glenn Storch: asked that staff make a presentation during the special meeting regarding all initiatives being undertaken for beach driving/safety.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Beach Projects Update:

Presentation made by Bobbie Bryant, Volusia County Parks, Recreation and Culture.

During the presentation, Ms. Bryant advised the board that the management of the beachfront assets will be transferring to the Coastal Division on October 1, 2010.

Dr. Fleuchaus appreciated the presentation but had concerns about the amount of funds spent on them without being reviewed and discussed by the advisory board.

Mr. Otis Pruett suggested that staff from the Coastal Division come in and speak to the board to make sure this does not occur again.

Mr. Tim Bailey, Parks, Recreation and Culture Director: told the board that he would let the Coastal Division know that the Board would like to be kept informed of ongoing and future projects at beachfront assets and recommended that Coastal’s CIP Plan be brought to them, as well.

B. Turtle Nesting Season: Presentation by Jennifer Winters, HCP Program Manager.

Mr. Otis Pruett asked that Ms. Winters provide the board with the number of nests that occurred in the beach driving areas.

Mr. Lamotte requested Ms. Winters find out the number of nests relocated as a result of the BP Oil Spill and what the hatching success rate was.

Ms. Winters responded that she would research both requests and provide the information back to the board.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Craig shared with the board that she attended the Beach Patrol's Annual Employee Recognition Dinner and encouraged the other board members to do the same. Dr. Fleuchaus agreed and stated it was a great way to get to know the employees and hear about their accomplishments.

Dr. Fleuchaus made a statement that he is disappointed that the board was not asked to address and / or make recommendations on beach driving and safety or provided any type of presentation or information to review for all the expenditures made on beachfront assets and at the same time, the board was hard pressed to allocate \$30,000 for the beach ramp beautification they were involved in reviewing. He stated it questioned the validity of the board and asked that their concerns be brought back to Council Chairman Frank Bruno.

Mr. Pruett and Mr. Lamotte agreed and Mr. Lamotte added that for the last couple of years there have been many instances of things the board has wanted to address but was not allowed to.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m. by Chairman LaMotte.

MINUTES RECORDED BY: Judith Hallock, Beach Safety

MINUTES EDITED BY: Nanci Nolin, Beach Safety