

MINUTES BAC meeting, August 17, 2005.

I. Meeting called to order approximately 1:00 p.m. EST. Roll was not taken.

II. Introductions and Preliminary Remarks:

Paula Ramsey Pickett noted proposed Chair, Bill Kennedy, was unable to attend. In his absence, Paula asked proposed co-vice chair Ray Golz to make some introductory comments.

Ray advised the meetings of the committee will fall under the state's Sunshine rules. Although we are currently called the Beach Advisory Committee, a new name of the St. Joseph Peninsula Beach Advisory Committee will be used to better reflect that the focus of the renourishment project is on the critically eroding beaches in the county from Stump Hole to the State Park.

Ray noted there was broad representation on the committee - local participants, the Tourist Development Council (TDC), Gulf County government, the engineering contractors, state and federal agencies, DEP, DOT (because of the state road), the Gulf County Conservation Association, US Fish & Wildlife, the Coastal Community Association - approximately 25 different organizations were represented, with an additional 6 or 7 private individuals as members.

The goal of the committee is to address the erosion problem. Leading solution is beach renourishment, which would substantially widen and thicken the beach, which is probably the preferred method on Florida coasts. There's approximately 800 miles of beaches on both coasts and 375 miles are designated as critically eroding. Ray noted a series of articles from *the Panama City Herald* detailing projects on the northern gulf coast (these articles are available for any committee member who has not seen them and wishes to. They'll also be made available through the committee website at a later date.)

The TDC has hired Dr. Bill Stronge, of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, an economist who has worked with a lot of beach communities over the years in providing economic data and analysis of impact of beaches

on local economies, to do a study for our project. Today Dr. Stronge will give a preliminary update on how the study is progressing and things being looked at and considered. Final report is scheduled for sometime in September.

III. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIRS:

Don Butler asked that the chair and co-vice chairs be formally elected.

MOVED and SECONDED that Bill Kennedy be elected as chair. MOTION PASSED.

MOVED and SECONDED that Ray Golz and Charlie Weston be elected as co-vice chairs. MOTION PASSED.

IV. ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE NAME:

MOVED and SECONDED that the name of the committee be the St. Joseph Peninsula Beach Advisory Committee. MOTION PASSED.

V. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE:

It was suggested to have monthly meetings on Friday - the second Friday of each month. Time will be 1:00 EST as it stands now. Meeting will remain in this location (Room 307 Robert Moore Administration Building) unless otherwise noted. Laurel Eiler volunteered to prepare minutes when present and it was noted the meetings would be videotaped as well.

VI. COMMITTEES:

Brief discussion occurred on the need to identify committees and committee members. There was consensus to identify and set up at least some committees at the end of the meeting.

VII. DR. BILL STRONGE'S PRESENTATION:

Paula noted during her introduction of Dr. Stronge that if we can meet all the requirements, the State of Florida will fund 50%. Dr. Stronge

has been working in this field since 1986. He started with Captiva Island and has worked with communities such as Marco Island, Anna Maria Island, Vero Beach, Broward, and Palm Beach. He currently is working in Sarasota County with Manasota Beach. Recently Dr. Stronge prepared a report on the economic impact of beaches for the State of Florida, which was handed out to the legislature.

NOTES FROM DR. STRONGE'S PRESENTATION FOLLOW AS
"ATTACHMENT A."

VIII. FORMATION OF COMMITTEES:

Two committees were identified as needed immediately: A Public Relations/Website/Marketing committee and a Funding/Financing committee. Interested participants were asked to stay after the conclusion of the meeting to begin discussion of goals and objectives.

Additionally, Paula advised there would be more committees and task forces in the future. She requested anybody wishing to serve in any area to please advise her of that interest. She also asked everyone to find additional individuals to suggest for work on the beach renourishment issue and bring those names to her for future contact.

VIX. MEETING ADJOURNED approximately 3:00 p.m. EST. Next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2005, at 1:00 EST.