



CBA Meeting Notes

March 7, 2017

Present: David MacNamee, Beth Prast, Leann DuPont, Jim Peppard, Ann Marie Krzesinski, Linda Kubilius, Kit Elert, Shari Maxwell, Sam Hutkin

Absent Board Members: Jeff Chamberlain, Linda Preston, Laura White

Present: Councilman Bill Jonson

Police: Sgt. Scott O'Hare

Neighbors: 16

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. at Chapel-By-The-Sea.

The Police Report: Sgt. Scott O'Hare

February was a good month - only one vehicle on north beach was burglarized. The biggest problem on the beach continues to be unlocked cars. Add to that the key fobs left in the center console and the valet keys left in the operator's manual, it is a very quick thing to steal a car. This is a national problem. (18) cars were stolen in one condo complex in Indian Shores. The burglars often pick up cheaper cars in St. Petersburg, drive up here and get a luxury car to drive back. Island Estates is the biggest target.

Spring break has started. There are many extra police force teams assigned here, including the CPR (Community Response Team).

Leann recently saw people on the Hilton's new dunes. Who should she call? Sgt. O'Hare said that the police enforce the dunes. They may not be able to get there immediately, but will come if they can. The police get pretty frustrated with the citizens who cross ropes and pass signs to get up on the dunes. The police try to keep homeless campers from the dunes.

The new fence at the roundabout has improved the flow of traffic but has increased the number of jay-walkers in the roundabout. Police aids will be out there to deter them during spring break. They have moved from warnings to ticketing violators now.

Parking on the grass - you are allowed to park one car on the grass next to and parallel to the driveway.

Susanne Bochen discussed the roundabout originally was created not for cars but for our tourists and foot traffic. In her opinion, it would be better to move the crosswalks a little closer to the roundabout. This is the most desirable area for vendors and shops.

Other Topics:

Sandy Britton: 865 Bruce is going to the Code Board now, along with some properties on Island Estates.

Surfrider - Suncoast Chapter Presentation discussed the dangers of single-use plastics on the beach. There is a coalition of (12) non-profits named "Rise Above Plastics Coalition". The Coast Guard says "the difference between coming into a port that manages refuse and one that doesn't is profound."

Surfrider has few paid staff but many volunteers. Single use plastics are detrimental to our environment. Drinking straws are especially bad. Paper straws are more expensive than plastic so the Surfriders try to coordinate businesses' bottom line with their customers having straws. Only provide straws when requested.

Misinformation, called "green-washing" says that plastics are biodegradable. The group's three main criteria are - n plastic straws, no plastic bags, and no Styrofoam. Shop ocean-friendly businesses.

Leann asked what is the next step for us? People can ask the Chamber of Commerce if they will get behind this initiative. Then the Chamber can push it. Or ask the City to get behind this.

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he City of Clearwater cannot even ban the use of plastic bags. The State has superseded this.

Sam: The CBA spends time and effort cleaning up the beach. We can get behind this effort. We'll put a link on our website to their site. He will talk to the Chamber.

Report from CNC (Clearwater Neighborhood Coalition) - Linda Kubilius. April 8 is Neighborhood Day Picnic. We're thinking maybe a block party but still need to decide where. The vacant lot next to MacNamees on Bruce is a possibility..

The Drew Street plan for street-scaping is still up in the air and plans discussed. Nothing was finalized, including where the street-scaping will stop and start.

Scientology is buying a large part of downtown and looking for vendors, especially a high-end anchor for downtown.

Treasurer's Report - David MacNamee

CBA current balance March 7, 2017 \$16,077.76

Spent

2/16/17 CBA signs \$69.02

2/20/17 State filings for CBA and the Foundation \$122.50

CBA Foundation

Current balance March 7, 2017 \$532.02

3/7/17 - City of Clearwater Easter Egg Hunt \$200

David recommends we transfer \$500 to the CBA Foundation for the main CBA account. The motion was made and seconded.

Membership is up to 65 families. Everyone was encouraged to renew, and to ask your neighbors to renew.

It was reported that a member of each condo association on Sand Key goes to its neighborhood meeting.

Volunteers - Beth Prast

April 7 is Volunteer Appreciation Night with the Threshers. Free tickets (2) per person are available.

May 13 is our spring volunteer project. We'll clean up the beach accesses and the beach from Somerset north.

Trash & Treasure Sale - went well. More than 20 tables were filled with treasure. People made a little money and got to chat with neighbors. It was lots of fun.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be April 4, 2017 at Chapel By The Sea, 6:30 p.m.