

**Clearwater Beach Assoc. Minutes of Meeting, May 3, 2016**

Present: Sam Hutkin, Laura White, David MacNamee, Linda Kubilius, Shari Maxwell

Regrets: Beth Prast, Steve Samaha, Ann Marie Krzesinski, Linda Preston

Neighbors: 13; Lt. Anthony Monte, Clearwater Police Dept.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President, Sam Hutkin

**Police report**, Lt. Monte: 5 issues reported last month on north beach.

1. A trash bin stolen from 941 Mandalay
2. A domestic dispute at 880 Mandalay
3. An open alcohol container, marijuana paraphernalia, and a 17 year old runaway found in a camp
4. 870 Eldorado - criminal mischief, a car keyed and the top punctured
5. 801 Eldorado - fishing equipment stolen from a residence (self reported online)

He looked at the rest of the beach and found no auto thefts but a theft of frozen shrimp by a local transient at Crabby Bill's; at 611 Bay Esplanade #2, panes of a jalousie door were removed but the screen kept the burglars out; (5) vehicle burglaries; Heilman Street - pry marks on a door; (3) vehicles at Sand Key Park were left unlocked and credit cards stolen (only discovered when credit card company called that the cards were being used in Tampa; 435 Mandalay - an a/c work truck was vandalized when a worker left his cell phone and tablet in the unlocked truck.

Sam brought up the owner of the Laundromat being upset that tourists are angry with her for not having change. She called the police twice. She'd like the City to put in a change machine and she'd give the space for it. She has had people sleeping in the dryer. Lt. Monte will look into this.

He reiterated that 80% of vehicle burglaries are from cars that are left unlocked.

**Community Comments**: There is a website showing crimes and where they were committed. PinellasCountyCrimeViewer.com. It includes a map and a filter by type, etc. Sam will distribute the url. Lt. Monte will also look at it, as it is not a police site.

The **minutes from last week** were approved; David MacNamee moved to approve and Linda Kubilius seconded. Motion passed.

**President's Report**: Sam plans to have a guest speaker next month on construction proposed for the marina/Coachman Park.

Sam discussed the 'Residents Only Parking' plan with Jill Silverboard, the Assistant City Manager. They have prepared a plan which is currently in the City's legal department for review. We keep discussing this because of how the tourist beach-goers treat the neighborhood - exposing themselves, leaving a large bull shark just offshore, leaving trash, urinating, using drugs and playing loud music at the beach accesses at night. Sam is trying to cover all aspects of parking in the plan, including accommodating the neighborhood's invited visitors and guests. The greatest challenge will be getting enough votes on it. There are so many snow birds and non-resident owners here that this may be difficult. Lack of any vote for a property is the same as a vote of "No".

South beach (4 streets) has three times the number of tourists as the north. One sign there has had an impact already. (Sorry, I didn't note if the sign says "Resident Parking Only" or something else. Shari)

Question was asked: would our parking pass work in places around town while we shop or eat out? Sam will bring this up to the City. We can buy Resident Passes now that are good in several parking lots, but not everywhere.

Marina parking has been impacted hugely by the new restaurant and its 4 valet lanes.

We (the CBA) are having an impact on the City because of our numbers, our persistence, and our professional attitude, etc. We'll have to stay focused.

**Code Violations** - Sandy

Julie Phillips is in charge of illegal short-term rentals. She has 4-5 investigations in the works now. They have discovered a new strategy by the scammers - one person rents a house and then sub-lets rooms. Shelby Brown is the code inspector on the beach responsible for such things as weeds, sea turtle lighting (the new LED street lights were found to be compliant). The aquarium now has its own turtle light patrol and they'll make a survey shortly. There are fence height violations that Shelby will check out.

Sam: This is a neighborhood. We have to behave in a neighborly fashion. We need to be cohesive and respect our neighbors. Issues of code violation can be handled by the inspectors.

Laura White, a **new board member**, was introduced. She has lived on the south beach since 2012, and her husband, Michael, even longer.

Linda Donald, guest speaker, discussed "**Good Citizens of the Beach**". This organization started with the Friends of the Clearwater Beach Rec Center, Pool, etc. Conservation is their major concern. Marketing will be huge for them. They are working on give-aways such as trash bags with verbiage about taking home only empty shells (so many visitors don't realize the shells house live animals). The organization will develop a series of speakers on these topics. CBA agreed to support them financially. Laura White volunteered to serve as liaison with them for CBA.

**Neighborhood Coalition** - Linda Kubilius reported that there is a website to follow the waterfront planning, be notified of upcoming meetings, get details and updates. Register at: www.myclearwater.com/gov/depts/planning\_dev/Imagine?Waterfront.asp

Linda reported the recent meeting had 50 in attendance. A major project is a needs assessment but the poorest neighborhoods aren't giving any input. Another main issue for them is to improve the bicycle trail. The St. Pete/Clearwater neighborhood coalition had success with door hangers. The CBA will look into this for next year.

Treasurer's Report: The organization's checking account contains $14,330.01, and the Foundation account contains $902.49. The picnic expenses were $389.59 including signs. We received a $250 grant so the net cost was $139.59. Pearly's gave us the food at his cost. The City ice cream truck provided free ice cream.

**Membership**: currently stands at 104. There are some people on the list for whom we have little or no information. There are some who have not renewed this year.

**Events:**

The Rec Center needs trash picked up and they'd love to have the windows washed. Our work date is May 14, 8am to noon. David moved and Linda seconded that we'd clean outside the rec center (not the windows).

August 6 can be a pool party - we'll decide at the June meeting, which is the last before the summer recess.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.