

**CBA Board Meeting Minutes September 6, 2106**

**Members of Board Present**: David MacNamee, Beth Prast, Linda Kubilius, Laura White, Sam Hutkin, Shari Maxwell, Lt. Monte

Absent: Ann Marie Krzesinski, Linda Preston, Steve Curtis, Steve Samaha, Jeff Chamberlain

Neighbors: 22

Board President, Sam Hutkin, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

**Welcome** was given, especially to new members. Sam also acknowledged the fun time everyone had at the swim party at the Rec Center pool . He reiterated that CBA includes our neighbors on the south beach.

**Police Report: Lt. Monte** reported on police activity for the last month, and is now including south beach in his reports. He supervises 6 sergeants and 25 officers who work here, and cover the beach 24/7. The Labor Day storm made it quieter than usual on a holiday. He had pulled a dozen officer to add to the staff for the weekend. There were issues with water Thursday when the high tides and storm surge. The roundabout and Camden had to be closed to traffic for a period of time.   
There were questions last month about big delivery trucks blocking traffic. He attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting discussing this issue. Some possible solutions might include time restrictions such as all deliveries must be made before 11 am. The City Manager will have to consider this.

North beach crosswalks were fitted with flashing lights, why not south beach? Paul Bertells indicated that these on north beach were an experiment to study their effectiveness before installing them elsewhere. They cost $10,000 each to install. A County grant paid for all those on Sand Key. A woman was killed recently in a crosswalk which was functioning properly. The driver looked but didn't see her due to trees blocking his vision.

A concern with demand pedestrian lights is that they stop traffic for so long each time they are pressed. Moving the crosswalks to other locations is being discussed. The Clearwater Police Department received another Pedestrian Grant which allows them to pay more officers, and which they will use out here for specific things. Lt. Monte will dedicate some officers to controlling pedestrians - the crosswalk by the marina is one important place. One difficulty in defining violations is that crosswalks have to be laid out a certain way to allow officers to cite pedestrians for jay-walking. There was a newspaper article about this; it referenced crosswalks between 2 lights in particular.

The shift change for officers will be September 17, so we will see some new officers on the beach. Lt. Monte will do his best to education the new officers on our particular issues.

The Tower-to-Tunnel race will take place Saturday morning, September 10, on the Causeway but not as far as Island Estates. They will, however, be crossing eastbound traffic to get to the trail, disrupting traffic there.

Calls received the last month include 3 calls north of Acacia - a warrant at 880, battery on Acacia, and a person missing on Eldorado - person now located. South beach included the theft of a laptop and TV from a construction trailer, tools from a locked tool box, a residential burglary at Skiff Pointe, 5 vehicle burglaries (3 were boats' electronics) and 2 unlocked vehicles were ransacked. Reminder: 82% of vehicle burglaries were unlocked. Also, please remember to put your garage doors down at night.

**Community concerns not on the Agenda**:

A Neighbor who lives on Devon Drive noted that parking is acceptable on both sides of the street there. Fed Ex called her that they could not get down the street with their truck to make a delivery. Local employees park there to avoid parking fees. Bayside had the issue and got the City to post *No Parking* signs and this resolved their issue.

The garbage accumulation from vagrants is enormous. There is a camp of sorts at the beach access south of Bohenia.

David MacNamee addressed the group. He is retired from the Pinellas County Emergency Management office and wants everyone to know that this storm (Hermine) was NOT a hurricane. This was nothing. However, 10-12" of rain in a few days closed streets. If streets and roads are closed on the beach, do not expect to evacuated from your home by emergency personnel.

Kudos were made to those speakers and attendees at the Council meetings. The field of yellow shirts that was CBA made a difference. Watch the meeting on MyClearwater.com website.

The **Minutes** of the last meeting were approved as submitted.

**Committee Reports:**

**President's Report**: Sam Hutkin addressed Residential Permit Parking. He has lived 8 years on Clearwater Beach (he acknowledged being a relative newby), and has already seen a great deal of change and development. He is concerned that Beach By Design is not being followed. There does not seem to be a road plan. The 'band-aid' offered by the change to one-way on Hamden and Coronado does not seem to be useful. Development without a plan should not be allowed. 150 constituents in yellow shirts were seen and heard at the City Council meeting and the one-way proposition for Hamden/Coronado was not passed.

We have to know our Council members. There are 2 positions open in 2018 - Hoyt Hamilton's and Bill Jonson's. Sam is aware of 2 people who are fired up to sit on the Council. 1) Howard Warshauer, who is currently the chair of the Neighborhood Coalition (26 neighborhoods) has previously served as a councilmember in South Florida. 2) Reed Hayden, who is an engineer, development-minded and logical. One problem here is how little the Councilmen and Mayor are paid. The $20-30,000 per year salary means they have to have other incomes. We have a Strong City Manager type of city management - the City Manager is paid $180,000, the Assistant City Manager is paid $135,000.

Parking is a special issue for us here. More so than it has ever been. The hoards of visitors we see now use our private showers, run naked, leave garbage, etc. Under the parking initiative Sam has put together, our streets will be evaluated by the City and legal parking delineated. Parking can only be allowed on streets actually wide enough to allow a lane of traffic beside the parked cars. Many of the east/west streets simply will not qualify.

Passes will be available for residents to purchase from the City for parking on the street. No pass will be required to park in your driveway. Parking on the grass is already prohibited. The passes will cost $50 or $60 per pass. Homeowners will purchase them for family and friends. There will be daily and weekly passes. There are a number of other areas locally that have permitted parking already.

Businesses will have to find parking for their employees. . . or make more use of the ferry, buses, etc.

The Residential Permit Parking area will be north from Acacia to just south of Carlouel. Carlouel is already a separate area and OK with their situation. South beach residents will have a separate vote. At this time we understand that 65% of the property owners will have to vote 'yes' to make this happen. If a vote is not received from a property, it is the same as a vote of 'no'.

The development of an additional 14 hotels will increase our problems. We need to put things in place now, before it gets worse.

Steve Curtis noted that beach-goers are finding out that there is free parking in the neighborhoods. Word has gotten out that dogs are allowed on the north beach. People come for this.

We get no beach renourishment dollars so we are not required to have any public parking.

Anne Garris asked if CBA will put together some action committees to make plans and work? We will need to start with a definitive list of what committees are needed. Everyone should expect a call from a board member to ask what committee they will work on. The CBA Board will review Sam's proposal before it goes to the City.

There are 460 lots on the north beach, per Bob Prast's research. This excludes the homeowners in the Regatta Beach Club at 880 Mandalay. The City says certified letters should be sent, but many get returned. (We know this is because so many are not full-time residents). The City will help the CBA with this campaign, and will probably also send a letter. Our campaign should probably include door knockers, email, and postal mail.

If anyone is opposed to the Residential Permit Parking, please advise Sam. He would like to understand all the issues and if possible, address them.

The idea of "Residential Permit Parking" needs to be clear to all. The permits may not be duplicated or sold. Another more extreme solution is that we could gate our community, which would be legal.

**CNC** (Clearwater Neighborhood Coalition) - Linda Kubilius has no report because the next meeting isn't until September17.

**Treasurer's Report** - David MacNamee

The Association's balance is $16,100.98.

The expenses this month were: Pool Party for $214, and the new mailbox annual cost of $145.

Income - 2 new member dues $50.

The Foundation's balance is $899. There was a service charge of $3.00 for a paper statement.

The new address for CBA is 294 Windward Passage, #408, Clearwater, FL 33767-2241.

**Membership Report** - David MacNamee

Two families joined this month.

**Volunteer Coordinator Report** - Beth Prast - The next cleanup scheduled due to our sponsorship of the Rec Center Park will be September 24. We'll meet at the park at 9 a.m. The City provides gloves, garbage bags, and picking tools.

**Activities and Events** - Linda Kubilius and Beth Prast

Dates for upcoming events are

Trash to Treasure Sale (with Chapel-By-The-Sea) will be November 5, 9am - 1pm. Tables will rent for $10 each. You keep the proceeds of your sale. The CBA will advertise.

The Holiday Party will be December 3.

**Other** - A neighbor asked what authority or power the CBA Board has. The answer is seen in 150 yellow shirts at a Council Meeting that changed a vote. A member also went to Washington to get the FEMA improvements limit changed from 50% of the value of the house for a lifetime to 50% per year.

The next meeting will be October 4 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Maxwell

Board Secretary