



Clearwater Beach Association Meeting Notes

October 4, 2016

Present: Sam Hutkin, Beth Prast, Linda Preston, Linda Kubilius, Ann Marie Krzesinski, Laura White, Jeff Chamberlain, Shari Maxwell; Lt. Monte

Regrets: David MacNamee, Steve Samaha

Neighbors: 20

Call to order - President Sam Hutkin

Police Report - Lt. Monte gave the crime report.

There have been rental problems. Scammers are using prepaid cards to rent houses on the beach, and then sub-renting them. They have been charged with scamming.

A bicycle was stolen from the Eldorado beach access; an instance of the grandchild scam was reported but the scammer was not identified; a vehicle burglary was attempted on Lantana but the owner saw them and the car was not taken; a fraudulent online charge of \$2,000 was charged on a Macy's card; a death investigation was made - a man took his own life on the beach; there was a boating fatality near Island Way when a boater fell into the water.

There were 2 commercial burglaries - the City Marina office was broken into but security caught him; a suspect entered one of the town homes on Brightwater that was up for sale - the perpetrator blocked the toilets and turned on the faucets so water ran down 3 stories.

There was a residential burglary on Island Estates - a bicycle was stolen from an open garage. The bike was retrieved but the perpetrator got away.

Four vehicles were burglarized - an unlocked car; keys left on the blanket on the beach; boat bumpers stolen from a boat in the Marriott parking lot; and a pressure washer taken from a locked construction trailer.

The parking garage at Baymont & Mandalay will now open mid-November, delayed from September.

The Beach Chamber of Commerce is moving forward on its request to the City to restrict delivery hours (when trucks block a lane of traffic) to before 11 a.m.

Susanne Boschen thanked Lt. Monte for the extra patrols she's seeing. There is a light out at the beach access at Eldorado and she doesn't know where to report it. The light is completely out and homeless are congregating there.

Lt. Monte said they received a complaint from a neighbor who uses an ATV to launch a water vehicle. An officer will have to witness him doing this. The City lawyers aren't sure it is a violation. It isn't simple to solve this one. Signs on the beach accesses prohibit motor vehicles. This neighbor takes a hard stance, so Lt. Monte is consulting with legal to be sure he gets it all right so a ticket will stick. Ordinance violations must be witnessed by an officer to be ticketed.

There was a question about lights at the crosswalks. Lt. Monte has not seen any plans for crosswalks. The Hyatt has asked the City about building an elevated crosswalk from the second level of the Hyatt to the beach side of the street. Lt. Monte has heard no new discussion on timing of traffic lights.

President Sam Hutkin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

He opened the floor for **Community Concerns**.

Sandy - the owner of the (2) Lantana "motels" denies he's rented and is appealing, but there are still ads on the Internet. Cedar Grove is appealing their \$46,000 fine. Sandy only sees one ad on the web right now. Their making the front page of the newspaper today helps make the public more aware.

Shelby Brown also cites violations besides rentals. There is long grass and weeds at 740 or 760 Mandalay, but the owners are 90, in and out of the hospital, and family is unable to help. The front yard is very small and there is a small apartment in the back. Could CBA think about cleaning up their yard for them? Sam will coordinate an effort to assist these CBA members.

Linda and Brenda want to thank the CBA for the donation for the speaker series at the library. They distributed brochures to the group.

Susanne Boschen - Sunset Cinema movies have returned. She has brochures of the upcoming movies.

Susanne also joined the Clearwater Historical Society recently. She reported that their headquarters is moving to the Old South Ward Elementary School building. There will be a fundraising Fish Fry on November 5 from 11:30 am - 1 pm. They need help with preparing the grounds.

George Fulmer, formerly Fulmer Photo on S. Ft. Harrison, donated 300,000 photos and negatives to the Historical Society. They are deteriorating. The City has provided a grant to save some of them. The grant should cover about 10,000 at \$3.50 each. They'll be low resolution with a water mark, and available for research. They will start with the oldest photos and those in the worst condition.

For our information, the 4th floor of the downtown library will have scanners that the public can use to digitize photos and convert VCR tapes to digital.

The Historical Society meetings are the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Membership and support are encouraged.

Approval of Minutes - Beth Prast moved to accept the minutes of the last CBA meeting as submitted. Linda Kubilius seconded, and the motion carried unopposed.

Committee Reports

a) President's Report - Sam reported on Residential Permit Parking - he is in the process of getting clarification on some edits he gave the City. Be sure you're on our email list to be kept updated on this.

There was a short discussion about gating our community, as Carlouel formerly did. We could put a gate at the little roundabout, for example. There are a great many questions and issues to be resolved to do so, however. It would be a lot of work and there would be a cost. Sam would like to defer this discussion until after we have resolved Residential Permit Parking.

More research needs to be done on the 14 additional hotels we hear are going to be built on south beach. Where are they going to be built? What are the exact developmental plans? Are proper decisions being made? We should be pro-active, get a group together to find out, rather than be reactive after the fact.

Twenty units are going in on Mandalay. We understand they will be 3-bedroom units and not enough parking is planned to accommodate that.

Business owners are telling Sam many plans for parking, such as water taxis, special lanes, resident-only lane on the bridge, etc., but so far nothing has happened. The Wyndham will hire 1,000 people when it opens across from the Opal Sands, further compounding the problem.

We need to go to City Council members with our concerns. Two seats on the Council are up for election: Reed Hayden would like to go after Hoyt Hamilton's seat, and Howard Warshauer would like Bill Jonson's seat.

b) Treasurer's Report - David MacNamee is absent, so Sam gave his prepared report. CBA has \$15,838.92 in the bank. The Foundation has \$902.49.

c) Membership Report - Sam reported for David, there were no new members this month. Dues paid now are valid for 2017 as well as 2016. A sub-committee needs to be appointed for a membership drive.

d) Volunteer Coordinator Report - Beth Prast

Adopt-A-Park on September 24: 15 volunteers picked up 145 pounds of trash from around the Rec Center in two hours. This was less trash than many other years - a good thing!

A Trash-2-Treasure Table Sale is planned for November 5, from 9am - 1pm here at the Chapel. Members can rent a table for \$10 (which goes to the church), and all proceeds are yours. 25 tables are available; set up the night before will be possible. It will be a fun day and a chance to get to know some neighbors. We could use a vendor for food, who could possibly split the proceeds with the CBA. Linda Preston volunteered to research this.

The Holiday Party will be December 3 at Chapel-By-The-Sea. Donations are needed for prizes - white elephants are good for this. Shall CBA provide the main course with members bringing the sides? The election of Board members will be held. There are currently 9 members and our charter allows 12.

e) CNC Meeting (Clearwater Neighborhood Coalition) - Linda Kubilius reported that Lawrence Young has been employed fulltime as the new Planning & Development Manager. This will be helpful for the 37 neighborhoods in the association.

A new design for Drew Street was approved by the CNC. The area in question is from North Coachman to Duncan. It will be narrowed to 2 lanes and bike paths, wider sidewalks, as well as more restaurants and shops added. This is an experiment and if it goes well will be expanded to other areas. (Our group is not certain this is good.)

In 2018, the bike trail will open between Glen Oaks and Old Coachman.

The meeting was adjourned.