**CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES** January 07, 2014

**Board Members, Present:** Jay Keyes,Wendy Hutkin, Jerry Murphy, Samuel Hutkin, Beth Prast, Robert Prast, Aaron Petersen, Gary Athanason, Archana Mane  **Absent:** Burt Wiand.

**Guests:** Lt. Dalton and Sgt. Di Vincent, Clearwater Police department; Anna Gurney, Clearwater Public Information Coordinator; numerous community residents.

**Police Report:** Lt. Dalton, Beach District Commander, reviewed the local robberies in recent months and the subsequent arrest of those responsible (3 males from Illinois). He credited a report by a citizen with that success, and urged all to be the eyes and ears of the police department, and to participate in the Citizen Observer program. Sgt. Di Vincent referenced plans for spring break and praised the performance of the beach liaison team.

**Public Information Coordinator**: Anna Gurney said the Parks & Recreation Department is seeking volunteers to participate in focus group discussions on the evening of January 21. She reminded all of the Sea Blues Festival in mid-February, and suggested following Facebook for other upcoming events and road closures. She also made available information about volunteer opportunities as well as copies of *MyClearwater* magazine.

**Minutes**: Following a motion by Jay, seconded by Samuel, the November Minutes were accepted as posted.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Wendy has been filling in; Robert Prast accepted the position of treasurer. He conducted an informal poll of the board regarding focal preferences for the coming year.

**Election of Board Members:** Board members were elected at the December13 annual holiday gathering. Following unanimous approval, Archana Mane was added to the roster for a total of 10. The board voted to retain Wendy as president, Samuel as vice-president, and Vicki Jackson as secretary.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership:** Wendy reported we currently have 20 members; 92 last year. Membership in the Beach Chamber of Commerce was discussed. It was decided to seek/offer reciprocal membership with Robert and Samuel our representatives.

**Environmental**: Much discussion revolved around the roping off of some north beach properties. Steve Samaha and others offered information to support the right of public use for the same. The State has indicated it will permit such signs and posts they have determined pose no environmental impacts. The board proposed blocking those permits, and will continue to work on securing City involvement in this matter. Wendy read a letter from W. Miller, manager for the 1068 Eldorado property, in which he labeled her a bully, referenced defacing of the signs posted, and threatened legal action if it continues. Jay reminded board members that the CBA has liability insurance. Lt. Dalton said he has instructed officers to “tread very lightly” on enforcement and they will seek to mitigate any complaints at the lowest level.

**Committee Appointments**: Environmental, Gary and Archana; Newsletter, Wendy; City liaison and Adopt-a-Park Coordinator, Beth; Event coordinators, Beth and Archana; Neighborhood Coalition, Aaron; Web site, Archana.

**Activities & Events**: Wendy reported attendance of about 30 people at the holiday party, and receipts of $215 in gift cards for Religious Community Services. In addition, the board unanimously approved $200 to sponsor the Chapel by the Sea Beach Walk on January 25, for benefit of RCS; designated representatives are Beth and Samuel. The next meeting of the CBA board will be February 4; newspaper publisher, Bob Griffin, is scheduled to speak.

**Other:**  A Candidate Forum will be held at the Salvation Army Joy Center on January 15 at 7 PM; the 5 candidates for Clearwater Council Seats 4 and 5 are expected to be accessible a half-hour prior. It was noted that Bill Jonson, current councilman and contested candidate for Seat 4 has been a frequent attendee of CBA meetings. Wendy announced the CBA email address: *clearwaterbeachassociation@gmail.com*.

*Vicki Jackson, Secretary*