**CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES** February 04, 2014

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

**Guests:** Lts. Dalton and Harris, Clearwater Police department; Bob Griffin, Beach Neighborhood Newsletters; and Brenna Farley, representing the Sugar Sand Festival.

**Police Report:** Lt. Dalton, Beach District Commander, said the City is scheduled to accept a grant to enforce bicycle and pedestrian (jaywalking) traffic. Fraudulent rental scams (which may appear posted on Craigslist) abound. Spring break is in March, with the second and fourth weeks projected to be the heaviest. Citizens are asked to report any observation of the paraglider who’s been buzzing dangerously close to area properties. Police Department shift changes will occur February 21. Lt. Richard Harris, “Bama”, will replace Lt. Dalton on the beach watch. The department veteran of 33 years said his primary goal is safety, both roadway and neighborhood, and he wants to hear from people when/if there is a problem.

**Guest Speaker:** Bob Griffin, Beach Neighborhood Newsletters. The resident of Indian Rocks Beach gave a brief history of his experience with community efforts involving events and charitable outreach. His suggestions included having a newsletter to inform residents of rules and events, and hosting monthly happy hours at local restaurants.

**Minutes**: Following a motion by Jerry, seconded by Gary, the January Minutes were accepted as posted.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Robert reported 11 new memberships received last month and a check for $200 was issued to Chapel by the Sea for sponsorship of their RCS charitable walk. The treasurer has had trouble accessing CBA account records.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Presidential:** Wendy applied for a $250 grant (to be used for t-shirts) from the City in connection with the upcoming Neighborhoods Day Picnic. The president also met with webmaster, Archana, who is working on our website.

**City Liaison:** Beth reminded all of the Council Candidate Forum to be held at City Hall on February 13.

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Beth reported that we will be adopting the area around the Recreation Center Complex instead of Mandalay Park. An identifying sign should be forthcoming. Adopt-a-Park requires participation in two volunteer sessions annually.

**Chamber Representative:** Wendy will call Darlene at the Beach Chamber.

**Environmental**: Wendy received another e-mail from the 1068 Eldorado property; it seems those beach ropes were again vandalized. She suggested redirecting any complaints to the authorities and not to the CBA. When Jim Martinello, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, was asked why the ropes were being permitted, he responded that they (FDEP) had looked at homeowner papers. Asked if they would revoke such permission if it’s determined the property should be accessible to the public, he said they’ve never done that before. Wendy will draft a request for information about that permitting (according to the Sunshine Law). Much discussion revolved around pursuit of a declaratory judgment in court. Following a motion by Jerry, seconded by Burt, unanimous approval was given for an amount not to exceed $3,000 toward exploratory legal action for preservation of the dunes.

**Activities & Events**: The annual Easter Egg Hunt is set for Friday, April 18, at 6 PM in the park outside the beach fire station. Following a motion by Jerry, seconded by Beth, $250 was approved to sponsor the event in cooperation with the City. Saturday, April 26, is Clearwater’s Neighborhoods Day. Picnic attendees may register to win prizes; goodie bags will be provided; and Phinley (of the Threshers) is scheduled to appear at the neighborhood gatherings.

**Other:** Brenna Farley, Pier 60 Sugar Sand Festival representative, came to offer CBA the opportunity to once again provide staffing for the event, which will be held April4-13. About 100 shifts would need to be filled, and the CBA could work with Chapel by the Sea to earn substantial monies. Jerry has records from last year, but a volunteer coordinator is needed by February 14.

The next CBA meeting is Tuesday, March 4.

*Vicki Jackson, Secretary*