

## West Galveston Island POA

### Members Meeting

April 19, 2014

The WGIPOA held a Board meeting on April 19, 2014 at the Marriott Courtyard Galveston Island Gulf Front, 9550 Seawall Blvd., Galveston. Jerry Mohn, President called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

A quorum was established by the attendance of Isla Del Sol – Boyd Carr, Beachside Village - Bruce Reinhart, Pirates POA – Dick Kuriger, Sea Isle – Charley Jones, Spanish Grant Beach – Peggy Zahler, Sportsman Road – Clay Lewis, Condos – Tom Boothe. Carol Champagne – Spanish Grant Bay, Jay Hellerich – Acapulco Village, Jim Wheeler – Point San Luis, Steve Kendziera – Jamaica Beach, and Susan Gonzales, Secretary was present.

Jerry Mohn introduced Donnie Quintanilla – for Judge of County Court #3, Joe Giusti – for Pct. 2 County Commissioner, Kevin O’Brian – Commissioner Pct. 2, Judge Jim Schweitzer – Justice of Peace Pct. 2, and Wilfried Schmitz – Judge for 306<sup>th</sup> Family Court.

Jerry recognized the Corporate Sponsors Johnson Space Center Credit Union - Peggy Zahler, and Coastal Solutions – Marie Robb.

The Treasurer report was reviewed. Motion by Peggy Zahler and seconded by Clay Lewis, the Board accepted the financial report by unanimous vote.

The March 15, 2014 minutes were reviewed. Motion by Peggy Zahler and seconded by Clay Lewis the Board approved the minutes of March 15, 2014 by unanimous vote.

**The annual meeting was conducted by Tom Boothe.** The terms of office for the following expired February 28, 2014: Jerry Mohn, Beachside Village, Acapulco Village, Pointe San Luis, Pointe West Condos, and Spanish Grant Beach. The Nominating Committee recommends for a three year term from March 1, 2014 through February 28, 2017, the expiring members: Jerry Mohn, Beachside Village, Acapulco Village, Pointe San Luis, Pointe West Condos, and Spanish Grant Beach. Each membership of the WGIPOA is entitled to one vote. Voting may be in person at the annual meeting or by proxy. The Member shall vote for the Directors from those nominated by the Nominating Committee or from qualified persons nominated from the floor preceding the election.

Motion by Peggy Zahler and seconded by Dick Kuriger, resolve to elect Jerry Mohn, Beachside Village, Acapulco Village, Pointe San Luis, Pointe West Condos, and Spanish Grant Beach.

The Officers shall be elected by the Directors immediately following the annual meeting of the Members. Officers shall be elected for a period of one year.

**Community Policing** - Officer Chad Meyers – Prime season, call the police for anything you think is questionable. Calls make a difference in the number of officers on the west end.

Power of Attorney gives the Police the power to arrest persons who do not have permission to be on your property – Police Power of attorney only gives power to arrest. Having security cameras at your home helps. **Call the Police Dispatcher at 409-765-3702**, not the police Officer and your response will be faster. Post the number on the refrigerator. The more calls the more Officers will be patrolling the west end. Golf carts must be registered. Golf cart drivers must be a licensed driver. Not allowed on the beach unless handicapped authorized with the handicapped person on the vehicle. Lock your property up and the car. Lock up your equipment on the boat or boat dock. Officer Chad Meyers cell 409-599-9944. Citizens Police Academy is an important class.

**District 6 Happenings:** – Marie Robb - The City wide clean up May 9 & 10 set out large trash items. Since the City of Galveston has had changes in Management, if you have issues in your community, email [MarieRobb@cityofgalveston.org](mailto:MarieRobb@cityofgalveston.org).

**Newsletter:** Peggy Zahler stated that the WGIPOA Newsletter will be out around Memorial Day.

**Mayor and District 6 Candidate Form** – Moderator – Steve Kendziera – the elections are May 10 (early voting begins April 28)

### **Elizabeth Beeton**

Question No. 1: What do you believe the priorities are for the West End? Neighborhoods need to tell us what they are, three priorities, sewer for developed bay harbor and Indian Beach which will need a bond for the improvement, land development regulations . Beach & Bay access, the current plan is to be redone.

Question No. 2: Please explain your philosophy of development on the West End and what steps to encourage or discourage development. The more developed the more taxes, it brings more traffic and issues. Many appreciate the natural areas. We need to have predictable rules, make sure everyone knows the rules and accepts them. There is a limit on canal lots and the Corp of Engineer is reluctant to develop canals. It is important that the west-enders be involved in the land development plans.

Question No. 3 – In light of the belief of many West End property owners that there is an anti-west end sentiment on City Council, how would you balance the needs of Galveston with the specific needs of the west end? This is a universal problem. We have areas that have specific needs and need to be addressed. Each of these areas has specific needs for funding. We are responsible to not waste money. We have a diverse city; we do not have staggered terms so there is no continuity.

Closing – we need more balance, we need more women. Committed to reducing taxes and water rates. We need a better housing plan. We need to be transparent.

### **Ralph Guzman, Jr.**

Question No. 1: What do you believe the priorities are for the West End? Biggest problem is with the water department. We need to have controls on changing the programs, by not allowing the moving of funds once designated.

Question No. 2: Please explain your philosophy of development on the West End and what steps to encourage or discourage development. Development should continue to protect the environment, the habitats. The wildlife habitats should be preserved.

Question No. 3 – In light of the belief of many West End property owners that there is an anti-west end sentiment on City Council, how would you balance the needs of Galveston with the specific needs of the west end? The elected person makes the decisions and represents you. It is time to change and get the right person elected.

Closing – I care and I am here to serve you.

### **Don Mafrige**

Question No. 1: What do you believe the priorities are for the West End? Priorities begin with security, west end needs more policing. This includes the Fire Department protection. The infrastructure needs attention, in order for development to occur the infrastructure needs to be improved, water, drainage, security. 50% of the inner city of Galveston is tax exempt. The Land development regulations are being reviewed you need to be involved.

Question No. 2: Please explain your philosophy of development on the West End and what steps to encourage or discourage development. Focus on the infrastructure to develop. The surge protection of the Ike Dike is

important. We should work at the City level to help with the understanding of the importance of the Ike Dike on tidal surge. The Windstorm is an important issue that needs to be controlled. The regulations need to be positive rather than negative

Question No. 3 – In light of the belief of many West End property owners that there is an anti-west end sentiment on City Council, how would you balance the needs of Galveston with the specific needs of the west end? The City Council consistence could be changed so the voters could vote for more than one council member. He would assure that this did not happen if he were elected. The council members while they are there to represent their district but the city as well.

Closing: shared appreciate to attendees. Stressed importance of knowing candidates. We need to get our house in order which takes leadership. We need to move forward in our goals. Chair of the Finance Committee

### **Jim Yarbrough**

Question No. 1: What do you believe the priorities are for the West End? Top priority is for the city council to implement the things that were previously approved. Develop a **strategy** for developing the west end. Fire Station on 12 Mile road has not had repairs since damage from IKE. We need to protect our assets- the Beaches and Bays – need to nourish our beaches and it should be managed by the Parks Board.

Question No. 2: Please explain your philosophy of development on the West End and what steps to encourage or discourage development. Market driven forces will push us in the right direction. There is a balance between nature and development. We need to have consistence, need to play by the rules. We need to simplify and clarify our regulations. Ike Dike surge protection is needed. Strengthen our Windstorm codes.

Question No. 3 – In light of the belief of many West End property owners that there is an anti-west end sentiment on City Council, how would you balance the needs of Galveston with the specific needs of the west end? We are one City and he will not support that if elected. All areas of Galveston are important. We have the ability to bring people of different views together.

Closing: The question is who you trust to get the job done. With 16 years' experience I can get the job done. Believes in building partnerships. We will make a foundation so that we can have a better tomorrow.

### **District 6 Candidates**

#### **Marie Robb**

Question No. 1: What do you believe the priorities are for the West End? Infrastructure, number one is the sewer, the capital improvement money was to go to the sewer. Money was moved out of the designated projects without the City Council approval. Need to have tracking of the funds. Security is also a priority; majority of District 6 has their own security. Fire Department No. 7 is in poor condition and has been that way since IKE.

Question No. 2: Please explain your philosophy of development on the West End and what steps to encourage or discourage development. Nature resources beach and bay are key priority and key to protecting. Development of west end a lot of our neighborhoods still are id' d as planned development resulting in having a dog kennel next door. Insurance is key to development of west end, windstorm – flood maps, majority of District 6 improved. Important to keep insurance intact. Static easements need to be kept in order to protect our beaches.

Question No. 3 – In light of the belief of many West End property owners that there is an anti-west end sentiment on City Council, how would you balance the needs of Galveston with the specific needs of the west end? Proud that 98% of what she brought to vote was approved. When the district was formed, each District has the same population. District 6 is now the largest voting blocks. Agrees with changing the system to a 4 – 2 -1. We have million dollar homes on septic. There are area that cannot expand because of the restriction on septic but if we were on sewer that would be approved.

Closing: Gave appreciation to the attendees, Came to table with 28 years of experience, 16 years as a residence. You need someone you can depend on. You are 50% of tax base and need the services.

**Carolyn Sunseri**

Question No. 1: What do you believe the priorities are for the West End? The sewer issue, the Ike Dike, we need trash pick, police service, beach access. Need to balance the needs of the west end with the land development.

Question No. 2: Please explain your philosophy of development on the West End and what steps to encourage or discourage development. WE should have homes and businesses. Building should happen in positive ways. There are ways to protect sound development. We need to get the projects that on the books and get them implemented. We need stores and restaurants on the west end.

Question No. 3 – In light of the belief of many West End property owners that there is an anti-west end sentiment on City Council, how would you balance the needs of Galveston with the specific needs of the west end? Will be supporter of the west end issues and the entire islands issues. Will work to the betterment of the entire island. Working as one council member to represent the District 6 and will be willing to meet with any individual who contacts here. We all need to work together.

Closing: You have a chose when you go to the poles. I don't have all the answers but will find the answers for you. Has lived on Galveston Island all of her life. Knows how to work as a team.

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 A.M.