

West Galveston Island POA

Board of Directors Meeting

The West Galveston Island POA (WGIPOA) Board of Directors meeting was held at the Courtyard by Marriott, Galveston, Texas on March 19, 2016. Jerry Mohn, President, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. The quorum was established by the attendance of Directors: Jay Lendrum, Dunes of West Beach, Isla Del Sol- Boyd K. Carr, Jamaica Beach - Steve Kendziera, Laffite's Cove - Bet Jennings, Palm Beach – Melanie Perry, Sea Isle - Charley Jones, Spanish Grant Beach - Peggy Zahler, Sportsman Road - Paul Voinis, and Terramar - Craig Vance.

The Board reviewed the minutes and the financials. Motion by Peggy Zahler and seconded by Charley Jones the Board by unanimous vote approved the financial report of March 24, 2016, and minutes of February 19, 2016.

Jerry Mohn recognized corporate sponsors JSC Federal Credit Union and CKM Management. He also recognized Jimmy Fullen, newly elected Precinct 2 Constable, Carolyn Sunseri running for District 6 City Council, District Clerk John Kinard, and Judge Jim Schweitzer. Jerry Mohn introduced Brian Maxwell-Galveston City Manager, Dan Buckley – Galveston Assistant City Manager, City Council Member Carolyn Sunseri, and Officers Joey Quiroga and Sergeant Simmons.

Community Policing: Officer Quiroga gave a report on community policing. Do not leave items in your vehicle and do not leave your vehicle or house unlocked. Joey stated there are a lot of burglaries due to unlocked vehicles. Peggy Zahler recommended that a report be available for citizens to see what the crimes are and the location and to be posted on a website. Joey is available 24/7 and his cell is 409-256-0762.

WestEnder Newsletter: Peggy Zahler – no new reports at this time.

District 6 Happenings: City Council Member Carolyn Sunseri. Carolyn Sunseri is running again for City Council. The City of Galveston is working on getting RESTORE funding from the Deepwater Horizon oils spill, to use the funds on getting septic tanks off the west end. For property on the beach – the City is looking to purchase this land and rebuild dunes with Restore Act money. The City is looking at having an impact fee for those who come to the island. Parts of Pirates Beach are not included in the maps at the time of annexation. She is working on getting those included so they can take part of the tax ratings. Also working on changing the council member terms from two (2) to three (3). This will be on the ballot. Working on giving the City Manager the ability to make purchases based on State law. Broadway is being landscaped with trees. Also working with the county to clean up their property. Search is on for a new Police Chief and City Attorney. It was recommended that a new boat ramp be opened up.

Galveston Parks Board of Trustees: Jerry Mohn introduced Galveston Parks Board of Trustees with Executive Director Kelly de Schaun, Director of Operations Reuben Trevino, and Park Board Trustee Clyde Steadman, present what is happening at the Parks Board. The Park Board of Trustees oversees beach maintenance and tourism development on Galveston Island, including operations for beach cleaning, the Galveston Island Beach Patrol and the Galveston Island Convention & Visitors Bureau. This summer, the City of Galveston will add amenities to Seawall Urban Beach Park. The amenities include plumbed restrooms, bus shelters with benches, landscaping and bike racks. On Tuesday, the board approved entering into an agreement with the city to perform maintenance for those amenities. Park Board staff will be responsible for cleaning restrooms regularly and providing additional litter control.

The budget this year for maintaining the amenities is \$150,000 for labor, supplies and equipment. Funding will come from seawall parking revenues.

In February, Clyde Steddum, along with Executive Director Kelly de Schaun, Director of Operations, Reuben Trevino and legislative consultants from Van Scoyoc Associates, met with legislators in Washington, D.C. to provide updates about recent and future nourishment projects in Galveston and thank them for their support. The group met with officials representing the offices of Rep. Filemon Vela, Rep. Blake Farenthold, Sen. Ted Cruz, Sen. John Cornyn and Rep. Randy Weber. In addition, the group met with a representative from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The park board approved an interlocal agreement with Galveston County for upgrades and maintenance at West End Pocket Parks 1 and 2. The board and the county will open the pocket parks for the 2016 beach season and have agreed to implement repairs and improve the parks. Pocket Park 3 has been relinquished back to the county and will remain closed until the park's pavilion and other structures are demolished and plans for replacing them are put into place.

The Parks board approved a \$50,000 renewal with High-Island based Coastal Strategies Group, LLC. The firm will provide assistance with identifying grant opportunities and coordinating efforts with state agencies for beach nourishment, dune restoration and permitting. Recently, the firm was successful in garnering \$800,000 in grant funding for coastal nourishment projects to be undertaken in Galveston. The board expects to see continued success in these efforts.

The Park Board approved a vendor contract with Galveston-based Ocean Tribe, which will provide stand up paddleboard and kayak rentals at the East End Lagoon.

The Galveston Park Board provides seaweed maintenance and trash removal services at Galveston's Seawall Urban Park (between 10th and 103rd streets) and at Park Board-managed facilities, including: R.A. Appfel Park (East Beach), Stewart Beach, Dellanera RV Park and the three West End County Pocket Parks. The Park Board provides litter and emergency debris removal at all West End beach access points. Trashcan collection duties at West End beach access points are split between the Park Board and the City of Galveston.

Seaweed, also known as gulfweed or sargassum, is free-floating algae found in warm coastal waters. Seaweed provides an essential habitat for a wide variety of marine animals in the open ocean as well as onshore for animals like sea turtles and marine birds. Seaweed season on the Gulf Coast fluctuates as Mother Nature sees fit. However, seaweed typically washes up on Galveston's beaches May through July. Seaweed has many environmental benefits, including helping to retain sand on Galveston's beaches and providing an environment for natural dune formations. Park Board crews push seaweed away from the shoreline to provide easy access to the Gulf for beach-goers.

The City of Galveston will collect beach trash cans two times per week (Monday and Friday). Any concerns relating to pick-up at these points should be directed to the City of Galveston. 1. Beachside Village Subdivision 2. Hershey Beach Subdivision 3. Spanish Grant Subdivision 4. Pirate's Beach 5. Palm Beach Subdivision 6. Pirates Beach West Subdivision 7. Karankawa Beach 8. Indian Beach 9. Kahala Beach Estates, Addition #1 10. Silverleaf Resorts 11. The Dunes of West Beach 12. Sandhill Shores 13. "Sea Isle" Parking Area 14. Sea Isle Subdivision and Terramar Beach Subdivision 15. Isla del Sol Subdivision 16. Pocket #4 17. Playa San Luis Subdivision 18. Pointe San Luis 1 (Western Boundary of Playa San Luis Subdivision) 19. Pointe San Luis 2 20. Pointe San Luis 3

Seawall Beach Nourishment and "Babes Beach" - - Galveston's third phase of beach nourishment will begin this fall. The project, which will expand the stretch of beach along Galveston's Seawall between 12th to 61st streets, has been postponed so as not to interfere with beachgoers during the busy tourism

season. Park Board executive director Kelly de Schaun reported that the beach nourishment project on Galveston's west end was completed on March 15. The \$4.5-million-dollar project placed 118,000 cubic yards of sand on the half-mile stretch just west of the Seawall. Nourishment work began in December when the first of 12,000 trucks brought beach-quality sand to the island's west end. The result is an expanded beach and a protective dune. With cooperation from Artist Boat, the dune has been planted in order to strengthen it and enhance its protective qualities.

Jerry Mohn discussed the following:

OTHER:

GCCPRD (Gulf Coast Community Protection and Recovery District). This group will present Phase two plans at the Galveston County Court House on March 31 from 6-8PM and encouraged people to attend and comment on the plans. The one plan is to elevate Route 146 from Texas City to Pasadena and to build a circle levy around Galveston island that would exclude the west end. The other plan to do a coastal spine concept similar to the Ike Dike developed by Dr. Bill Merrell of TAMUG with a surge suppression system at Bolivar Roads (Ship Channel) and to elevate FM 3005. We prefer a fortified dune on the beach.

RESTORE Funds: West Galveston Island Entrance Channel Dredging and Marsh Restoration Project

There are 10 bay subdivisions participating in a canal dredging and beneficial use of dredge material to build marshes for habitat. The application will be submitted for RESTORE to pay for the engineering studies.

Walkovers: We are working with subdivisions to apply for funds to build walkover and dune construction and vegetation. It was decided to work with the City and become a big part of their application in 2017.

Snakes/Alligators: Reports of these critters becoming more and more especially rattlesnakes in the dunes. Hibernation season is over and they are coming out looking for food. We caution all not to walk in the dunes especially children. Alligators have been reported the far west of Galveston Island.

Coastal Barrier Systems: A meeting of the Joint Interim Committee on Coastal Barrier Systems will be held April 11, 10:00 AM, at TAMUG, and encouraged people to attend and to make comments.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

Recording Secretary: Susan Gonzales