

**West Galveston Island Property Owners Association (WGIPOA)
Board of Directors meeting**

The WGIPOA held a Board meeting on October 22, 2016 at the Galveston Country Club. Jerry Mohn, President called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. A quorum was established by the attendance of Bill Ferrar – Bermuda Beach, Jami Coker – Condos, Jay Lendrum – Dunes of West Beach, Steve Kendziera – Jamaica Beach, Bet Jennings – Laffites Cove, Melanie Perry – Palm Beach, Dick Kuriger – Pirates Beach/Cove, Kim Foley – Pointe West, Barbara Piersol – Spanish Grant Bay, Peggy Zahler – Spanish Grant Beach, Paul Voinis – Sportsman Road, and Craig Vance – Terramar. Susan Gonzales, Recording Secretary was in attendance.

Jerry Mohn recognized officials: Brian Maxwell – City Manager, Carolyn Sunseri – District 6 City Council, Judge Jim Schweitzer, Joe Giusti – County Commissioner, and County Constable Jimmy Fullen. Officer Joey Quiroga, Cherie O’Brien- Texas Parks & Wildlife, and Lt. Joshua Schirard. Candidates recognized were Lloyd Criss running for State Representative and Cordell Walker running for District Court.

The Board reviewed the minutes and treasurer report. Motion by Peggy Zahler and seconded by Craig Vance the Board by unanimous vote approved the reports.

Community Policing – West End: Joey Quiroga stated lock your cars, garage doors house doors always. Call his cell for any problems or issues: 409-256-0762.

“Float the Boat” event – Artist Boat - Nancy Greenfield stated there is a potential for 1300 acres that needs to be protected. Their annual meeting will be held October 29, 2016 and a fund raiser on November 12th will be held at Ashton Villa.

Cherie O’Brien – Texas Parks & Wildlife: stated there are two on going projects.

1. West Galveston Island Bayside Marsh Restoration – at the end of Sportsman road – rock break water and marsh restoration – completion date is 11/15/16
2. Galveston Island State Park Marsh Restoration and Protection in Carancahua and Dana Cove is a rock break water and marsh restoration.

District 6 Happenings – City Council Member Carolyn Sunseri: stated:

*she has attended 7 out of 9 National Night Out events.

*COG doing PSA on what is going on in the City concerning Bike Rally and road construction on seawall for Public Potty’s.

*Parks Board is taking over the beaches from 61st – 81st.

*Impact Fee – COG has not gained a lot of money by implementing – set at zero dollars – may enact it at a later date COG wants to encourage building not discourage it.

*Digital signage – not on west end but it is on the seawall.

Brian Maxwell – Galveston City Manager

The COG operates on a \$138 million budget and 50% of it is Federal money. By next year all FEMA money projects will be spent. COG has added five (5) Officers and will

be adding more, and will add a truck enforcement group. Have added 12 – 13 people in public works for streets and traffic. The high tides have inundated the drainage system and most are 50% full with salt water. 50% of the drainage systems are clogged with debris from silt. COG is looking at mechanical application to change the flow of water. The drainage fee in the past was suppose to go to drainage but was spent on recycling – now it will go to drainage and there will be a separate fee for recycling.

The Hotel Occupancy Tax did not hit the target this year. The focus is now on what the City should be doing. We need to concentrate on the infrastructure items – streets – drainage. COG will be putting in a bike lane on streets in Galveston from now on. The problem COG is facing is an aged infrastructure – we are going through the system and replacing mechanical structures. Plans are to put in concrete streets.

COG relies solely on Gulf Coast Water Authority to supply the water. The COG does not own its own water. At this time, Galveston is entitled to 21 million gallons per day. Water loss is 35% through the water system, due to loss in transmission, old line on the bridge, evaporation, and leaks. Most cities have a 25% water loss. Property owners should only have a 5/8 meter.

There will be a new Fire Station downtown – the old one did not have air or heat. The Parks are being upgraded, a Pool is under construction and there is LED light conversion for cost savings.

On the West End Drainage Project – the cost is \$2 – \$2 1/2 million. Bids came in at twice that amount. The sewers have been put on hold but the paving of streets will be on going. A list of streets to be paved will be posted on the COG website.

Other: Jerry Mohn stated there was an article in the Houston Chronicle on the Ike Dike. Center Point is installing LED lights on the west end. The Parks Board sand nourishment project is continuing. Sand Management Programs have set up long-term plans. The beaches are beginning to stabilize.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.