

## **West Galveston Island Property Owners Association**

The WGIPOA held a Board of Directors Meeting on May 20, 2019 at the Galveston Country Club.

Jerry Mohn called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. A quorum was established by the attendance of Jay Lendrum – Dunes of West Beach, Boyd Carr – Isla Del Sol, Steve Kendziera – Jamaica Beach, Bet Jennings – Laffites Cove, Dick Kuriger – Pirates Beach/Cove, Kim Foley – Pointe West, Charley Jones – Sea Isle, Peggy Zahler – Spanish Grant Beach, Tammy Kidd – Bermuda Beach, and Craig Vance – Terramar. Susan Gonzales – CKM was present.

Jerry Mohn recognized Constable Jimmy Fuller, County Commissioner Joe Giusti, City Council Member Carolyn Sunseri, Judge Jim Schweitzer, and City of Galveston Enforcement Officer William Heer. Sponsors recognized were Johnson Space Center Credit Union, CKM Property Management, and Sand N Sea Realty.

The Minutes & financial report were reviewed by the Board. Motion made by Peggy Zahler and seconded by Dick Kuriger, the Board presented the April 22 minutes and May 18 financial report as presented.

**Community Policing:** Officer Chad Myers stated lock your car, your home, store your belongings. Call on every incident. Obtain a Power of Attorney from the Police Department. Once you have a signed power of attorney the police can act on crime on your property and can also notify you immediately. Gives them the authority to act.

**District 6 Happenings:** – City Council Member Carolyn Sunseri. The Bond issue was passed and the Bond Council was approved. Three projects have been started at 73rd Street, 53rd Street, and Stewart Road at 61<sup>st</sup> Street. Ditch projects in process at Pirates Beach, Terramar, Indian Beach, etc.

**Port of Galveston:** Bo Quiroga is the Director of Economic Development and External Affairs and Records Management Officer for the Port of Galveston. The Port of Galveston goals is to protect, serve and enhance the assets of the city of Galveston ESP waterfront property by continuing to rebuild and improve facilities and to grow opportunities for existing customers and attract new business that will promote jobs and economic prosperity. The port has 92 full time employees, 850 acres with 300 acres on Galveston island, and 550 acres on Pelican Island. Half of the ports employees are in security.

Total 2016 operating revenue was \$34.4 million. Revenue came from passengers, parking, dockage, rentals, ship services revenue, wharf, and container. The 2016 operating expenses of \$31.6 million for salaries, contribute to Jobs \$11,375 million, personal income \$774 million, and revenue/economic \$1874 million.

Galveston worked very hard to get the cruise business in 1999 and since then it has been very successful. It is the 4th busiest cruise port in North America, 7th busiest in the world, sailings are 235/ year and project 257 this year, with 1.7 million passengers.

Cruise passenger increased 4.7% continues to maintain its ranking as 4<sup>th</sup> largest home port in the us when measured by embankments. Visitors spent \$184 million on food and beverages and, \$176 in lodging.

Currently the Galveston port is the year-round homeport to three Carnival Cruise Line vessels (Carnival Breeze, Carnival Freedom and Carnival Valor). There is one Royal Caribbean vessel and coming soon will be the Liberty of the Seas and Vision of the Seas.

**CRUISE PORT OF CALL PROGRAM:** A visit from a ship that doesn't home port in a city but calls on a port as part of its cruises itinerary. Ship calls provide an opportunity to showcase the Island's many sites and attractions. We are looking at ways to improve the port and the opportunities.

**Other:**

**Lafittes Cove** – The City Council voted 7 – 0 to leave the Hamilton tract as residential. This is the tract that is between Laffites Cove and the Galveston Country Golf Coarse.

**Beach Cleaning** – The Corps regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the US. On Beaches, that jurisdiction, via the Clean Water Act, extends to the high tide line HTL (commonly called the spring tide line). If all work is landward (above) of the HTL, then we have no jurisdiction. IF raking is done by hand below the HTL, to not cause a redistribution of sand, then no Corps permit is required. If mechanized equipment is working with jurisdictional areas to move sand, or causing more than deminimus redistribution of sand occurs, then a Corps permit would be required. Be aware that the Endangered Species Act prevents any taking of endangered or threatened species, such as sea turtle or plover as, even if a Corps permit is not required.

**Beach Access Plan** – being done by the City and in the second phase.

**Hurricane Season** is June 1 through November 30<sup>th</sup>. The West Galveston Island Property Owners Association will have a joint meeting with Jamaica Beach on hurricane preparedness/recovery on June 17 at the Jamaica Beach Fire House.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

Susan Gonzales, Secretary