

## ***WEST GALVESTON ISLAND PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION (WGIPOA)***

### Board of Directors Meeting

The Galveston Island POA board of directors meeting was held on March 16, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Peggy Zahler, President.

A quorum was established by the attendance of Director: Bill Ferrary – Bermuda Beach, Jay Lendrum – Dunes of West Beach, Boyd Carr – Isle Del Sol, Steve Kendziera – Jamaica Beach, Melanie Perry - Palm Beach, Dick Kuriger - Pirates Beach, Bob Dolgin – Sand Hill Shores, Charley Jones – Sea Isle, Peggy Zahler – Spanish Grant Beach, and Craig Vance – Terramar Beach. Susan Gonzales with CKM as recording secretary.

Peggy Zahler introduced elected officials Joe Giusti – County Commissioner and Jimmy Fullen – Constable. Peggy Zahler also recognized Marty Baker one of the original organizers of the WGIPOA. Corporate sponsors present were recognized, Peggy Zahler – Johnson Space Center, and Susan Gonzales – CKM Property Management. Peggy Zahler also introduced Dustin Henry, City of Galveston, Coastal Resources Manager. A representative from Representative Mayes Middleton’s office was also in attendance.

The minutes of February 23, 2019 and the March 13, 2019 financials were reviewed. Motion by Dick Kuriger and seconded by Boyd Carr, the Board approved the minutes and financials by unanimous vote.

Community Policing Report: Peggy Zahler introduced Officer David Gothard with Special Operations. Officer Gothard stated the Special Operations includes, Robbery Task Force and they have been busy over Spring Break. Officer Chris Condy was also introduced and discussed the new bicycle ordinance. A new Ordinance concerning bicycles will require that if riding at night a rear red light be placed on the bike. It will go into effect May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council (GINTC) – “FeatherFest 2019” by Julie Ann Brown – Executive Director. The Mission is to connect people with Galveston Natural environment. FeatherFest begins April 11<sup>th</sup> with the following events, programs, and activities: Annual event – FeatherFest, Holiday with the Cranes, Sea Turtle Saturday, Summer Social, Winter Nature Programs, Volunteer Programs, and GCAG presentations & Field trips

Partnerships and Collaborations: Nature Tourism past, East end Lagoon Nature Park & Preserve, Galveston County Audubon Group, Lost Bird Project – A project by sculptor Todd McGrain where a sculpture by him is placed at the last sighting of an extinct bird, and Birding Task Force with Galveston Island Park Board of Trustees. Goal is to establish Galveston County as the “Year-round Paradise”.

There is over \$800 billion/ year spent on outdoor recreation with birding having an economic benefit of \$4 billion. The Texas coast alone has more birds than any other state. Texas provides a resting and refueling refuse for immigrating birds. Its all about habitat and Food – an avian highway.

**What happens during FeatherFest:** 75 birding & nature photography field trips by bus, boat, etc., 25 Workshops, Activities for all different skills & activity levels, 3 free Bird of Prey Raptor shows at festival headquarters, 3 free Raptor revealed shows in area schools, Social events – Raptors uncorked rewired, Vendor Areas, Birdiful Faces - Bird Mask Display at festival headquarters, and in 2018 - 747 registrants from 31 states and 4 countries.