

West Galveston Island Property Owners Association (WGIPOA)

The WGIPOA meeting was held on July 17, 2021, in person at the Galveston Country Club. The meeting was called to order by Jerry Mohn, President at 9:00 AM. A quorum was established by the attendance of Doug Little – PPOA, John Lightfoot- Point San Luis, Julie Greenwell- Sea Isle, Rosemarie Gonzalez – Acapulco Village, Chris Lauer – Bermuda Beach, Dan Walsh – Spanish Grant Bay, Melanie Perry – Palm Beach, Peggy Zahler – Spanish Grant Beach, Steve Kendziera – Jamaica Beach, Tony Nims – Dunes of West Beach (sitting in the audience), and Kim Van Camp – Condominiums.

Jerry Mohn introduced elected officials, City Council Members Marie Robb and Bill Quiroga. Jerry Mohn also introduced Jamaica Beach Mayor Clay Morris and Jamaica Beach Alderman Russell Rupertus, Marty Fluke – Trustee with the Parks Board and Bill Herr – Code Enforcement for the City of Galveston. Jimmy Fullen – Galveston County Constable was also introduced.

Motion made by Peggy Zahler and seconded by Melanie Perry, the May 15 minutes and the June 30, 2021, financials were approved.

Galveston Police Officer Ed Coronado, GPD Community Relations Coordinator.

Officer Coronado advised the Galveston Police Officers care about the community and have a community-oriented policy. They had in the past Downtown Graffiti Cleanup in 2019; a food drive in 2020; and Polar Phenomenon in 2021. Criminal activity on the rise for the summer. Make sure vehicles are locked and valuables are hidden both in your cars and houses. It does not cost a criminal anything to smash a window for a \$5 bill. In addition, community outreach is ongoing and GPD is planning to have an event on the West End later this year.

Marie Robb - District 6 Councilwoman

City ordinance discussions - Golf carts rules are on the agenda for the City Council meeting on Thursday at 5 pm. The agenda includes the ordinance for registering and inspecting carts to meet on road regulations (i.e., turn signals, lights, etc.). If registered, you have a year before inspection is required, assuming an ordinance is passed. These rules would not be required if you are within 5 miles of a golf course. These rules would apply to golf carts near the Sea Wall. You can speak at the council meeting (3 minutes per person) or you can make public comments online.

<https://forms.galvestontx.gov/Forms/PublicComment>

GLO/City funding through the IDC (Industrial Development Corporation) has been approved for beach renourishment from 8 to 13 Mile Road. GLO will be working with an emergency order to apply sand to the beaches in these areas. A timeline has not been set but is expected to happen this year. This project has been delayed based on a lack of contractor availability after this year's freeze. In addition, dune restoration signs have been ordered thanks to the generous donations of some of our homeowners and should be installed when the sand fencing has been installed.

Increasing rental fees on short term rentals are being discussed. This would fund additional marshals to police these properties, as well as money for Parks Board projects to support the public resources near these properties. Marie gave her cell phone number 409-256-4518 too call anytime on issues and concerns.

Michael LeBlanc – Director and Maggie Albrecht – Special Events Coordinator - Sea Star Base

Sea Star Base is a bayside venue near the causeway that hosts on water activities for all kids, veterans, and public, both able and disabled. The base holds summer camps, sailing classes, corporate event rentals (250-300 people), guided fishing, regattas, STEM classes, and Sunday schooner trips (3-4 hours and \$50 first time). The building, boats, and other amenities can be accessed for a monthly fee (discounts for volunteers), and free events (or fundraised) are provided for those less fortunate. Corporate memberships are available (up to 10 people) and include access to a large banquet room, Wi-Fi, and team working events are also available. <https://www.ssbgalveston.org/>

Hans Haglund – Superintendent - Galveston Island State Park

The construction on the beach side of the Galveston Island State Park is scheduled to be done in the next 6-8 months. The construction projects include a new headquarters and check in area, RV connections, campsites, daily parking, an area for food trucks and vendors, bathrooms, showers/changing areas, and equestrian parking and access during winter months. There are daily entry fees to access the park, or a \$75 annual fee will allow entry to any state park. In addition, the park's bay side roads are scheduled to be repaved by TxDOT this fall.

Next WGIPOA Meeting

Next meeting will be on August 21st which will feature a discussion on the Ike Dike (Dr. Bill Merrill) and Galveston Coastal Resources (Brandon Hill).

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM>