

Captiva Community Panel
MINUTES
March 13, 2012

Attending: Rick Hayduk, Jay Brown, David Rohn, Jack Cunningham, Mike Kelly, Susan Stuart, Mike Mullins, Jerry McClure, Paul McCarthy

Audience: ~10

The meeting convened 9:08 a.m. Following roll call, the minutes from the Feb. 14 meeting were unanimous approved (motion Mullins, second Kelly).

CEPD update: Administrator Kathy Rooker noted with the end of the legislative session several bills were sent to Gov. Scott for approval. Two in particular were favorable to Captiva: HB 691 addressed permitting for projects and will speed up timeline for permit approval which helps with the cost. Second was the budget for FY 2013, in which the Department of Environmental Protection recommended the top 7 beach restoration projects on the list, which includes Captiva. Both houses agreed to fund enough to include the Captiva project. We need to have Scott sign the budget and we're optimistic that will happen. She noted a recent NBC-2 story was incorrect, we don't know if we're getting federal funding which we're still pursuing with lawmakers.

At the CEPD meeting last week, Lee County Commissioner John Manning attended. CEPD is continuing negotiations with the county on an interlocal agreement for the next beach project. Talks are going well, but we still have long way to go. A decision on dredging Blind Pass is expected in the next 2-3 weeks from the county commission, still considering the change order and funding for the additional work. Rene Miville added that the decision is to accept a change order to move an existing dredge here from the recent Fort Myers Beach project, to continue the original Blind Pass re-opening plan and template. Some entity needs to reach out to the community, urging them talk to their commissioners to support work on Blind Pass. Rooker said it was more than a change order or resweeping, the plan was to take out 100,000 cubic yards of sand. Funding is an issue right now for the county, but that Manning supported the pass remaining open.

Brown said what he was hearing today not what we heard at the CEPD meeting last week, which was that it was always intended except for some concerns from Sanibel to get more sand. Mullins said Manning was supportive, and they thought they had three votes on the commission right now. The community needs to reach out to other commissioners just in case. Rooker said all Captivans need to share that message with all the commissioners. Hayduk asked if this was a specific call to action, or just a general call. Mullins said they should share a draft letter from the panel to all the commissioners. Hayduk said that the panel should draft a letter stating our position. Cunningham asked if we should ask Manning first before we act, since he is the district commissioner. Mullins said the panel should word its letter in a positive way, that that would be sufficient. He made a motion (Brown second) to draft a letter on behalf of the panel to Commissioner Manning, with copies to all the commissioners urging support for the proposed change and dredging to promote positive action on Blind Pass. Miville asked if that should be sent to entire email list. Hayduk said that was a CEPD function. Approval for the motion was unanimous. Gooderham should draft the letter and send a copy to Rooker.

Hurricane Preparedness: Doris Holzheimer offered thanks to all who attended the recent SkyWarn training. That and the upcoming trip to Ruskin are part of the island's Storm Ready designation

renewal. If anyone else was interested in going to Ruskin to visit the Weather Service on March 29. Contact her. She noted that hurricane passes due again, Sanibel is issuing them at city hall and you need proof of residency to get one. You can apply for one online as well. She said the Hurricane Committee was working to ensure all bases are covered. They don't have a hotel yet, will need a credit card to hold. Mullins said they had to do that in the past, could use someone's card as long as you have a budget to reimburse them. Holzheimer said they wanted to get east of the interstate if possible. She said property needed to be sure you had a letter of authorization on file with the LCSO; if nothing has changed from the one you previously filed, you're OK. A general education program was planned for May 10 at South Seas in the Auger Room beginning at 3 p.m. We're trying to get some hurricane passes there. Gerald Campbell will be there, along with a Structural Safety Inspection person and a weather person. The committee needs SSI volunteers always; if you're here and willing, let me know. An SSI training is set for April 9.

LDC update: Max Forgey noted that the next step in the review process, the Executive Regulatory Oversight Committee, was meeting tomorrow. He didn't anticipate much excitement at that one. Cunningham asked about the water quality memo he received the previous day, asking why it was done, who did it and was it to be discussed at this meeting. Gooderham responded that he had drafted the memo based on discussions at the Feb. 14 meeting, but had not had the time to prepare it until the previous week. He had sent it out to the panel members March 12 only for them to review quickly, in case they had any immediate questions that could be discussed at today's meeting. However, he had not put it on the agenda and was planning to schedule it as a discussion item for the April 10 meeting, to allow panel members sufficient time to digest it while still enabling feedback from the March 14 EROC hearing and time to update the LDC draft before it hopefully went to the Local Planning Agency April 23. Kelly reiterated that the Captive Code was moving through the county's review and approval process, and that if you have any issues now is the time to comment. The draft has faced some county issues, but this version seems to follow what we've done. Hayduk said this was not the time to rehash things that have been thoroughly discussed and which have been vetted. It was important for the island to provide a unified front to the county during this approval phase. Librarian Ann Bradley raised a question about the sign language, that she was current using banners and a sandwich sign to publicize special events during the day of the event, and wanted to determine whether she would be able to continue under the new rules. Gooderham said he would follow up with her after the meeting to explore more thoroughly.

Communications: Stuart noted that the panel had gotten 75 hits on its website in the last month, and asked for suggestions on how to promote website to real estate agents.

Finances: Gooderham noted the handout summarizing the current financial position. After questions from panel members, a discussion ensued on expenses and income along with the need to raise funds. After noting the budget approved by the panel at the end of 2012, Gooderham asked that this discussion be tabled until April when he could provide the newer panel members with backup materials they might not have seen since they were handed out before those members joined the board. Miville noted he had comments on the need for funding, and Hayduk read the following statement:

The key to securing any county funding for the Community Panel outside the existing grant-based model will be the following:

- *Strong islandwide support – we must present a unified front when we go downtown.*
- *Creating a unique Captiva-only rationale for funding – something that won't set a precedent other communities could pursue as well.*

- *Establishing the current inequity – research to show how much of a donor community Captiva really is.*
 - *Support from our district commissioner – we need a champion on the board to make this possible.*
- We will never be able to stop fund-raising, because any county funding will inevitably need matching funds to help justify it (plus we need that for any other grants we pursue). But if we could lessen the need for annual fund-raising it would take some of the pressure off panel members to put on annual events to generate money for the panel's operations.*

Hayduk noted there are a limited number of people raising the funds to support the panel, and fund-raising needed to be tied to a long-term vision of Captiva. He asked Gooderham to send a copy of the 2012 panel budget to member and put it on the agenda for next month's meeting. Miville noted that CPOA was the entity that funds the panel, and it could set another level of budget for other services, such as hiring a land-use lawyer, etc.

Fund-raising: Hayduk led a discussion of a “Monday After The Masters” fund-raising golf tourney. He said the Travel Festival done in prior years was limited in funding and in generating a sense of community. He said the resort did this kind of event for Michelin, with a hole-in-one contest for every hole. Description of process, cost factor is low thanks to the donation of services from South Seas Island Resort. Questions about process followed, as well as whether another charity should be included (consensus was no). Cunningham noted a philanthropic fatigue setting in by this time of year, and felt the money should be only for this organization. McCarthy said this was a great idea, and very generous of the resort to undertake. The appeal is to bring people to a beautiful place, and an opportunity to create identity for the panel as an introduction to the panel's work. He noted the short timeline, that it was a lot of work to raise \$15,000. Hayduk said the event would raise funds and raise awareness, hopefully becoming a community event. Brown said it could appeal to non-golfers as well.

Water quality: Gooderham summarized a March 6 luncheon organized by Dave Jensen with island landscapers, who were very interested in effort to promote native plants and canopy restoration. The committee would work on a bill stuffer that landscapers could send to their clients, as well as a website and other educational effort. Nathalie Pyle asked if anything could be done under this effort about the use of leaf blowers, but it was agreed that was more of a code or noise enforcement issue.

Vision statement: Gooderham introduced the lengthy vision statement he and Forgey had drafted, explaining it came from community and panel comments over the past months. County planner Kathie Ebaugh noted this would be part of a new “communities” element in the Lee Plan, where each community's vision statement would precede its goal and objectives. Cunningham felt that density needed to be referred to in any statement. Bradley suggested wording about the preservation of the island's unique history. Diane Szambecki offered a number of suggestions on phrasing and deletions, and finally the panel and audience together worked on refining the initial paragraph and eliminating the subsequent bullet points as redundant. After discussion, the group agreed on the following statement:

Captiva Island is a coastal; barrier island with a low-density residential lifestyle supported by commercial activities to serve residents and visitors who are drawn toward a tranquil, unhurried experience in a natural setting. Captiva's natural environment is its most important attraction. Captivans regard the protection of its beaches, wildlife, flora, mangrove fringe, water quality and dark night skies as matters of paramount importance. Toward this end, the Captiva community works together with Lee County and other regulatory bodies to preserve its

unique historic character and sustain the fragile and limited resources of the island.

It was suggested that the panel review the bullet points to ensure they're captured in the Captiva portion of the Lee Plan otherwise. Mullins made a motion (Brown second) to approve the vision statement as written and forward it to county staff for inclusion in the Lee Plan revision; approval was unanimous.

Mullins made a motion to accept the proposed revisions to Policy 13.1.4 with the following changes to use “inlets” rather than “passes” and delete the reference to “Chapter 161, Florida Statutes” and replace it with “provisions of Florida law” (Stuart second); approval was unanimous.

Cunningham made a motion to accept the proposed revisions to Policy 13.1.13 with a change, to move the first sentence to the end of the policy (Brown second); approval was unanimous.

New business: Cunningham asked that CCA executive director Paul Garvey be copied on all items going out to the panel. He raised concerns about limited parking for the meeting at Tween Waters, and suggested the panel hold its next meeting at the Captiva Civic Center. After discussion about why the panel moved from that venue years ago, Hayduk offered one of the Cone Rooms at Chadwicks Square as a meeting option. Mullins made a motion to change the venue of panel meeting to a Cone Room at South Seas Island Resort (Cunningham second); approval was unanimous. Pyle asked the panel to thank Tween Waters for hosting meetings, and Cunningham made a motion to draft letter offering special thanks to Tween Waters Inn, Jeff Shuff and Tony Lapi (Rohn second); approval was unanimous. Mullins noted that the CEPD typically met on the first Wednesday after the second Tuesday, which caused the disconnect in this month’s meetings. He noted that the Douglas Brinkley speech the night before was well attended, and that Brinkley was very interested in Captiva.

The meeting adjourned 11:20 a.m.

-- Ken Gooderham, administrator