

**Captiva Community Panel**  
**MINUTES**  
*June 11, 2013*

Attending: Susan Stuart, Paul McCarthy, Jack Cunningham, Robert Baugh, Jay Brown, Mike Mullins

Audience: 6

The meeting convened at 9:05 a.m. After introductions and minutes Cunningham noted one error in the minutes (page 2 top, punctuation error) and the April 9 and May 7 minutes were unanimously approved (Cunningham/Stuart).

**Captiva Fire District:** Chief Rich Dickerson noted that it's summer and, since the resort is busy, the district was as well. Hurricane Andrea was an early surprise, almost like TS Debbie. The district is prepared with a plan, and will move to temporary quarters this Thursday. Moving radios over is the biggest thing, canopy for truck is going up today. Demolition of the existing building is likely at the end of October. Going through the permit process with county now. Rezoning will go before the hearing examiner and the county commission in the next few months. Rezoning to CPD from residential. Mullins asked if the plans will come before the panel. Stuart asked about the plan to include a driveway on Old Lodge Lane. Dickerson said the county was adamant about that for visitor access. Hearing examiner session is set for August. Brown asked if there had been any objections. Dickerson said no, had neighbors in at meeting and all found the plans acceptable. Just can't have two driveways on Captiva Drive. He also noted two retirements in the district, Alan Delameter and Bart Lally. He said a new paramedic is starting now, and there would be an opening position for a lieutenant. Discussion about fire inspector and lieutenant.

**Lee County Sheriff's Office:** Deputy Mike Sawicki said he had nothing to add, things were going smoothly. He urged people to get ready for hurricanes.

**CEPD:** Administrator Kathy Rooker said the island beaches saw some sand loss from Andrea. As to the schedule for the upcoming beach project... Bids are due this Friday, June 14. The Corps awards the contract June 28. Notice to proceed expected July 12. Construction will start close to Aug. 11. Now is time to get in touch with the county commissioners, as they will discuss the interlocal agreement with Captiva for funding of beach restoration at their June 18 meeting. County staff is recommending less funding than we recommend, about \$1 million difference. Staff recommends \$3 million for the Captiva segment and \$1 million for Sanibel mitigation. We recommend \$4 million for Captiva and \$1 million for Sanibel. County staff now accepting half of the Tween Waters road protection cost, we still say they should be responsible for all of it as it is a county road and it protects public infrastructure. Discussion followed on road responsibility. Brown asked why they would single out that stretch and say they're not responsible for it. Rooker said the Corps says protecting that road is crucial due to its vulnerability, but the county believes that road protection should be shared with Captivans. Mullins said the project has issues of both recreational and emergency/storm protection benefits. Rooker said the county said the only areas for storm protection is the Tween Waters road, plus the parks, and have establish a miniscule amount for that protection. Tween Waters portion of roadway is 20% of the island's coastline.

McCarthy said this is a county road and that's a great opening, this is the best argument of all to protect the road. We pay all this money to the county and they won't even protect the access to our island. It's our lifeline to and from the island; the county should be responsible and use our money to fix our road

to get to our homes. Rooker urged all to comment in person if possible and at least be sure to write to your commissioners beforehand. She said three-quarters of the difference between the staff request and the district request is for the road, the rest is a dispute over recreational benefits on South Seas, about counting the private homes in the recreational benefit total since they are rented out. State DEP took those benefits out from those homes, which we fought. Now county staff is trying the same thing. Baugh said they generate bed tax, so they should count. Discussion of issues and process at BoCC hearing. Rooker said the commissioners might not ask staff to speak at the hearing, just move forward with our option. Mullins said Manning could be disingenuous to us if he allows staff to speak. Staff doesn't seem to like us. McCarthy asked whether we should send in a scathing letter, and send it as an individual or from the panel. Draw a line in the sand, a crucial point in the relationship between the island and the county. Mullins said any statement should be strong but diplomatic. Cunningham said we can't back up a threat like a line in the sand. Mullins said this was a power play over CEPD with the staff.

McCarthy said it was ridiculous that the county won't even protect the roads on Captiva. Mullins said the county share for beaches has gone down as property values and bed tax revenue has gone up. Rooker said the beach funding all comes from bed tax funds. About \$19.5 million has been contributed by Captiva since the last project; the money is there, we just want to make a withdrawal. Cindy Brown asked whether representatives from Tween Waters Inn, the Captiva Civic Association and South Seas Island Resort would that help at the commission meeting. Discussion of issues ensued. McCarthy said this is an investment for the county, not giving the rich people more money. This offers a good return on your investment. Money in beaches generates tax revenues for the county. Mullins said there's an issue in funding from the TDC, Sanibel vs. Captiva. Discussion of funding history with the county. Mullins said the current projection for the project funding was \$5.5 million from federal sources, \$3.5 million from the state, and \$3.5 million perhaps from the county. Total project cost could be \$20 million to \$24 million, so we'd be paying \$8 million to \$12 million.

**Hurricane Committee:** Ann Bradley said the island received some needed rain from the first tropical storm. A preparedness summary was handed out, along with the All Hazards Guide. She said those who wanted Structural Safety Inspection instruction should call the Fire District to schedule training. Dickerson said he will be liaison for SSI with Capt. Delameter now retired.

**Planning:** Planner Max Forgey said there was not much to report. County staff is reviewing the scope of services for the Captiva Plan update. The funding request will go to the county commissioners in August when they're back from vacation.

**Financials:** Gooderham offered the handout report. Discussion of status ensued, and Gooderham said a further analysis of bash flow and the impact of the county planning grant would be developed soon.

**Fund-raising:** McCarthy said that in general he hoped to establish a plan whereby annual gifts would come from a core group on the island. He is working with a designer to create a panel explainer and donation request trifold piece. He asked if the panel should do a mailing in conjunction with an event or as a stand-alone. Cindy Brown suggested two events – one in the fall as a giving request, then Monday After The Masters in the spring. McCarthy said a boat ride is always an option; not make it a big deal, a sunset cruise or something simple. The mailer would address what is the panel, what has it done, what it is planning to do. Once you send a check, you feel more affiliated with it. CBrown also suggested doing a handout at MATM to increase awareness. Discussion of branding and needs. Cunningham asked whether we were deciding a plan now. Would it be a letter or a boat ride? McCarthy said it sounded as though there was support for an annual event in the spring and an annual appeal in the fall.

Add a fall gathering if needed. The right letter will get you better than a 4% return. Better to do that than to have two events that will draw on the same people. Mullins suggested a one-off event as a way of saying thank you to supporters. McCarthy the boat ride is not a fund-raiser, just a thank-you gathering. Even informational, have someone talk and take questions if necessary. Stuart asked if he would plan the mailing before the boat ride? JBrown said it might be way to get people interested in what we do. Panel members will be there, some people will come just to get the boat ride. McCarthy said it could be a chance to meet the panel and bring your friends. Send the mailing in October, when people are coming back down to the island. Mullins suggested this effort should clear up branding as well.

**Public comment:** Cunningham said they were ready for demolition at the CCA building. The middle of building will come out, and library access will temporarily be from the back. After the remodeling the CCA will have its own generator as well, to serve as a storm shelter. Work is running a little behind, about three weeks, which will push completion into early January perhaps. Mullins mentioned that islander Walter Mead had recent encountered some health issues. The up side was that he found that Spring Rosen serves as a contact for San-Cap residents in hospitals.

A question was raised whether the panel would need an August meeting, and if the Fire District could present its plans at the July meeting. There was interest in a short bylaws meeting after the July meeting to schedule when it will be doing what.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

**-- Ken Gooderham, administrator**