

Captiva Community Panel
MINUTES
Feb. 10, 2009

Attending: Dave Jensen, Gordon Hullar, Rick Hayduk, Ron Gibson, Nathalie Pyle, Mike Kelly

Audience: 15

The meeting convened at 9:05 a.m. The Jan. 13 minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Hayduk (Kelly second). Hullar noted that past minutes of the meetings were posted on the panel Web site.

Alternate transportation: Kris Cella and Jennifer Dorning with Cella Molnar Associates Inc. were introduced, and explained that the project was being financed by a grant through the Federal Transit Administration through the Dept. of the Interior. It was to look at alternate transportation options in public parks throughout the country, as well as the carrying capacity of wildlife and refuges for vehicles. A workshop was held a few weeks ago, and everything on the table – waterborne, land-based, input from the community. Information and survey access online at www.dingdarlingtransportation.com. More hiking trails, more shared use paths, transit system all being considered. They then presented a 10-minute video of the study scope and intent.

Cella said they want to have the public drive this... have heard about interest in waterborne transportation to island, connectivity of hiking and biking trails. An audience member noted that the refuge was one of the most bicycle unfriendly places on the island, and suggested adding a bike rental place at the nature center. Mike Calinski said the refuge road was engineered for drainage. Cella said bike accessibility will be looked at in the study. A comment was that it was worse than before they paved the road. Cella asked if they should get back to an unpaved surface. Kelly asked if the surveys were available to us. Cella said they took surveys last week, have online access through the Web site; she provided the URL and her own e-mail address for the public. She said another public meeting might be held at the end of March.

Hullar asked would something be done, or could nothing come of this? Cella said something will be done; there are inexpensive options out there, and funding for construction is available. People have had an open mind looking at options. Hayduk asked if the grant was solely for study. Cella said money was available for construction later. Two-way traffic through the refuge was mentioned as an option. Let's hear some crazy ideas. Do everything we can to protect the habitat, that's the No. 1 thing. Gibson said whatever was done needed to keep the interest in the refuge, make it accessible to all. Mike Mullins asked what the schedule for action was. Cella said the study would be done by the end of the year, look at grant options next, maybe next year. Depends on options we end up

with. Darla Letourneau said she hoped the study would look at access options to island; the toll booth sat the Sanibel Causeway were not bike friendly, and a lot of people use that. Cella said they were looking at the gateway and how you get to Sanibel. Go take the survey, it's best way to gauge what's tolerable. There are no ulterior motives in this.

Nominations: Mullins said the nominating committee decided to nominate Jim Boyle to the open panel seat. Hullar made a motion to nominate Jim Boyle to the open seat (Jensen second). Boyle's resume was handed out. The motion was approved unanimously, and Boyle joined the panel at the head table.

CEPD/Blind Pass: Kathy Rooker with the CEPD was introduced, and handed out the Q&A on the project she had prepared for the previous panel meeting. She said there was not as much sand in the pass, the dredgers were moving usable sand out of the pass. The county will request modification of the permit to widen the Gulf opening of pass, so that more sand is taken away from the groin. Production on schedule so far.

In response to questions about the containment cell, she said unsuitable sand will be placed in the cell, they will dredge all the way to the walls of the cell (which is on the Gulf side of the bridge). It will be emptied three times during the project, and then the walls will come down and dredge will finish the opening. They will start moving sand out of the cell in March, which will mean more truck traffic on the road then. Mullins noted that the dredge produced a pleasant hum, which was music to his ears. Rooker said there had not been many complaints, just concerned about rentals. The hydrology report indicates the pass will self-scour once it's open. Pyle asked if they will go to night-time dredging. Rooker said she was not sure, but there will be night trucking. The project may go longer if the permit modification for the opening is approved.

Hurricane Response Committee: Doris Holzheimer was introduced, and said she was circulating a sign up sheet for Structural Safety Inspector volunteers. A class was planned on March 10 at 9 a.m., location TBD. Those previously trained as SSIs will need to go through training again as there have been some changes. Sharon Michie noted that would be the same time as the next panel meeting. Pyle asked if they had ever considered weekend training. Holzheimer said Chief Jay Halvorsen will consider that if there is enough interest. On March 6 will be educational program at the Community Center.

She reminded people they need to sign up to authorize representatives to check their property if they're not here; the forms will go to LCSO to hold and use. Send a new one if you're changing the person who will check your property. Holzheimer said the committee has developed a survey for community to tell us if we're doing what we need to be doing... go to www.mycaptiva.info to fill out, and there will be a weather radio given as a prize for those who complete the form. We look forward to your comments, check the Web site as a good source of

information. There may be hurricane passes at the March 6 meeting from the city of Sanibel. Meeting will be 1:30 p.m. March 6. Hayduk noted a higher communications tower may be constructed in August. the developer still needs to get a variance, there would be a 60-day construction window. This will improve cell communications and emergency communications, and will be located almost in the middle of resort. Four carriers have committed to be on that tower, all the majors.

Land Development Code: Kelly provided a brief overview of the process to date, that the draft had gone through a few iterations and he and Gooderham had been on a conference call with representative from the Captiva Civic Association to hear their suggestions. Gooderham then briefly summarized the draft version in front of the panel, noting areas where no action had been determined and seeking panel direction on moving forward with those. In most instances, action was deferred to a later discussion, with the goal being to implement essential aspects of the code to support the Captiva Plan policies and to deal with glaring errors in existing code language.

Kelly said the timetable would be to finish LDC work this year, look at next year for meetings and discussions on further amendments to the comprehensive land use plan. Hullar asked if there will be a public discussion meeting before March panel meeting. Kelly said he preferred to get a vetted draft prepared first. Calinski noted that Captiva mangroves unique because they are fringing mangroves. If mitigation is done off island, it is not the same kind of mangrove.

Finances: TDC billing process was explained, so that SCCF would bill the panel for its charges and payment would be handled through the panel after reimbursement from the county.

Water quality: It was noted that the TDC would be holding a workshop on the FY 2009-2010 funding on Feb. 18. It was targeted more for first-time applicants to explain any changes in the process. After that, the deadline to submit requests for funding would be due March 18, and Gooderham hoped to have a draft ready for panel review at the March 10 meeting.

Fund-raising: Hayduk said a fund-raising event would be held on March 25 in Chadwicks Square. Included would be live music, carnival games, local food vendors, with a cover charge to attend. The major fund-raising would come from silent-auction items, which would be on display at meeting rooms, and a live auction of high-end vacations or donated items. This would be an outdoor event, with food kiosks and entertainers. This is a good occupancy period for the resort, he said, and a good opportunity to reach to visitors. It may even reach into Sanibel visitors. Jensen asked who people should contact for donations. Hayduk said he would be the point person for that.

Dates: Hullar asked to change some meeting dates to accommodate his schedule if possible -- changed to May 5, July 7 and Sept. 15. Pyle noted it could be confusing to the community when dates are changed. Hullar made a motion to change the dates as requested (Jensen second), approval was unanimous.

Calinski asked if anything could be done about moving the newspaper boxes at Turner Beach, showing a photo of how they were lined up along the roadway due to the beach project making it the first sight people saw coming over the bridge. The panel asked if someone could find out the Parks & Rec Dept. policy about boxes.

Gibson noted that the Captiva documentary prepared by WGCU-TV would premier Feb. 21 at the Community Center, as part of a party to be held 5-7 p.m. He singled out Sherrill Sims, Dave Jensen and Sharon Brace as part of the committee who brought this together. Cost to attend would be \$40 per person. The documentary would air on WGCU the next weekend.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

-- Ken Gooderham, administrator