

Captiva Community Panel

MINUTES

Jan. 12, 2021

Attending: Jay Brown, Michael Lanigan, John Jensen, Bob Walter, Tony Lapi, Mike Kelly, Linda Laird, Antje Baumgarten, Ann Brady, Mike Mullins, Rene Miville

Audience: 19

Meeting convened at 9 a.m. Gooderham opened the floor for officer nominations, which were offered as follows and approved unanimously in turn:

- Jay Brown for president (Brady/Laird)
- Antje Baumgarten for vice president (Mullins/Lanigan)
- Michael Lanigan for secretary (Mullins/Brady)
- Tony Lapi for treasurer (Mullins/Laird).

Brown then took over the meeting. The motion (Jensen/Laird) to approve the minutes from Dec. 9 was unanimously approved.

COVID update: *Mintz:* Latest statistics: 154 cases on Sanibel, up from single digits from March to December; 17 week ending Dec. 17. Tied to holiday season, expect to see more post-Christmas. Four on Captiva total. Vaccinations: State is taking appointments reservation frontline workers and over-65. Call 833-618-2001 to make appointment. Request callbacks, may take a day or so. Not certain about second shot, when vaccine will be available. *Brown:* Not taking appointments for further out? *Mintz:* Vaccine sufficient for today and tomorrow; once they know how many doses they will get next week, will post online. *Brown:* Why not take reservations in advance? *Walter:* Backlog of people with appointments, working to reduce that first. *Brown:* So they open lines when they get vaccines, then there's a mad rush where most don't get through. Discussion. *Brown:* Anything we can do as a panel? Hillsborough taking online reservations, call back when vaccine is available. *Mintz:* Lee evaluating what capabilities are, try to make it happen as best they can. Monitor county website: leegov.com/vaccine. *Brown:* Put out to email list?

LCISO: *Lt. Mike Sawicki:* Nothing new, will take questions.

CEPD: *Jennifer Nelson:* Introductions, bio was circulated to panel already. Gearing up for next renourishment project, sometime in May, RFP for dredgers being developed. *Brown:* Welcome aboard. Suggest Zoom meeting on project. *Nelson:* Looking at options, communications plan in development. Ran through bio. Council member from District 4 in Cape Coral. Executive director for Uncommon Friends Foundation, worked with Goodwill prior to that. Reach out to meet me. *Mullins:* I am now former chair, stepped down in December. Miville elected new chair. John Silvia now on board. Have hired ED (Nelson), TD (Daniel Munt) and administrator (John Riegert) *Riegert:* Virtual meetings TFN. Audit almost complete. Joined Southwest Florida Resiliency Compact, working together on sea level rise issues. Super Q technology share in area. Execute state funding contract for project. Reviewing restrooms, had an issue over Christmas. Met parking lot revenue this year. Apportionment update. *Jensen:* Assessment on tax bill? *Riegert:* Lump sum at a discount or pay over 7-8 years. *Mullins:* Invoices for project, not prepared until final review of completed costs are approved. In 2022-2024, depending on when bills come in. Interest and administrative costs included. Will schedule a public hearing before assessment are sent out. Tentative apportionment in works right now. Present at public meeting if available, may not be able to conduct over Zoom. Tentative apportionment session on Zoom, final hearing in person, working with

attorney to determine what's allowed. *Jensen*: Start date? *Mullins*: Based on bids outcome, dredgers will recommend best times for them for optimal pricing. Decision in March perhaps. No later than May 2022. *Lanigan*: Should owners expect tripling in what they pay? \$18 million bond passed, last time paid \$6 million. Federal share zero, state share is fixed, unless county steps up property owners will need to pay the balance. *Mullins*: Explanation of breakdown from last project. As high as \$30 million estimated. State share is 21% of cost. Need help getting more money from county and state. Tourist Development Council funds come from taxes paid by island, may need all your help to lobby county and state. *Lapi*: Blind Pass dredging at the same time? *Mullins*: Different deal, spoke with Sanibel about including them, city would rather work on their own. Cost of using pass spoil vs. being part of CEPD project. Ask them for permission to use Turner as staging area perhaps. *Laird*: Send me anything related to resiliency compact.

Ruane meeting: *Mintz*: Review of topics discussed. Septic study, funding via administrative means, hear about it soon. Code, Blind Pass bridge, Roosevelt Channel slow zone, community planning funding, RSC-2 issues, SLR pursuits. Discussion of bridge issues, he had seen photos of pedestrian traffic, etc. Recommend panel invite Ruane to February meeting. Meet panelists, explain county work, etc. Aware of our priorities and willing to help us meet those. Speak with him on how to handle invitation. Discussion, *Lanigan*: Tried to get Manning to attend. What changed? *Brady*: Ask him about issues, but what do we want from this interaction? Not to put him in the hot seat, make the best use of his time. Ask him to respond to each request, a frank discussion. *Brown*: Reiterate issues as part of invitation. *Baumgarten*: Put bridge on agenda every time. *Brown*: At a standstill, stonewalled by county. *Mintz*: Brought it up to him, summarized concerns. Seen video, photos. *Mullins*: Include tax presentation in that meeting. *Brown*: Put it on agenda? *Mintz*: To keep Captiva as a donor community, need to make it as attractive to tourists as possible. A place people want to come to. *Brown*: Lapi's idea about answer? *Lapi*: Would not solve problem, put more trash bins along railings. Would not solve fishers taking over walkway. Maybe signage would help, might not have any effect. *Lanigan*: People leave a lot of trash behind, blocking safe passage over the bridge. *Walter*: Create history of consistently bringing it up. Is there liability with bridge? *Lanigan*: County issue. Safety issue. *Mintz*: No response to letter from last summer. Closing one side is reasonable. Discussion of bike/fishing interaction. Discussion of issues with families and kids on bikes. *Brown*: Aside from appealing to Ruane, what other options do we have? Discussion. *Mintz*: Clearly a political issue for commissioners. Ruane our best avenue right now. Discussion. *Miville*: Design of bridge is issue. Barrier creates problem. Do rendering of design options, move barrier to create more room for bike/ped traffic. Show examples of designs that work elsewhere. Have to show commissioners a solution when you make the request. *Brown*: Discussion of prior design offering? *Miville*: Explained barrier design. At least do that for now? *Mullins*: Bad compromise, nobody thought would work. Not wide enough for social distancing. Discussion. *Brady*: Don't want to have all this discussion again when Ruane is here. Establish task force of Captivans and county staff to work on options. Need the county's buy-in, need to be clear on what county will consider as options. *Laird*: Reasonable approach. *Walter*: County has said it's not a county issue. FDOT issue? Fact-driven solutions. *Miville*: Tell commissioners that taking care of the bridge is not going to get you unelected. Discussion *Mullins*: Larger percentage of bridge users not from Lee County. Ask Ruane what he's going to do about it.

MSTU: *Gooderham*: Received about 200 petitions, about 40 have some issues we will reach out to owners to resolve – Bad STRAP, wrong signatures, owner not listed properly. Want to meet with staff to review issues. Planning another mailing with information prepopulated, all they have to do is sign, date and put location on it. Complicated piece to assemble. Petitions to us by mid-March, to county by end of March. Have reach out to some major property owners to follow up. Hope to have better numbers next meeting. Mail from P.O. box now being forwarded to my office to eliminate lag time. *Brown*: Cutoff date April 1? *Gooderham*: Earlier than that to prepare package for county. Discussion. *Jensen*: Send me

information sheet for handouts? *Gooderham*: Also information on website. *Brown*: In final mailing, include list to each panel member to forward to people they know. Discussion. *Brown*: What happens if we don't get to 600 signatures? *Gooderham*: Unit will not be formed, county may have to eat the cost of trapping done so far. If unit fails, look at voluntary contributions to fund trapper? *Jensen*: 127 homes that have given Alfredo permission to go on their property. Issue on Sanibel and Marco Island. Discussion. Lapi: Use CCA list to distribute? *Gooderham*: May have done so already, follow up.

RC Otters: *Sandy Stilwell*: When dining out, people want to order a full cocktail, we don't have that level of license. Such licenses have become available, but I want to make sure I would get approved for it. It's an administrative action by the county. Need notice of no objection from panel and community. Specifically changing 2COP to 4 COP license, with no other change in operations. *Brown*: What action needed from the panel? *Stilwell*: Show no objection to license upgrade. *Mintz*: RC Otters LLC only? *Stilwell*: Sunshine Café and RC Otters if possible. To be determined. *Mintz*: No need for panel action, item was on agenda for community information. Asking if panel members have any objection that will be reflected in minutes. Objections or suggestions? (None heard.) *Mullins*: CEPD went through extensive effort to find executive director. Sandy referred several people to us including Jennifer, saved us cost of a fee. *Brown*: Good transition to plans for a Government Affairs committee. Background of need for committee. *Mintz* as chair, suggested people to serve: Miville, Lapi, Mullins. Miville suggested *Stilwell* as another option. President forms and appoints committee. *Mullins*: Have to notice meetings? If so, set up annual schedule. *Mintz* to research. *Walter*: Let the minutes reflect this is a request for license change for RC Otters of Captiva LLC to cover all restaurants. Discussion.

LCEC: *Tricia Dorn*: Follow up on LCEC issues raised at December meeting, momentary outages on Captiva. Asked power quality team to pull data from October to date. Storms show weaknesses or damage to electric systems, so saw an uptick in momentaries in November. Sometimes they can identify the cause, other times finding a cause is not so easy. Usually don't trim during season, but due to concerns we have trimming scheduled due to concerns from Captiva and Sanibel. Hot spots and maintenance on system. Post-Eta and after November efforts, follow up should reduce momentary outages. If you notice outages send me an email so I can reference system data more quickly, within 24 hours. We've been through this before, I think in 2010 we put together a pretty comprehensive plan for Captiva. Going to fix the problem. *Brown*: Not necessarily outages, but at least three times a week get a blip. Described results, impact at his home. Whether temporary outages or momentaries for these blips. November not any different than normal. *Lanigan*: Had 2-3 blips this morning around 5-6 a.m. What happened on Jan. 3? *Dorn*: If you have recurring outages, call us to look at the equipment. Have protective re-closers at our facilities, turns power back on so we won't have to call out crew immediately. Works first and second time to restore power. Third time, there's an interruption in power it locks out the power and we have to send a line crew to investigate. Discussion. *Dorn*: Call us so we can look into the issues more quickly. Vegetation a leading cause of outages. Islands require more trimming than any other areas of LCEC service. *Laird*: More issues with lines on your property vs. transmission lines. *Dorn*: We can tell by who calls where problem is, discussion of overwater lines and boat contacts. Jan. 3 outage lasted half-hour to 1.5 hours, trees in the easement was the cause. *Baumgarten*: Ordered generator and upgraded surge protectors. Discussion. *Lanigan*: Post-hurricane communication with LCEC. Who should be our contact for information? When can we expect to come back online? *Dorn*: I'm contact for that, have one person from panel who could reach out to me. Re-sets should not be happening regularly. Email me when they occur. Invite me to next meeting to follow up. Tricia.dorn@lcec.net. Discussion.

Driving on beach: *Mullins*: Background. Had contacted Ryan Orgera, who urged waiting until end of turtle season, have SCCF come back to us to see if there's an ongoing problem. Seemed to have dried up.

Brown: Not aware of any incidents lately. *Mullins:* Vehicle on beach during turtle season to monitor, if we hear anything in the future bring it up then.

Wastewater: *Brown:* Commitment from Commissioner Ruane to get study funded. County manager supposed to find way to fund study administratively, awaiting outcome of that.

Stormwater: *Brown:* Mintz, Laird and I looked at best way to approach stormwater flooding episodes. Background, more flooding in Village, concerns about uncontrolled stormwater runoff and impact on nearshore water quality. Talked with SCCF about it, got a proposal from Kimley Horn on how they would develop stormwater plan, showing us the major steps. Make stormwater concerns part of SLR Committee, integrates with their mission best. Proposed to expand charter of committee to start developing plans for stormwater management. *Laird:* Agree. Flooding is canary in the coal mine of SLR impacts. Starting to see increased flooding, which we view as an impact of SLR. All part of the same issues, totally supportive.

Code: *Mintz:* Commissioner Ruane has all documents and proposals, staff awaiting his OK to proceed, will be meeting with appropriate staff to tell us how to proceed.

SLR: *Laird:* Presentation on adaptation planning and tidal gauges. Review of SLR data (1 foot and 2 feet impacts) presented before. Selected four areas for further study, look at possible adaptations – South Sea FGUA plan and roadway; Village by Rauschenberg Residency and bayside further south, which is protected by Buck Key; and Roosevelt Channel. Looking at adaptation strategies protection and accommodation, develop alternatives to respond to SLR. Model to determine effectiveness. All work done by consultant has been pro bono, grants to support them have not been successful. Response time has slowed since they are not getting paid and have other work competing for time. We asked them to develop a proposal for their work for the next 6-12 months. Will bring back to panel to see if and how it could be funded. *Lanigan:* Four areas... what about from Blind Pass Bridge to Roosevelt Channel? *Laird:* We think that will be considered in the Blind Pass management plan. *Lanigan:* Who's doing that plan? *Mullins:* Pass plan doesn't address flooding or SLR, just dredging the pass to maintain flow. *Brown:* Needs to be part of our study. *Laird:* We should select it as another area, will talk to consultant about that. Geomorphology is different there than elsewhere in the channel. Discussion. *Laird:* Brought to our attention possibility of real-time water level monitoring, opportunity to join in at a less expensive level. Monitor and measure water levels on Captiva in real-time basis, web-enabled so people could monitor. Can't manage what you can't measure, would help committee to have real data to look at. Also way to measure storm surge more accurately. Models in river, Marco Island, not the same as what we have here. May be some additional SCCF has we could tie into. Purchase each sensor for \$3,100 per year, plus subscription (need to find out cost for that). Valuable for boaters and for long-range planning. Described system. Projects tide levels based on AI and algorithms. Could try them in a few locations to see what's happening. Does panel think we should investigate this further? *Brown:* Committee needs data to give us a better history of island water levels over time? *Laird:* Don't have current data. *Lanigan:* NOAA data? *Laird:* Not local data, Marco and up river. *Lanigan:* Is two enough? *Laird:* Start small, see how it works. *Lanigan:* Could CEPD fund this? *Miville:* We should ask county to purchase them, find out who to contact. Get out of the habit of reaching into the pockets of Captivans. *Mullins:* Can SCCF modify its monitors to capture tidal data? *Laird:* Need to follow up with him. More accessible data from Hohonu proposal, accessible to more people. *Brown:* How will data be managed, and what are the ongoing subscription costs? If price is reasonable, people might be interested in having one on their dock. *Laird:* No work for us to analyze data, that's in the cloud, wi-fi enabled and the cloud, solar-powered. *Brady:* Invoice says units are \$5,500 where they're offering a discount to \$3,100 that's expiring this month. It's \$500 for unit and \$5,000 annual subscription. *Lanigan:* How many years of data do we need? *Laird:* Need

to start collect data somewhere. Get involved in this coastal community, build expertise within CEPD on this data. *Brown*: Let's work on finding ongoing costs and let's see if people are interested in pursuing, maybe not a panel project right away. *Jensen*: Barnacles an issue? Other concerns about unit being in the water? Discussion of fees. Does subscription cover multiple units? *Laird*: \$500 per unit, subscription \$5,000, not sure if it covers more than one but may be for multiple units?

Golf carts: *Baumgarten*: Lee DOT engineer Bryan Miller coming out last week of January to look at issues. Review car zone signage. *Brown* to join meeting. *Lapi*: Speed zone sign, can they get it working again? Great deterrent to slow people down approaching golf cart area.

Development: *Brady*: First month of membership drive raised \$40,100 already. Panel has a good product people are interested in supporting, 25% were new donors. If you know someone on the list, thank them personally. Goal of another \$10,000? Benefits: Two people in Coastal Steward category, cocktail party comes with that. Will contact everyone about their benefits, keep them in mind. List of Coconut donors, honored with applause. Talking to TJ Walker, meeting Jan. 20 at 5:30 pm to discuss website. Review website in advance to discuss changes. Looks great, not always user-friendly, make it more timely and navigable. Panel's only online presence.

Communications: No report.

Captiva Drive: *Mintz*: County has prepared ROW donations packets, should be sent to owners sometime next week. Once executed, still need to pursue county funding.

Taxation: No report, will discuss next month.

Brand: *Baumgarten*: Video on golf cart safety under way, sponsored by Yolo.

Future issues: *Brown*: Hurricane protocol, how do we find out current conditions? *Lanigan* asked to form committee. *Lanigan*: Did this two years ago, previous iterations well intentioned but limited in what information can be collected. Know who we should contact concerning utilities and with City of Sanibel. *Laird*: Use a drone? *Lanigan*: Privacy issues. Discussion. *Walter*: Last evacuation, when they opened the toll booth first responders had issues dealing with people just driving over to look around after the storm.

Financial: *Baumgarten*: Keep having Zoom meetings? *Brown*: Don't see any time in near future to revert back to in-person meetings. *Baumgarten*: Can we host any events before end of season? *Mullins*: CEPD meetings, staff is in person, board is online. Hold Zoom meetings and allow people to meet in person if they wish. More access is making panel more accessible, making fund-raising more effective. *Brown*: Keep Zoom access even in in-person meetings.

New business: Nothing brought forward.

Meeting adjourned 11:45 a.m.

-- Ken Gooderham