

## Captiva Community Panel

# MINUTES

*Dec. 14, 2021*

**Attending:** Jay Brown, Michael Mullins, Michael Lanigan, Tony Lapi, Rene Miville, John Jensen, Linda Laird, Ann Brady

**Audience:** 15

Meeting convened 9:04 a.m. Introductions and roll call. Approval of Nov. 9 minutes (Lapi/Lanigan), unanimous.

**LCSO:** *Deputy Chris Lusk:* Mike back next meeting hopefully. Busy November, island events, without a hitch. Minor issues only. No new complaints so far. Questions about golf carts vehicles on the beach, no damage or incidents. Enforcing speed limits with new visitors. *Brown:* Dock thefts? *Lusk:* A few big ones, discussion of detective Janelle Fox. Figured out who it was, able to make an arrest on that. Encouraging people to put fishing poles and expensive coolers away. Discussion about detective. Maybe out for first in-person meeting. *Lapi:* Thanks for TWI lighting help. *Laird:* Burglary in homes? *Lusk:* No, need to check but not for entire year.

**CFD:** *Brown:* Intro on helicopter landing area. Property manager had heart attack. Guests: Christine Brady, assistant county manager; Ben Abes, public safety director. *Jeff Brown:* Two issues need direction, landing zone and ground transportation. Ambulances dispatched from Sanibel station near CVS. 50% in number of calls this year compared to years past, don't see it diminishing in the future, more people here means more incidents. Need better ambulance service to Captiva, able to house one at fire station. *Brady:* Background on need, loss of Rauschenberg property landing zone. Discussion includes chief pilot, two identified -- South Seas and Osprey Way. Can make decision in flight about other appropriate landing zones. Looking at other options, meetings scheduled with mosquito control. BoCC approved 21 more EM positions. Then can look at countywide staging and needs. More time to finish that analysis, did not expect more staff pleased with board approval. Happy to update at next meeting. *Brown:* Put on agenda. Captiva remote location, 45 minutes to hospital, obvious need for ambulance and appropriate sited landing zone. What need to get such a resource? Enough people to warrant this level of service. *Avis:* Multi factorial, not just population. Number of calls, frequency of uses. Have watched Captiva closely, will finish analysis by end of year. Need staff on board, trained and credentialed. *Laird:* Enough ambulance as well as people. *Avis,* ambulance and equipment OK, waiting for personnel to be on board. *Miville:* Can they land on beach if needed? Is there a traumatic care EMS designation? Able to administer critical health procedures? Minimum size of helipad landing area? *AVIS:* Beach, can land if necessary at pilot discretion, prefer designated landing zone know by both ground and air crews. Unknowns on beach... people, environment, etc. Certified by FA to land on those areas. Traumatic care; All EMT have extensive training in that care. Coordinate with skilled physicians in area for continuity of care. Minimum size: Yes and no. Can look at private helipads to get craft in and out in preplanned basis, not FAA designated. FAA requires specific setbacks, approach slope, a lot more work and more space. Hard to clear larger area on island such as Captiva. *Jeff Brown:* Have used private property historically, but don't control it. Could have things occurring on property that would impede use as a landing site. Not good solution to rely on private property owners, need a designated landing zone. Mosquito control has one on SSIR that could be utilized. *Miville:* Or buy a parcel, would like to know specifications. *Mullins:* Not seeing ambulance going wrong way, wrong choice of words. South Seas may be best option in interim. Lease parcel at South Seas. *Pawul:* May go north or south, depends on timing and patient conditions. Discussion. *Mullins:* Don't want to lose lives while we're waiting for a more perfect solution. *Pawul:*

County needs to get involved. Discussion. *Brady*: County working on options. Two landing zones, SSIR and Osprey Way, and beach is an option. More than we have on other barrier islands, working with Mosquito Control on more permanent landing zones. Working to get new staff in place. Moving as quickly as it can. *Brown*: Update next month. *Miville*: Current response times for EMS? *Brady*: Not prepared for that this meeting. *Pawul*: Send last 12 month of response to me to forward. *Mullins*: What can we do to ensure alternatives are available? *Pawul*: We rely on county to provide transport service. Discussion. As reliable, as can be for private property without an exclusive agreement. *Brown*: Recap.

**CEPD:** *Jennifer Nelson*: Meeting reminder. Project is complete, waiting on final invoices. Plantings are complete filling in nicely. Waiting on rope and posts, 7,000 linear feet. Temporary signs out reminding people to mind the dune plantings. Commissioner Mullins resigned, will miss his institutional knowledge, has been a great mentor to me. Soliciting applications for appointments. *Brown*: Two openings, interested applications must be in by Dec. 31. Will decide at first meeting in January. *Nelson*: Will be setting up interviews with commissioners. Have a one-on-one discussions. Working on video, a few more interviews to complete. To show to people countywide so they understand we do. Celebration for beach in the spring, possibly at TWI. Silvia new chair at CEPD, thanks to vice-chair Miville.

**LOSOM:** *James Evans*: *Brown*: Congratulations on becoming CEO of SCCF, very excited board showed excellent judgment. *Evans*: Excited to lead talented organization. Presentation. (Mullins left @ 9:55 am). USACE will have to take into account flows from the watershed, not just from the lake, Huge win for SWF. St. Lucie Estuary will share burden during critical release times. *Brown*: St. Lucie Estuary folks OK with this plan? *Evans*: Very concerned at beginning, but understand they have a good plan that will not get better under a challenge. Trying to work with them whenever we can. *Evans*: No new news by January meeting. *Lapi*: How low does lake get before residents complain? *Evans*: Maintain 12-15 feet for ecology of lake, below 12 feet they want to stop all discharges for water supply and navigation. *Mintz*: Send anything to Corps to thank for plan selection? *Evans*: Wait until they release operations plan. May need public comment at that point. Modeling vs operating the system itself.

**SLR planning:** *Brown*: Integral study nearly complete, report and public meeting with community pending. CEPD has determined its charter includes bayfront protection of island. More financial resources to develop plans, Bets place for SLR management in future is likely with CEPD. Laird likely to be named CEPD commissioner, way to maintain tie to panel for input and updates. Aptim preparing proposal on SLR planning soon. Around February panel would pass primary responsibility for SLR planning to CEPD. *Lapi*: Makes sense, applaud it. *Mintz*: Had conversation with new CEPD chair, requesting continuing panel input on SLR issues. *Brown*: Would allow SLR committee to focus on stormwater management. *Miville*: Aptim asked to develop SLR plan 2.5 years ago to bring issues to community. Identify impacts to community. Tabled it while new staff and commissioners focused on beach project. With upcoming resignations, reached out to Laird to consider joining CEPD board. Laird willing to work and has strong background on SLR issues. Going into administrative phase with CEPD, less capital projects. New lobbyist team in place, very positive. Happy with new staff as well. Hopefully hit the ground running, set a benchmark nationally for island resiliency.

**Food trucks:** *Mintz*: Came out of left field, state passed preemption legislation to prevent regulation of mobile food dispensing vehicles. State license lets them work anywhere. County can still regulate how they operate, just not licensing. County undertook new rules, Stilwell brought this to my attention. Didn't have enough time to review ordinance scheduled for final hearing Dec 7. Put together analysis of proposed regulations to show what was planned and possible. Asked BoCC to delay adoption at Dec. 7 meeting. Put off to Jan. 18 hearing. Sense of what they are proposed and what's not in their proposal, and whether we think it should be included. State rules includes boats as food dispenser, Joey's is

grandfathered by county now. Review of ordinance and proposed changes. Display licenses at all times, not in Lee but in others. Operating on private property, must have permission of property owner – included in most other jurisdictions. Signs allowed include some banned on Captiva. Pop-up restaurants not excluded. No prohibition for amplified music or speakers around trucks. Other areas prohibit overnight parking of vehicles. Operable fire extinguishers and inspection by fire dept. Limit on number of trucks on property, number of days per week or time limit of operations. Prohibitions on locating trucks – county rules explained. Undeveloped property prohibited, but not specifically beaches, tidal zones or wetlands. No ban on island parking lots. Red text are other municipalities' options. *Stilwell*: Thanks for your hard work. Weigh in as Captivans, I can take those to restaurants associations. *Mintz*: Can propose some or all of what I sent, county view is they want countywide ordinance. Or suggest we need our own regulations due to being barrier island. *Brown*: Try to address all the weaknesses you suggested, or work with Sandy on restaurant association. *Mintz*: United front with Restaurant Association, meet with them to encourage support. More effective with BoCC. Meet with them, come back to panel with status prior to county hearing. Look for common areas of concern. *Laird*: Boats on the beach, trucks on private property or beach parking lots. *Brown*: Destroy island's ambiance. *Ann Brady*: Take view to embrace this trend, but make it less intrusive... once a month, perhaps. Support entrepreneurial spirit without sacrificing existing businesses. *Miville*: Embrace change. Potential issues could be overwhelming but like encouraging. *Mintz*: Does not apply to food truck parks. Special events separate from this as well. Existing restaurants have strict rules to operate under, pay for employees, etc. Can't compete with food trucks without some regulations. *Brown*: Recommend Mintz develop proposal for panel, work with restaurants, discuss at next meeting.

*Break*

**LDC & ordinances:** *Mintz*: Summary of LDC changes sent to board Monday. *Brown*: OK with letter, any objections? *Lapi*: When does this take effect? Now. *Brown*: How distributed? *Mintz*: To list. target business, post on website. Ruane setting meeting on ordinances, next few weeks.

**Appointment:** *Brown*: Recap. Brown and Gill appointed by CCA and CPOA. Nominating Committee suggested Mintz. Motion to accept Nominating Committee recommendation (Brown/Jensen), unanimous.

**Schedule:** *Gooderham*: Same as last year, will be published after Jan. 1.

**Budget:** *Gooderham*: Tentative proposal, a number of unknown issues in 2022 such as wastewater MSTBU and stormwater work. Can wait until January meeting to adopt, but send me any anticipated expenses, etc., before Jan. 7.

**Wastewater:** *Brown*: K-H has finished cost and construction, need input from Sanibel on capacity access fee. Cost for new customers, and modifications to accept our wastewater. Worked with county to get funding to pay for Sanibel studies. *Mintz*: Amendment to current contract. Explanation of county scope and studies. Pay Sanibel or their vendors for both studies. TetraTech (system modifications) and Raftelis (access fee), approved at 12/7 BoCC hearing. (Miville gone 11:27 am). Read motion (JB/TL) unanimous. *Mintz*: Awaiting scope, 1/6 council meeting, begin drafting appropriate contract between panel, Sanibel and vendors. *Brown*: Empower me to act as necessary? Direct panel president to draft appropriate contract as necessary to move funds to Sanibel and vendors, pursuant to timeline and costs discussed today. Unanimous. *Brown*: Sanibel project will take 3-4 months to complete, won't have complete report until late spring, not begin MSTU campaign until next season. Disappointed with this lag time, hoped to begin MSTBU effort this year. Created apportionment committee to look at options for apportioning costs. Rosen, Wetzel, Brown, Mintz. *Mintz*: Despite frustrations over timeline, been tremendous progress on project. Ruane provided leadership for funding. Commission and utilities dept. supportive, Sanibel as

well, bureaucracy always takes longer than we'd like. *Brown*: Some viewing this as a pilot project for Lee County, which is facing considerable issues dealing with wastewater.

**SLR:** *Laird*: Background. Protect from inundation in a way that's resilient and sustainable. Hapke updated committee on report, five areas for design. Discussed designs, unique for each area. Will present to panel hopefully at next meeting, then to the committee. Invite Hapke to present at Jan. meeting. Discussion on berms this week, led by Carrie Schuman 9-11 Thursday. Stormwater: Johnson Engineering and K-H will prep proposals for management plan for Village area, has the biggest problem with flooding. *Brown*: Economies of scale with moving in conjunction with wastewater plans. *Laird*: Mark Thompson discussed removing nutrient pollutants. Sewers could reduce to 40% of nitrogen load, should see improvements in our nearshore waters. As impaired body of water, state will seek mitigation, Sewer effort could satisfy that requirement. Stormwater pollution removal could be expensive, 3.9% reduction for a lot of cost. Work on simpler efforts – fertilizer, irrigation, vegetation buffers, more pervious surfaces. How much flooding are we willing to put up with on a routine basis? Discussion for committee panel and community.

**Iguana:** *Mintz*: Ruane still pressing county to enter interlocal agreement with Sanibel, hopefully know more in January. *Jensen*: Alfredo ready to go if gets go-ahead.

**Captiva Drive:** *Mintz*: Still have two holdouts, now have two contacts to reach out to one of them. Engineer did rendering to show what walkway would look like. Underneath proposed sidewalk is drain for Village, both shoulders of roadway. Possibility they would want to change existing drain system, will work to avoid any impact on potential sidewalk. Plus wastewater work could have impact. *Laird*: has panel run large build project before? *Mintz*: No, but projects would be handled by county departments. *Laird*: Anyone monitoring all these projects. Subcontract to CEPD? *Mintz*: We're not doing projects. Discussion.

**Future issues:** Underground power lines at next meeting? Concerned Citizens of Captiva report on rental impacts.

**Gov Affairs:** *Mintz*: BoCC meeting, instructed staff to create manatee slow speed zone for all of Roosevelt Channel, will come back to board for approval. Legislature has preempted local regulations from establish design standards for SF or MF houses. Private can still set standards, not govt.

Meeting adjourned 12:02 p.m. (Laird/Brown).

-- *Ken Gooderham*