

**Casey Key Association
Agenda
Regular Board Meeting, December 3, 2018**

Board Members Attending

Mike Thomas, Don Casto, Lisa Napolitano, Dan Simmons, Tekla Dragan, Marian Price, Ping Faulhaber, Dawn Doughty, Bob Metzger and Art Wood

Association Members in Attendance

Mario Messina, Archie Urciuoli, Tom Stuhley, Mike France, Jerry Collins, Hank Tafaro, Ken & Chris Astor, Peter Stevenson, Robert Gunther, Sandy Warner and Connie Davis.

Call to Order

Mike Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. Mike Thomas stated that we were going to get through the regular business as quickly as possible because there were several “New Business” items on the agenda to discuss.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of 11/5/2018 Regular Meeting, Don Casto approved, Bob Metzger seconded and was unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report

Jean Parm was not in attendance but sent out the Treasurer’s report via email to members of the Board. Mike Thomas asked if there were any question, changes or corrections to the report. A motion was made by Lisa Napolitano to approve and seconded by Dawn Doughty

President’s Report

Mike Thomas reported that he and Dennis Doughty recently met with concerned residents of Casey Key, Archie Urciuoli, Mike France and Robert Gunther to discuss two issues with regard to the beach erosion along the 1200 block of CKR. Primarily requesting support for a rock revetment as opposed to a sea wall and secondly to address the special taxing authority proposed by the County to assess homeowners for needed repair expenses associated with shoring up the public road and watermain. Archie Urciuoli gave a brief overview of the meeting. Mike Thomas deferred formal Board action and further discussion was tabled until the New Business/Old Business portion of the meeting.

Committee Chairs/Reports

Security

Dan Simmons reported that there have been 5 minor incident reports from the Sheriff's Department since the last meeting in November. These consist of a couple of noise complaints, minor burglary incident and 2 drunk driving citations on Blackburn Point Road.

Ken Astor, Casey Key resident brought up the continuing issues he is experiencing at his home with regard to noise level violations from the Casey Key Fish House and expressed further frustration with response from the Sheriff's Department. Ken indicated that even though he has placed several complaint calls to the Sheriff's Department, they have been unresponsive and unaware of their enforcement abilities based on the formal agreement for noise levels between the Fish House and the County.

Dan Simmons indicated that he will address the enforcement issues with the Sheriff's Department and request that they provide properly trained staff and equipment to measure noise levels at the Fish House to determine compliance or non-compliance with the agreement on record with the County. Dan will arrange to have Sheriff's Department measure noise levels on Friday or Saturday nights when "Live music" is in place. Dan stated that although there are many apps available to measure noise decibels, the County can only rely on their own measurements to determine if citations and enforcement are warranted. Dan Simmons requested that Ken Astor contact him the next time he experiences this issue and Dan will try to facilitate enforcement with the County.

Additionally, Ken has sent an email to the County's Attorney, Stephen DeMarsh to request assistance in enforcing the current agreement on file. **(See attachment A)**

Membership and Directory

Bob Metzger reported that as of today, 203 of the 283 members have renewed for 2019. Bob and Dawn Doughty have called outstanding members to urge for renewal. Mike Thomas indicated that Board members would be happy to help make calls to outstanding members as needed. Dawn Doughty suggested that we send out 1 more email to outstanding members as a reminder to send in their

dues or renew via mycaseykey.com. Lisa Napolitano agreed to send out email to all non-renewals.

Directory preparation is in process. Mike asked about current numbers of advertisers that had renewed and if additional advertisers were needed. Bob indicated that he was unsure of the total number of ad renewals but thought that all but 1 had agreed to renew. Bob will follow up with Jean Parm to confirm. Dawn indicated that she thought all ads were confirmed with 1 new advertiser, Sarah Macrae to replace a non-renewing ad. Lisa Napolitano said she would help if new advertisers were needed.

Bob Metzger also provided an update on the recent activities and discussions of the Inter-Island League on the Red-tide issue since the last meeting. Bob reported that current links to red tide conditions along the Gulf coast are being updated more frequently and are linked directly to the Florida Fish and Wildlife websites. Bob stated that discussions continue to be focused on mitigation and research. Currently there is a plan under consideration to implement a drain field south of Lake Okeechobee to filter out green algae, prevent it from getting into the waterways running into the Gulf and flush much needed fresh water into the Everglades. When green algae hit the salt water it dies producing nitrates, which in any form, are believed to feed the Ride-tide algae bloom. Funding and current timeline for implementation are not determined at this point but could be a lengthy process. Peter Stevenson indicated that he thought government funding had been approved just prior to the current election, Bob will research and verify.

Bob also reported that Mote Marine has now created a new department, The Red Tide Institute, made possible by a 1-million-dollar gift to Mote Marine along with government funding, to further study the red-tide issue and has hired Dr. Cynthia Heil, a nationally acclaimed expert on toxic algae to head up this new division. Dr. Cynthia Heil's focus will be on mitigation, implementing strategies that have been successfully used to treat other areas experiencing similar issues with toxic algae as well as research and develop new mitigation options to treat red-tide in our area. Bob is scheduled to meet with her once she is able to get up and running on this issue after the first of the year. Next meeting of the Inter-Island League will be held on December 13th.

Mario Messina indicated that he would like to assist with any efforts and meetings regarding the red tide issue, citing his many years of experience in the chemical industry and would be a significant valuable resource in any discussions with regard to this topic.

Archie Urciuoli indicated that he met with Bob Essner of Mote to discuss what is currently being done and confirmed establishment of new Red Tide Institute. Bob indicated that he has made several attempts to contact him as well but has been unsuccessful. Ping Faulhaber indicated that she has contacts within Mote Marine and would be willing to facilitate introductions via email to assist Bob with setting up future meetings with the appropriate individuals at Mote Marine.

Nominating

Art Wood presented nominating committee report. Four positions are open on the board and will need to be filled. Art has a list of 20 names submitted by current and past CKA Board members, he will prioritize and start making calls after this meeting. Mike Thomas has agreed to continue as President for one more year. Art acknowledged that Mike has experienced some very difficult issues during his tenure and is very appreciative of his efforts and hard work. Lisa Napolitano and Don Casto will stay on as Vice Presidents, Dawn Doughty has agreed to be Secretary. Slate of officers to be sent out before Christmas for Annual Meeting.

Mike Thomas added a list of individuals to be included in minutes who expressed interest in serving on board or committees. Art Wood confirmed that all of these names are on his list of candidates. **See Attachment B**

Picnic

Marian Price reported that she is continuing to work on details for the picnic. Marian has received a suggestion to do a Mexican themed event. She was planning a Margaritaville theme but is happy to adapt if the Board is agreeable. Additionally, Marion has received some feedback that some members did not care for the food catered by Gecko's last year and ask if any other Board members had received similar feedback. Lisa Napolitano and Dawn Doughty both indicated that they had heard similar comments and recommended against using Gecko's for the upcoming Picnic. Several ideas for using food trucks for tacos and other Mexican themed food was discussed. Lisa Napolitano stated that food trucks

have been used for various realtor events recently and were a big hit. Furthermore, Lisa mentioned that there will be a Food Truck Rally at the North Jetty this coming Friday and could be an opportunity to check possible vendors for the Picnic. Ping Faulhaber recommended using Max's Table, Ping has used them for an event at her home. Marian will investigate food trucks and/or Max's Table

Parks & Conservation

Ping Faulhaber reported no new updates on Parks and Conservation

Communications/Website

Lisa Napolitano reported no new updates for Communications and Website.

Old Business

Tekla Dragan report that she has spoken with Tervis Tumbler to try to negotiate with them to redo our inventory of 12 outdated Tervis Tumblers for the boutique. Tervis indicated that they would not be able to redo the interior badges to something non-date specific. Lisa Napolitano said she would make attempts to get the outdated tumblers sold. Marion Price reported that she currently does not have anyone to run the boutique at the Picnic this year since Tekla will not be available and Valerie DallAcqua will be running the All Faith's Food Bank donations. Lisa Napolitano agreed to do the boutique.

New Business

Mike Thomas reopened the discussion previously tabled with regard to the meeting held with Archie Urciuoli, Mike France and Bob Gunther about the two beach/road erosion projects ongoing at the 1200 block of CKR.

Archie Urciuoli reiterated that this group would like to request formal support and action from the Casey Key Association for the two topics discussed at their meeting on 12/2. They are requesting the CKA Board adopt and support the preference for the installation of a rock revetment to address the erosion issues and to renegotiate with the County the use of a special taxing authority for shared costs associated with the repairs needed to shore up the roadway and underlying watermain.

The discussion of the rock revetment issue centered around the anticipated opposition from the County, lengthy timeline for permitting, environmental

concerns, number of agencies that will need to be involved in the process and subsequent implementation of the preferred rock revetment.

The discussion of the use of a special taxing authority plan to have the residents share the expenses included several topics supporting opposition to this plan. Primarily, having met with an attorney, this plan is inconsistent with the manner in which the County has used the special taxing authority in the past, the County has been negligent in their maintenance of the existing roadway and underlying watermain by not actively addressing the erosion issue in a timely manner, and as a public road and public watermain, the sole responsibility of maintenance and repair rests with the County.

Mike France stressed the importance of the favorable relationship and reputation the CKA has with the County Commissioners, stating that the BCC would be more receptive to recommendations from the CKA as opposed to individual residents.

Mario Messina expressed his interest in participating in the beach erosion discussions with the County stating he has various proven options for beach protection for which he has patents and has received favorable write-ups in various periodicals. Mario would be happy to put together a presentation for the CKA Board to present his ideas. Mike Thomas indicated he would welcome the presentation but would like to focus on the current options for now.

Tom Stuhley mentioned that he recently had a conversation with Spencer Anderson from the County about the implementation of a rock revetment and Spencer had indicated that if that option were to be used, any existing cabanas along that stretch of roadway would have to be demolished as the county would not incur the expense of installing platforms around the existing cabanas. Mike Thomas indicated he was appreciative of the information.

Mike Thomas made a motion to approve and support; the preference for a rock revetment and to renegotiate the use of a special taxing authority with the County. Both items were approved unanimously. Mike Thomas will edit the draft letter to the County submitted by this group (**See Attachment C**) and send to the Board of County Commissioners prior to their next meeting on December 13th.

Mike also mentioned that at this December 13th meeting the County is scheduled to formally approve the funds/bids for the upcoming Casey Key Road repaving project slated for January 2019.

Connie Davis noted that in addition to the relationship the CKA has with the BCC the BCC tends to respond to crowds and suggested that the CKA notify residents of the upcoming meeting and urge them to attend. Lisa Napolitano will send notification of the meeting to Casey Key residents.

Connie Davis also addressed an issue with the flag being lowered at appropriate times per protocol. The Library no longer has a volunteer to do this. Jerry Collins will have his company send notification to CKA when the flag needs to be lowered. Connie suggested having bridge tenders or North Beach Patrol security guard lower flag. Dawn Doughty said she could put them in contact North Beach Patrol. Mike Thomas asked Dan Simmons talk to bridge tender personnel and ask if they would be willing to assume the responsibility for flag protocol. The flagpole light also needs to be inspected and repaired.

Sandy Warner asked about issue of the houseboat rental business operating at the private boat slip just south of the Casey key Fish House (811 Casey Key Rd). Mike Thomas presented a letter he received from Bob Gunther regarding this matter. **See Attachment D.** Mike Thomas asked Bob Gunther to provide an update.

Bob Gunther reported that he sent a letter to Mike Thomas and cc'd via email, County Commissioners Alan Maio and Charles Hines, notifying him of the operation of a houseboat rental company "HOUSEBOATSMARGARITAVILLA.COM" at 811 Casey Key Road. This is a violation of The North Casey Key Conservation District Law: Chapter 70-937-Laws of Florida, House Bill No. 5158 strictly prohibits the use of this property for commercial purposes.

Bob stated that he received an email from Alan Maio forwarding his letter to zoning enforcement, since then the large sign advertising house boat rental has been removed. Bob Gunther also indicated that the website associated with the business are still active and Tekla Dragon reported that her customers in the motel district have been inquiring about this houseboat rental operation as well.

Bob indicated that this property was recently acquired by the owners of 4028 Casey Key Road and who themselves may be in violation of several zoning laws due to the number and types of vehicles being kept on their property, boat restorations and possible lack of permitting for such activities.

Mike Thomas indicated that since it appears action by the County is underway, he will wait to send a follow-up letter to Alan Maio and Charles Hines.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Dawn Doughty

Attachments:

Attachment A - Ken Astor Email & Supporting Documentation

Attachment B – List of Possible Board/Committee Members

Attachment C – Draft Letter for BCC regarding Road Issues

Attachment D – Letter from Robert Gunther re: Houseboat rental operation