



## Fort Myers Beach Management & Planning Session

Bay Oaks Recreation Center  
2731 Oak Street  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Minutes

Thursday, February 15, 2024

9:00 AM

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### FINAL

##### I. CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Mayor Allers, Vice Mayor Atterholt, Council Member King and Council Member Woodson.

##### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

##### III. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

###### A. Presentation: LeeCARES

###### **Lee Cares Hurricane Ian Housing Recovery Program Overview**

Lee County Assistant County Manager Glen Salyer addressed the CDBG-DR (Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery) program and stated they were in the process of launching all the programs put forward. He noted that since they were the first jurisdiction to launch any program, they had a huge slate of general contractors to choose from. He described how to apply for funding for shared assets and noted the asset owner would apply. He explained opportunities for the beach to receive assistance, such as matching funds for a hazard mitigation program and prioritizing low and moderate-income benefit projects to demonstrate to HUD that they prioritized those needs.

Jeannie Sutton, Deputy Director, utilized PowerPoint for her presentation. The presentation started with Lee Cares Overview, Eligibility, Duplication of Benefits, Documents Needed, 3 Ways to Apply and Intake Centers.

###### B. Presentation: ResilientLee

###### **Lee County Recovery Task Force Overview**

Lee County Manager Dave Harner described the plan, where the county was and the next steps.

Assistant County Manager Christine Brady indicated that they were working on all the properties at the beach. Design companies were being selected

and the community engagement communication team would prepare updates on their website with timelines for each project. She stated that Lee County Parks & Recreation suffered \$28 million worth of damage and their goal was to open Crescent Beach shortly for temporary use.

Mr. Harner noted they were working with the state regarding the Seafarer's property, the Carlos Pass bridge was on target and the fishing pier was not included at this point. The DOT (Department of Transportation) was working on a plan for Estero Blvd. regarding the damage from trucks.

Public Safety Director Ben Abes utilized PowerPoint to discuss the recovery task force work. Slides included Lee County Long-term Recovery and Resilience Plan Purpose, Task Force Efforts to Engage Community and Municipalities Plan Development, Timeline, Plan Highlights, Branch Descriptions and Plan Adoption.

C. Presentation: Mooring Field

**An update on the Town mooring field**

Environmental Projects Manager Chadd Chustz noted deadlines to apply for grant opportunities. He utilized PowerPoint for his presentation. Slides included Matanzas Pass Mooring Field, Expanded Mooring Field, Matanzas Pass Mooring Field Recovery Update, Dockside Sanitary Connection, Mooring Facilities, Grant Opportunities, Dockside Sanitary Connection & Town Vessel Mooring Location Feasibility Analysis, Pros and Cons, Harbormaster Austin Gilchrist described the need for a self-contained pump-out facility, Location Needs, Staff Only Facility, No Dinghy Dock or Public Facility, Eliminated Locations, Virginia Ave. Pros & Cons, Chapel St. Pros & Cons and Bay Oaks Pros and Cons. Discussion was held regarding obtaining feedback from property owners at each location. The presentation continued with Grant Opportunities, FWC FBIP Grant, FWC BIGP Grant, WCIND WDP, and Clean Vessel Act Grant.

D. Presentation: Sea Turtle Conservation

**An overview from Environmental staff**

Projects Manager Chustz utilized PowerPoint for his presentation. Slides included Town Codes Lighting Standards, Sea Turtle Conservation Purpose, When is a Lighting Review Required?, What is a Lighting Review Reviewing?, Sea Turtle Conservation Code, Why Do We Need Lighting Reviews?, What Happens When We Do Not Review Lighting?, Existing Lights Reviewed?, What is TFMB Policy?

Mayor Allers discussed lighting and public safety issues outside of turtle season and allowing flexibility. He did not think requiring amber lights year-round for houses on the back bay made sense. Projects Manager Chustz noted that he did not review single-family residences landward of the CCCL (Coastal Construction Control Line). He requested flexibility to do white lighting or dark sky lighting on commercial in the gray area and not require long-wavelength lighting on the bay side. Mayor Allers commented that there was technology to allow both long and short wavelengths with adjustments.

Council Member Woodson thought they needed to research new technology before they put restrictions on people. Council Member King brought up educating new people coming in. Mayor Allers noted people were taking the path of least resistance and installing amber lights year-round in parking lots, which put people at risk. He stated that the public safety standard was a one-foot candle, regardless of color.

The recording skipped to Vice Mayor Atterholt speaking about flexibility with technology and being sensitive to the turtles and public safety. He felt it reasonable for Projects Manager Chutz to follow the gray area on the map for multi-family and commercial entities.

#### **IV. AGENDA MANAGEMENT**

##### **A. February 2024**

Council Member Woodson questioned when strategic planning would be scheduled. Town Manager Hyatt noted it was on the list for February or March. The recording skipped to Mayor Allers stating that FEMA hired a firm.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member King moved to adjourn; seconded by Mayor Allers. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Minutes adopted as presented, March 4, 2024. Motion by Council Member King and seconded by Mayor Allers. Passed 5-0.



Amy Baker, Town Clerk