

**PUNTA GORDA ISLES  
CANAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fredric Cort, Acting Chairman  
Jake Dye, Fred Hannon,  
Robert Knabe, Paul Raffa, Colleen Wright

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor  
Kristin Simeone, Finance Director  
Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting and Compliance Manager  
Bob Nikula, Project Manager

**CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
  - 1. December 16, 2019
    - Mr. Knabe noted he was unable to attend the December 16, 2019 meeting.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

- None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**NOTE: Approval of Minutes heard before Citizen Comments.**

- A. October 21, 2019
  - Mr. Knabe requested Mr. Raffa's name be corrected on pages 3 and 4 of the minutes.
  - Mr. Dye MOVED, Mr. Raffa SECONDED approval of the October 21, 2019 minutes as amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**REPORTS**

- A. Finance Reports - October 2019
  - Ms. Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor, offered to answer any questions regarding the October 2019 reports, as delineated in the agenda material.
  - Mr. Cort questioned whether there was a delay in reporting revenue.
  - Ms. Kristin Simeone, Finance Director, stated tax bills were distributed in November 2019; therefore, revenues for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019/2020 were seen in the October 2019 report. She explained same happened each tax cycle, confirming there were no concerns at this time.
  - Mr. Raffa inquired whether additional funds had been received for Hurricane Irma-related seawall repairs.

- Ms. Simeone replied an additional \$1.8 million was received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as their reimbursement level increased from 75% to 90%.
- B. Budget Utilization Report - October 2019
  - Ms. Miller confirmed there were no questions regarding the October 2019 report.
- C. Seawall Replacement Status Reports - October 2019
  - Ms. Miller announced work had commenced on two projects highlighted in the report, noting one was almost complete.
- D. Permits Authorized by City Staff - October 2019
  - Ms. Miller announced 41 permits had been issued.
- E. PGI Capital Improvement Status Report - October 2019
  - Mr. Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting and Compliance Manager, announced staff reviewed the Task 6 document for the Seawall Alternative Materials Project with Taylor Engineering, Inc. He explained staff decided additional historical seawall replacement data should be included in the report to create a more accurate forecasting model, adding the information would be available by the December 16, 2019 meeting. He then stated staff requested the Procurement Division cancel the current proposal for the Ponce De Leon Inlet Widening & Dredging/Spoil Site Channel project so that the project's scope could be revised to bring the project within budget; however, he had not yet received a response.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

- Recording Secretary Pues swore in all participants.

**NOTE: Mr. Dye left the dais at 1:38 p.m.**

- A. Special Permit - CCSP-11-19 - Continued
  - Mr. Bob Nikula, Project Manager, announced the request heard at the October 21, 2019 meeting was revised so that a vessel would use a more perpendicular approach rather than the straight approach angle originally proposed. He displayed an overhead view of the revised plans, noting the revisions had reduced the number of pilings outside the permitted 45 degree angle from 3 to 2, with the furthest piling extending 25 feet waterward. He concluded the revised request met the six criteria for approval and staff recommended approval of same.
  - Mr. Dye stated he would abstain from voting on this matter. (See attached 8B Voting Conflict Form.)
  - Mr. Cort called three times for public comment.
  - Mr. Knabe MOVED, Mr. Raffa SECONDED to close the public hearing. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Mr. Hannon MOVED, Mr. Raffa SECONDED to approve CCSP-11-19. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**NOTE: Mr. Dye returned to the dais at 1:43 p.m.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Mangroves- Along perimeter canal adjacent to Surfbird Court and Almar Drive.
- Ms. Miller announced the cost of removing mangroves along the perimeter canal adjacent to Surfbird Court and Almar Drive was estimated at \$350,000, noting same might not move through the permitting process since the location was not considered a safety concern. She then questioned whether members would like to proceed with the project.
- Mr. Hannon stated he had never experienced an issue in that area, noting he was opposed to approving the project.
- Consensus of the Committee was not to proceed with removal of the mangroves.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Buckley's Pass Additional Harbor Access Project Update
- Mr. Disher announced all seawall panels were installed and dredging had commenced during the previous week, noting video footage of the Buckley's Pass additional harbor access Project was available on the City's YouTube Channel. He stated turbidity curtains were installed on both ends of the project to block access through the Project area during dredging operations, clarifying boaters who resided in the area could communicate with the operators for access.
- Mr. Cort noted comments were made regarding shoaling in Alligator Creek.
- Mr. Disher replied staff would address the referenced area once the majority of the Project was complete.
- Discussion ensued regarding shoaling near Buckley's Pass, with members confirming any material build up would be removed.

#### **STAFF COMMENTS**

- Ms. Miller stated the Finance Department would provide an update regarding Hurricane Irma-related funds at the December 16, 2019 meeting.

#### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting Adjourned: 1:48 p.m.

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Fredric Cort, Acting Chairman

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Leah Pues, Recording Secretary