

**PUNTA GORDA ISLES
CANAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2020**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Kuharski

OTHERS PRESENT: Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor
Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting and Compliance Manager
Bob Nikula, Project Manager
Mike Parr, Geoffrey Cecil, Kate Cremen,
Jeff Damico, Michele Damico, Peter Aratari,
Sally Pinches

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Cort called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. December 21, 2020
- Committee consensus to schedule the next meeting on December 14, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. October 19, 2020
- Mr. Knabe MOVED, Mr. Hannon SECONDED approval of the October 19, 2020, minutes.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS

- A. Finance Reports – September and October 2020
- Ms. Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor, stated the Finance Report reflected final expenditures for the 2020 Fiscal Year (FY).
- Mr. Cort verified Ms. Miller would provide additional information relating to the Cares Act Grant denoted in the Revenue report. He then requested clarification of funds expended under Contractual Services and Seawall Panel Building Materials.
- Ms. Miller replied Contractual Services was for the Ponce De Leon Inlet Widening & Dredging/Spoil Site Channel Project (Inlet/Channel Project) which was put on hold pending City Attorney review, adding the \$4,692 was for temporary labor. She then clarified the Seawall Panel Building Materials was under budget since fewer seawall

panels were constructed than anticipated, adding most of the funds had been budgeted for steel; however, a significant amount of steel was left over following Hurricane Irma.

B. Budget Utilization Report – October 2020

- Ms. Miller stated the October 2020 report was for FY 2021, pointing out the invoices denoted in same had not been paid yet.

C. Seawall Replacement Status Reports – October 2020

- Ms. Miller reported three projects were under construction, as delineated in the agenda material, noting the project originally scheduled for July 19, 2021, had commenced as the contractor had a crew which became available.

D. Permits Authorized by the City - October 2020

- Ms. Miller announced 49 permits were authorized in October 2020.

E. PGI Capital Improvement Status - Update

- Mr. Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting and Compliance Manager, stated staff received recommendations for the Seawall Materials & Methods Feasibility Study from both Canal Advisory Committees, anticipating same would be presented to City Council at their second meeting in January 2021. He reiterated the Inlet/Channel Project remained on hold.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Recording Secretary Pues swore in all participants.

A. Special Permit – CCSP-23-2020 - Petition for Special Permit under the provisions of Chapter 6, Section 2-1(e) of the Punta Gorda Code to install a boat lift with two (2) boat lift pilings and a portion of a two (2) foot wide aluminum walkway outside the structure limitation lines, which is prohibited by Section 2-1(c)(5), Punta Gorda Code, at Lot 34, Block 64, Section 7, aka 1501 Columbian Drive, Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

Owner/Petitioner: Gary Kloch

Charlotte County Parcel: 412212306005

- Mr. Bob Nikula, Public Works Project Manager, displayed photographs and proposed construction drawings from the agenda material, briefly reviewing the request. He stated the furthest piling extended 20 feet waterward from the seawall and the approach angle was perpendicular to the seawall, concluding staff recommended approval of the request.
- Mr. Geoffrey Cecil, 1519 Columbian Drive, expressed concern regarding the impact of the proposed lift on his view of the canal, questioning whether the applicant could store a vessel of any size if same were approved.

- Mr. Nikula replied the maximum distance a vessel could extend was 30 feet from the subject seawall, noting the existing dock and out pilings in the photograph would be removed.
 - Discussion ensued regarding the specifications of the request and the size of boat which could be accommodated along with regulations relating to same.
 - Mr. Dye advised the proposed boat lift limited the size of the vessel allowed to be stored.
 - Mr. Mike Parr, applicant's agent, verified the vessel would be a small flatboat.
 - Ms. Kate Cremen indicated the proposed vessel was approximately 23 feet in length.
 - Mr. Cort called three times for public comment.
 - Mr. Knabe MOVED, Mr. Dye SECONDED to close the public hearing. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - Mr. Dye opined the request did not appear to obstruct the view of the waterway, noting the proposed size of the vessel was typical for corner lots.
 - Mr. Dye MOVED, Mr. Hannon SECONDED to approve Special Permit CCSP-23-2020. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- B. Special Permit – CCSP-24-2020 - Petition for Special Permit under the provisions of Chapter 6, Section 2-1(e) of the Punta Gorda Code to install a boat lift with two (2) boat lift pilings and a portion of a three (3) foot wide aluminum walkway outside the structure limitation lines, which is prohibited by Section 2-1(c)(5), Punta Gorda Code, at Lot 22, Block 182, Section 14, aka 3420 Bal Harbor Boulevard, Punta Gorda, Florida 33950
 Owner/Petitioner: Monica Vallee
 Charlotte County Parcel: 412213353012
- Mr. Nikula displayed photographs of the subject property and proposed construction drawings from the agenda material, noting the subject property had approximately 46 feet of seawall at the end of the canal and the furthest pilings extended 22 feet waterward from the seawall. He explained the neighboring property owner (1642 Bobolink Court) installed a dock this date and would be installing a four-piling boat lift, expressing uncertainty regarding the size of the vessel to be stored and the area the neighboring property owner intended to use; however, he noted a vessel could extend a maximum of 35 feet from the subject seawall whether same was stored on a boat lift or in the water. He briefly reviewed the six criteria for granting a special permit, concluding staff recommended approval of the request.
 - Ms. Wright inquired as to how the neighboring property owner would store their vessel when the applicant's vessel was stored.
 - Mr. Jeff Damico, 1642 Bobolink Court, displayed a drawing depicting the applicant's vessel on top of the proposed construction drawing, opining there would be no way for

him to approach his lift with the current proposal. He indicated the applicant's current lift presented him with navigational issues, opining the applicant's vessel would extend as far as 42 feet from the seawall. He detailed some of the issues he would encounter if the request was approved, concluding there were alternatives to what was proposed.

- Mr. Mike Parr, applicant's agent, explained several concerns arose when installing boat lifts at corner lots, expressing uncertainty as to the best solution for the subject property. He noted the vessel was prohibited from extending further than the boat limitation lines, adding he was uncertain of the size of the applicant's vessel.
- Discussion ensued regarding alternatives to the proposed boat lift.
- Ms. Wright opined the proposed lift would interfere with neighboring property owners use of their dock, adding buyers of smaller lots should be aware same required smaller vessels.
- Mr. Parr stated he could meet with the applicant to examine alternatives, noting the boat lift would likely cause navigational concerns no matter where same was installed outside of the permitted 45 degree angle.
- Ms. Michele Damico, 1642 Bobolink Court, stated she and Mr. Damico purchased their property recently and followed the guidelines for installing their boat lift, reiterating they would not be able to utilize their boat lift if this request was approved.
- Mr. Damico stated the applicant's vessel was 34.3 feet in length and had an anchor attached to the front, emphasizing same was too large for the location.
- Mr. Peter Aratari opined the applicant's vessel would extend at least 37 feet into the waterway from the seawall and the proposed design was not sufficient.
- Ms. Sally Pinches, 3406 Bal Harbor Boulevard, stated she also owned the property adjacent to the applicant. She noted her boat lift would be affected if the configurations of the proposed boat lift were to be reversed, questioning whether she would be notified if revisions were made to the design.
- Mr. Parr replied the best option might be to install two pilings within the permitted 45-degree angle and store the vessel in the water due to its size, reiterating he would need to meet with the applicant.
- Mr. Cort concluded there were alternatives to the proposal; however, there were still uncertainties as to what the applicant desired.
- Mr. Nikula clarified the request would only be re-advertised and noticed to property owners if additional pilings were proposed outside the permitted 45 degree angle.
- Mr. Parr requested members continue this request, adding he would obtain additional information from the homeowner and attempt to address surrounding property owners' concerns.

- Mr. Cort called three times for public comment.
- Mr. Dye MOVED, Mr. Raffa SECONDED to close the public hearing. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- Mr. Nikula verified November 20, 2020, was the deadline to provide the City Clerk's Office with a revised advertisement for the December 14, 2020, meeting.
- Mr. Dye MOVED, Mr. Hannon SECONDED to continue CCSP-24-2020 to the January 19, 2021, meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

- No items.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- No items.

STAFF COMMENTS

- None.

COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS

- None.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- None

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned: 2:35 p.m.

Fredric Cort, Chairman

Leah Pues, Recording Secretary