

**PUNTA GORDA ISLES
CANAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor
Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting, and Compliance Manager

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Roll Call
- 1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman
 - Mr. McBride stated his term would end in November 2019.
 - Recording Secretary Welch opened the floor for nominations for Chairman.
 - Mr. Cort NOMINATED Mr. McBride for Chairman.
 - Recording Secretary Welch called for any other nominations; as there were none, Mr. McBride was appointed Chairman by acclamation.
 - Mr. McBride opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman.
 - Mr. Dye NOMINATED Mr. Cort for Vice Chairman.
 - Mr. McBride called for any other nominations; as there were none, Mr. Cort was appointed Vice Chairman by acclamation.
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. March 18, 2019

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. January 23, 2019
 - Mr. Cort MOVED, Mr. Hannon SECONDED approval of the January 23, 2019 minutes.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- There were none.

REPORTS

- A. Marine Patrol Update – January 2019
 - Mr. McBride stated no report was available for January 2019.
 - Ms. Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor, questioned if members desired removal of this item from the agenda.

- Mr. McBride opined the marine patrol report must still be produced, suggesting Mr. Denny Christman, Volunteer Program Administrator, or Mr. Ed Barker be contacted to secure same.
 - Ms. Miller replied she would do so.
- B. Finance Reports – January 2019
- Ms. Miller drew members’ attention to the January 2019 reports, as delineated in the agenda material, offering to answer any questions.
 - Ms. Wright inquired if the City had received any reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Hurricane Irma–related seawall repairs.
 - Ms. Miller replied in the negative.
- C. Long Range Financial Plan – Fiscal Year 2019 – Fiscal Year 2023
- Ms. Miller questioned if members wished to postpone review of the Long Range Financial Plan until the Finance Department could provide a representative.
 - Consensus was to do so.
- D. Budget Utilization Report – January 2019
- Ms. Miller presented the January 2019 report, as delineated in the agenda material, confirming there were no questions.
- E. Irma 17 – Production Levels 2019
- Mr. Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting, and Compliance Manager, advised all contractors expected to complete their contracts on time.
 - Discussion ensued regarding remaining Hurricane Irma–related repairs, installation of sod, with members confirming the following: (1) sod remained difficult to obtain; (2) the rainy season might complicate obtaining sod; (3) contractors were responsible for notifying staff if they experienced difficulty obtaining sod; (4) final grade would be completed and inspected prior to installation of sod; (5) 160 feet of 12.5–foot seawall panels were under production for a job with a low berm; (6) other municipalities had not recently requested information about the City’s seawall maintenance and repair process; (7) staff was informally documenting the Hurricane Irma–related repair process; (8) 76.9% of seawalls had been set; (9) the City had communicated well with property owners.
- F. Seawall Replacement Status Reports – January 2019
- There was no discussion.
- G. PGI Capital Improvement Status
- Mr. Disher reviewed the Capital Improvement Program report, as delineated in the agenda material, estimating project consultants would be selected prior to the March 18, 2019 meeting.

- H. Permits Authorized by City Staff – January 2019
- Ms. Miller drew members’ attention to the January 2019 report, confirming there were no questions.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Ponce de Leon Inlet Dredging 2019 – Boaters Alliance Letter
- Mr. Disher drew members’ attention to the letter requesting Ponce de Leon Inlet (Inlet) be dredged to seven feet. He noted the Ponce de Leon Inlet Widening & Dredging project was out to bid, suggesting dredging the Inlet to seven feet could be added to the project’s scope. He requested the Committee’s recommendation.
 - Discussion ensued regarding the tidal datum used in the City’s canal dredging permit, the currently permitted canal depth and future permitted canal depth, with consensus to recommend the Ponce de Leon Inlet Widening & Dredging project consultant determine the Inlet’s dredged depth.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Chapter 6 Rewrite – Update
- Ms. Miller announced staff had been meeting weekly regarding the rewrite of Chapter 6, Punta Gorda Code, stating the Board should receive the draft of Article II and the revised draft of Article I prior to the March 18, 2019 meeting.
 - Discussion ensued regarding the number of articles in the Chapter 6 rewrite and standards for construction in canals, with members confirming Chapter 6 would include a third and fourth article and construction standards had been clarified with more specific language and restrictions.

STAFF COMMENTS

- Ms. Miller reported staff discovered high spots around channel markers 13 and 15 during inspection of dredging at the Inlet, explaining a price had been requested for the contractor to dredge there again in March 2019. She then stated the mangrove trimmer’s contract provided them ten days for correction of work, announcing staff would inspect the completed trimming the following day.

COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS

- Ms. Wright inquired as to the status of the seawall assessment methodology lawsuit.
- Ms. Miller offered to provide members with a link to follow the lawsuit’s status.
- Discussion ensued regarding the terms of the settlement offer provided to City Attorney David Levin for City Council’s consideration, potential difficulties associated with amending the seawall assessment methodology and the calculation of the proposed assessment for Buckley’s Pass.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned: 2:18 p.m.

David McBride, Chairman

Sara Welch, Recording Secretary