

Alligator Point Taxpayers Association

Board of Directors Meeting

The November meeting of the Alligator Pt Taxpayers Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Sam Rogers at 9:00 am on Saturday, November 14, 2009, at Mission by the Sea Church on Alligator Drive.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Jim Cummins, seconded by Allan Feifer to accept the minutes of the October 10th Board of Directors meeting, adopted without objection.

Approval of Treasurer Report:

Motion by Jim Cummins, seconded by Allan Feifer to accept the Treasurer's report (submitted via email), adopted without objection. Balance as of November 6, 2009: \$35,482.71

Dan Rothwell, Franklin County Engineer, spoke to the membership regarding APTA's request for new traffic regulations for Alligator Pt. Jim Cummins and other members were concerned that our original request to lower the speed limit from the welcome garden to the Nature Conservancy property to 25 mph was unnecessary. Steve Fling gave a recap of recent auto accidents along Alligator Dr. Dan Rothwell was not in favor of a blanket reduction from 35 to 25 mph, but preferred speed zones in certain areas: public beach access points; autistic child/"S" curve; first marina entrance. He was opposed to speed humps because of liability issues, and said the noise resulting from cars passing over rumble strips was an annoyance to nearby houses. He also favored maintaining the current speed limits along Alligator Dr. from Hwy 98 to the welcome garden. Rothwell suggested marking dune walkover areas and the marina with crosswalks and signs warning motorists to stop when a pedestrian was in the crosswalk. Eddie Sosbee feared crosswalks might give pedestrians a false sense of security, and Ken Osborne was concerned that they might tend to concentrate day visitors in those areas. President Rogers relinquished the Chair to Secretary Murphy in order to make the following motion: Alligator Dr from Hwy 98 to telephone tower – 55 mph (except for reduction to 45 mph in the "S" curve area); Alligator Dr from telephone tower to Nature Conservancy gate – 35 mph (except for reduction to 25 mph at dune walkovers, autistic child/"S" curve, marina). Seconded by Jim McCloy. Following discussion (which included Commissioner Cheryl Sanders directing Dan Rothwell to contact DEP regarding potential hazards associated with locating the new entrance to Bald Pt State Park on a curve), President Rogers amended his motion to: current speed limit (45 mph) from telephone tower to welcome garden be retained. Seconded by Jim McCloy. *(end result of motion & amendment are as follows: all current speed limits remain the same **except** for the following areas – dune walkovers at Chip Morrison & Carnival, the dune walkover/autistic child/"S" curve section, and the first marina entrance – here the speed limit will drop to 25 mph and crosswalks with appropriate signage will be installed).*

The motion was adopted on the following vote:

YEAS: Sam Rogers
Jim Cummins
Joe Hambrose
Allan Feifer
Eddie Sosbee
Barbara Withers
Jim McCloy

NAYS: Ken Osborne
John Murphy

Commissioner Cheryl Sanders addressed the membership regarding the erosion area along Alligator Dr. The county is looking into possibly installing sheet pilings from the Sumner house to Tom Roberts Rd, tying it in with existing seawall/revetment on either end. President Rogers asked that the county plan be designed in such a way as to not imperil adjoining properties with increased erosion. Commissioner Sanders went on to discuss additional issues, including: the recently approved county budget which she opposed due to the increase in the millage rate; the increased MSBU assessment to help relieve the financial burden on volunteer fire departments; the local effort involved in persuading the FDA to reverse its proposed new regulations on oyster processing; and possible funding available for paving projects in District 2.

Committee Reports:

Beach Erosion – no report.

Beautification – Barbara Withers asked if there was interest in setting up Christmas decorations. Motion by Ken Osborne to approve up to \$200 for decorations, seconded by Jim Cummins, adopted without objection.

Membership – Jim Cummins recommends a small sign notifying residents of upcoming APTA meetings to be placed in front of the church a few days prior to each meeting. Motion by Barbara Withers to approve up to \$100 for sign, seconded by Allan Feifer, adopted without objection. Cummins and Bob Deibel would also like to arrange for a social function for the purpose of recruiting new members.

Planning & Zoning – no report.

Public Safety – no report.

Allan Feifer discussed Value Adjustment Board proceedings. A final ruling by the Special Master is pending. A number of properties have been reevaluated and had their tax bill lowered. The Special Master is considering the legitimacy of the new formula being used by the Property Appraiser to determine values.

Ken Osborne informed the Board that he is involved in an effort to have the county enact county-wide voting for commission seats.

Motion by Barbara Withers, seconded by Jim Cummins that the meeting be adjourned, adopted without objection. The meeting adjourned at 10:51 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Murphy, Secretary

Officers and Directors absent: Bob Deibel, Kevin Griffin, Bill Kimbrough, Bucky Mitchell, Greg Suber, and Dick Waters.

Officers
Sam Rogers President, Eddie Sosebee 1st Vice president, Joe Hambrose 2nd Vice President, John Murphy Secretary, Bill Kimbrough Treasurer
Board of Directors
Jim Cummins, Bob Deibel, Allan Feifer, Kevin Griffin, Jim McCloy, Bucky Mitchell, Ken Osborne, Greg Suber, Dick Waters, Barbara Withers