

Alligator Point Taxpayers Association

Board of Directors Meeting

The February meeting of the Alligator Pt Taxpayers Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Sam Rogers at 9:00 am on Saturday, February 13, 2010, at Mission by the Sea Church on Alligator Drive.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Ken Osborne, seconded by Jim Cummins to accept the minutes of the January 9th Board of Directors meeting, adopted without objection.

Approval of Treasurer Report:

Motion by Ken Osborne, seconded by Jim Cummins to accept the Treasurer's report, adopted without objection. Balance as of February 9, 2010: \$39,849.90.

Treasurer Kimbrough notified the Board that he is currently searching for a more economical provider for the Board's D&O insurance.

President Rogers made brief remarks. First Vice-president Eddie Sosbee has been assigned to the recovery effort in Haiti for an undetermined amount of time. His absences during this period are excused. Bucky Mitchell is also excused from today's meeting. Tom Vanderplaats of the AP Water Resource District was unavailable to attend today's meeting.

Committee Reports:

Communication – Juanita Gibson reported the completion of the APTA newsletter mailing at a cost of \$88. She only ended up with one additional copy.

Beach Erosion – no report.

Membership – Jim Cummins informed the Board that membership currently stands at 200.

There are still some 2009 members who haven't renewed, so he expects a few more to trickle in. He will send another reminder to those he doesn't hear from.

Cummins reported the receipt of a \$10 check from an elderly member. President Rogers said it would be okay to let it count as a membership renewal. Another check for \$15 was received from another person. They will be notified of the \$30 membership dues.

Cummins & Rogers will develop policy on how APTA handles donations received for other entities.

Development – no report.

Planning & Zoning – John Murphy reported on a request by property owner on Fiesta Dr to redraw property line dividing two lots he owns. Currently his house extends approximately 4 feet over the line; the owner proposed redrawing the line so that the existing house is situated completely on a single lot. Both lots retain the same square footage as currently exists. Request was approved by P&Z.

Beautification – Barbara Withers would like to do something to improve the looks of local signage (community oriented). She also hopes to spruce up the welcome garden before spring.

Public Safety – Steve Fling & Jim Cummins met with Alan Pierce regarding siting of the new fire station (subsequently, permission was given by P&Z to make the fire station an allowable use on property zoned A2).

Franklin County continues to work toward barriers along Alligator Drive at seriously eroded area.

Ken Osborne spoke in support of APTA contributing toward purchase of additional fire hydrants. He also continues his support of speed humps on Alligator Dr. He cited Lake Bradford Road in Tallahassee as an example of speed humps working without threat of litigation (as has been an excuse used by opponents of the plan). Fling mentioned that Emory Mayfield's offer to foot the bill for installation still stands. President Rogers stated speed humps will remain an active agenda item. Commissioner Cheryl Sanders suggested we contact Sheriff Shiver and invite him to a future APTA meeting to discuss the issue of speeding. Jim McCloy believes residents should be polled on the subject of speed humps. Jim Cummins pointed out the three general membership meetings at which residents have the opportunity to directly address important issues. President Rogers said the issue will be publicized in the newsletter and on the APTA website. Osborne suggested a membership poll be taken at the next general membership meeting in April. President Rogers said we will have formal presentations by committee chairs at the April meeting laying out any pending issues. He will also invite the Sheriff to attend. McCloy suggested we also discuss the proposed new fire station and ladder truck at the meeting. Barbara Withers offered to arrange for refreshments at the April meeting.

Jim Cummins addressed APVFD's need to acquire pagers for its firefighters/first responders. Pagers will provide more reliable communication during emergency calls as well as potentially improve response time and member participation. Motion by Cummins, seconded by Barbara Withers that APTA provide funding for ten pagers at \$480/each. In discussion, Jim McCloy felt it would be better to review upcoming VFD projects (station, truck, hydrants) and assist with funding highest priority items. The Cummins motion carried on a vote of 4-3. President Rogers, being on the prevailing side of the vote (and having relinquished the Chair to Secretary Murphy), moved to reconsider the Cummins motion. A substitute motion was offered by Alan Feifer, seconded by Bill Kimbrough to match VFD spending on pagers up to a maximum of \$2,400. Following lengthy discussion, the motion was adopted 5-0.

Commissioner Sanders informed the membership of the following:

The Dept. of Community Affairs found the withdrawal of the St. Joe FLUMs by the Franklin County Commission to be in compliance with the comprehensive plan.

The Ochlockonee Bay boat ramp project has gone out for bids. It will include an observation pier.

The NFTCA Authority wants to apply for federal money to do an environmental impact study for an alternate (to US 98) route through Franklin Co. Cheryl is opposed to any proposals which involve an alternate thoroughfare.

Ken Osborne asked Sanders if it were possible to include more details of Alan Pierce's and Michael Shuler's reports in the county commission meeting agenda.

Sam Rogers will make arrangements to have APTA representation at all Franklin Co Commission meetings.

Franklin Co continues to seek DEP approval for the installation of sheet piling in the heavily eroded area of Alligator Drive.

Bill Wargo of the AP Turtle Patrol gave the following report:

Wargo appreciates the generous donations to his program which have come in through APTA. The turtle patrol lost a good bit of hardware in this past years tropical storms.

In 2009 Wargo had the help of 15 volunteers. Unfortunately there were only 2 nests which remained viable until hatchout. One of those was a Kemp's Ridley which is a very rare nester in Florida.

Wargo reported a large number of cold-stunned turtles this winter. He asked that we report any we might come across to him.

Alan Feifer was asked by a resident to have APTA address the proposed "club house" advertised as part of the Hidden Harbor development. Use of a club house would need to go through P&Z. The owner of Hidden Harbor says the club house is up for sale, but that claim is in question. It was decided to delay consideration of this subject until the March meeting.

Feifer also spoke about the situation regarding Carrabelle Water's desire to assume control of the Alligator Pt water district. There are a number of contradictory rumors circulating (see January minutes). Hopefully some can be resolved when Tom Vanderplaats meets with APTA in the coming weeks.

Motion by Jim McCloy, seconded by Alan Feifer that the meeting be adjourned, adopted without objection. The meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Murphy, Secretary

Officers and Directors absent: Bob Deibel, Kevin Griffin, Bucky Mitchell, Eddie Sosebee, 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