

Alligator Point Taxpayers Association

Board of Directors/General Membership Meeting

The Joint Board of Directors/General Membership meeting of APTA was called to order by President Sam Rogers at 9:00 AM, Saturday, January 8, 2011, at Mission by the Sea Church on Alligator Drive.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Allan Feifer, seconded by Jim Cummins to accept the minutes of the November 13th Board of Directors meetings, adopted without objection.

Approval of Treasurer Report:

Motion by Jim McCloy, seconded by Jim Cummins to accept Treasurers report adopted without objection. Current balance is \$37,283. Treasurer Kimbrough informed the Board that it is time to renew the Directors & Officers insurance.

Membership – Jim Cummins has prepared the membership renewal letter which he went over with the Board.

Sarah Barrett, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission:

Sarah Barrett with FWC gave an informative presentation on the Bear Management Program and answered questions on how best to deter bears from becoming a nuisance. She was joined by FWC biologist, Adam Warwick who has six years experience dealing with bear-human encounters in Wakulla, Franklin and Leon counties. Warwick received international fame in 2008 when he rescued a tranquilized bear from drowning in Alligator Harbor.

Ms. Barrett's presentation addressed the primary cause of bear-human encounters...food. The first step in ridding your property of unwelcome visitors is to remove any easy feeding opportunities such as garbage, pet food dishes, bird feeders, etc. Neighbors need to be encouraged to do likewise, else the bear will continue to linger in the vicinity. Once the offending bruin finds his meal ticket is ended, he should eventually find new foraging areas.

Eddie Sosebee, Public Safety Committee:

Eddie Sosebee gave an update on both the proposed parking project at public walkovers, and changes to posted speed limits.

Sosebee and President Rogers met with Alan Pierce to discuss the creation of public parking areas at beach walkovers. Pierce will ask the engineering firm of Preble-Rish to look over APTA's proposal. Pierce has also asked the Tourist Development Council for financial assistance on the project.

Pierce agreed with APTA's proposal to change the speed limit along Alligator Drive between the Bald Point Road turnoff and the Phipps Preserve gate to 35 mph, the only exceptions being a reduction to 25 mph in the South Shoals area where the road is offset and at the "S" curve. Such a change will require approval by the Franklin County Commission.

Additionally, Sosebee and Rogers met with Lt. Bobby Shiver of the Franklin County Sheriff's Department to explain the parking and speed limit changes and to secure his pledge that the new regulations would be enforced. Shiver offered a few suggestions on the plan, and gave his assurance that the FCSO will enforce the new rules.

Robert Steele, head ranger at Bald Point State Park informed the Board that if conditions allow, a controlled burn will be conducted within the park on Wednesday, January 12.

President Rogers mentioned a depression in the road surface has formed near the intersection of Alligator Drive and Mardi Gras Street. The problem has been reported to Alan Pierce.

Motion by Allan Feifer, seconded by Jim Cummins that the meeting be adjourned, adopted without objection. The meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Murphy, Secretary

Officers and Directors absent: Bucky Mitchell and Ken Osborne.

Officers

***Sam Rogers President, Eddie Sosebee 1st Vice president, Joe Hambrose 2nd Vice President, John Murphy Secretary,
Bill Kimbrough Treasurer***

Board of Directors

***Jim Apthorp, Jim Cummins, Allan Feifer, Harper Field, Marvin Heymann, Jim McCloy, Bucky Mitchell,
Ken Osborne, Dick Waters, Barbara Withers***