

## APTA – Alligator Point Taxpayers Association

Minutes of Board meeting – March 13, 2004

Meeting called to order by the President, Ken Osborne, at 9:00 am. A quorum of Board members was present. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting on February 14, 2004. Hurley moved that the minutes be accepted, Feifer second; no discussion; motion passed.

### Treasurer's report

Checking beginning balance	25,903.81
Checking ending balance	25,542.60
Other Assets: CD @ 5.25% (matures 4/12/04)	7885.21
Sea turtle acct (in checking bal.)	<u>808.62</u>
Total assets (1/31/04):	\$33,427.81

Monroe moved to accept report; Feifer seconded, motion passed.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Road and Beach Erosion (Dick Waters)

Waters did not have any additional information but Vicki Barnett has gotten information on the status. Beach renourishment is to go from the western most edge of the current revetment, and 700' east of the eastern end of the revetment or the 1<sup>st</sup> easement. No permits have yet been issued. USACE has told Fish & Wildlife that they may not be able to move the sand until winter of 2005 due to the water level in the river.

President Osborne noted that Allen Pierce and others have asked to address APTA and it was indicated to Pierce that APTA would be more amenable if we got an update on the beach renourishment project. He will appear at a future meeting and then have the politicking after the meeting. Johnson also wants appear and she will come in May. A consensus was that competing candidates should be in different months and after the regular meeting.

#### Development Committee (Joe Hambrose)

Attended the Board of Adjustment meeting where the Marshalls on George Voss Road want to go 35' into the critical habitat zone; the house is 1000 sq ft. so meets the criteria for approval. Hambrose and Feifer met with Dan Garlick who represents an owner with a lot that is 85' wide, has lots of wetlands and is less than 2 acres which they want to split in two and put in two houses. This is unacceptable and if it comes to a head we have to take a stand against this type of development. BoA has agreed to put on the agenda a discussion of readopting a policy that requires no more than 1000 sq ft for variance to go into the critical habitat zone.

KOA campground update: Fling withdrew his plan prior to getting a zoning change to make some other changes. The planner has reviewed the plans and responded with some info but only in generalities. More study is needed.

More assistance is needed to attend the meetings in Apalachicola and protect our interests in Franklin County. There is too small a group making too many decisions that affects everybody's lives. An example is that the BoA approved a 25' lot width with only 5' set back on St. George Island, which we do not want on Alligator Point.

## **APTA – Alligator Point Taxpayers Association**

### Communication Committee (Ann Maruszak)

No report. Articles for newsletter are needed by March 15.

### Membership Committee (Vicki Burnett)

Need a new membership chairman, as Vicki and Linc Burnett are moving. 84 second-notices were sent; 11 renewals were received. 27 new property owners introductory letters were sent and 3 new members joined. There have been 120 new property owners in the last 16 months. There are now 287 members, 3 subscriptions, and 3 complimentary. The Secretary will maintain the mailing list and membership list but someone else is needed to coordinate the membership activities.

### Safety & Security Committee (John Murphy)

Following up on last meeting's request, the building is owned by Alligator Point Volunteer Fire Department, Inc; this building and the lot next to it. Current zoning is R1. A letter has been received from St. Joe offering to donate land on Hwy 98 at County 370 for a relocated fire station. The existing building would probably be sold to partially fund the new building.

### Beautification Committee (Joann Deibel)

Water was shut off at Welcome Garden and last bill received. Should we reinstall the sign? A consensus is that we should not.

### Redistricting Committee (Frank Gibson)

The County has negotiated a settlement with the citizens committee (a payoff) of \$7500. The suit is over but the total cost including the County's attorney will be over \$20,000.

### Other old business

A dock ordinance was presented at the last Commissioner's meeting. Several people objected to the ordinance because of technical issues including an 85' canal width requirement and a limit on the number of lights that could be a safety issue.

The ad-hoc group on Summer Camp, made up of 1000 Friends of Florida, Florida Wildlife Federation, Riverkeepers, and some others, have a meeting next Tuesday afternoon to try and reopen the whole Summer Camp issues and restrictions except the marina. President Osborne has invited himself to this meeting, as the members of this group will not represent the needs or wishes of Alligator Point.

Paul Johnson is working with Panacea to get a grant for a bike trail. No one from APTA has indicated an interest in heading up a bike trail committee. It is believed that APTA is listed as a 501(c) 3 or 501(c) 4 non-profit association; this will be clarified by the next meeting. There are many issues with a bike trail, including parking, safety and access.

Bald Point State Park is building a kiosk to collect tolls. The question was asked if the Park Service had held the promised meetings on future plans of the Park. Some comments were that the Service was waiting for St. Joe to complete their overlay before proceeding. Feifer will check with the ranger at Bald Point State Park to see what their plans are in this regard.

## **APTA – Alligator Point Taxpayers Association**

Two Board members have not attended any meetings since being elected. (One has not yet paid dues.) Based on the by-laws, and unless there is some objection, they will be asked to resign.

### Call for new business:

Vicki Barnett gave a report on “turtle stuff”. Bill Wargo has agreed to be the new Turtle Patrol Leader. He is currently going for training and will serve under an existing turtle permit holder until he can qualify as the permit holder. A new sign needs to be made and the Park Service has agreed to post it at the corner of Bald Point Rd and 370 under the streetlight. Bonnie has agreed to store the sign in the off-season and put it back up by May 1. This would also make damaging the sign a state offense. The cost is \$600. Motion to provide funds to procure sign by Deibel, second Hambrose; no discussion, motion passed.

Betty Cummins pointed out that the permit holder on St. George Island has 15 volunteers helping out with beach patrols making the job a lot more doable. Bill Wargo would be very interested in hearing from anyone who would willing to help, especially early in the morning when the patrol needs to be done.

Allan Feifer pointed out that attendance at meetings has not been what it should be. He feels that we should have a social event, maybe a BarBQ, perhaps one that would be more attractive to younger people. During the discussion it was pointed out that the community used to have monthly covered dish suppers with significant turnout. Kimbrough proposed a “Spring Fling” (no pun intended). It was agreed that a BarBQ would be done. Joann Deibel agreed to get some people together to plan it; Carol Kimbrough, Betty Cummins, Nancy Feifer, Ruth Hambrose, Liz Hurley, Jo Dehaven and Tay Howell volunteered to be on the committee.

Allan Feifer made a statement concerning development on Alligator Point and how diligently APTA should support existing rules and regulations and not “pick and choose” which ones to support. He feels that APTA needs to be intensive in enforcing all the rules for consistency or Alligator Point will end up looking like St. George Island. He feels the forces arrayed against us, the developers with the big dollars to spend, will win unless we are vigilant. What brought this to a head was the splitting of lots on St. George; with the advent of tear-downs, then the splitting of lots would be the Pandora’s box of development.

Motion to adjourn made by Barnett, seconded by Deibel, motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim R Cummins, Sec.