

APTA – Alligator Point Taxpayers Association

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting – April 14, 2007

President Ken Osborne called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Additions or corrections to the minutes of the March meeting were called for. Motion made by Ben Houston, seconded by Paul Parker to accept the minutes. Motion passed. Treasurer Bill Kimbrough reported that our CD is now valued at \$10,469, our checking balance is currently \$19,474 and our total assets are \$29,944. Motion made by Don Munroe to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Frank Gibson. Motion passed.

Beach Renourishment/Road Protection (Dick Waters)

Nothing new to report. The next event to watch is the May Board of Commissioners meeting which will be the first Tuesday in May. It is anticipated that they will discuss moving forward with the MSBU. There was a question regarding the consolidation of properties, i.e. unification. There seems to be confusion as to the details, effects and consequences of the unification process. Dick will attempt to get clarification. We are coming into a new budget cycle and we need to request the return of the \$1 million dollars that was removed from our allocation several years ago. Allan Feifer raised the question of the possibility of going back to the county later to request help to service the bank loan. He suggested that we make certain that the ordinance is written so as to not preclude future requests for help from being considered. Ken stated that from May 14 to June 19, we would have opportunities to review the draft ordinance.

Ken had asked Camille Tharpe for clarification on unity of title – do the properties have to be contiguous? She responded that the unity of title only applies on the assessment program. It doesn't change the property for taxation purposes. The property owner cannot split the property or sell off the property without getting approval from the county to dissolve the unity of title. The property owner has to pay the assessment attributed to the multiple lots before the unity of title is dissolved. Ken will ask the commissioners to direct the property appraiser and the county attorney to get a ruling with some clear illustrations and clarification so people can make informed decisions. He will also ask for clarification and examples on prepayment. There was a suggestion that we need to get the TIF into the ordinance as a line item. It was discussed that since the beach that is being prepared will be used by the general public, perhaps we should formally request that the county pay for a portion of that. Dick and Ken will work on a formal letter to the county with specific requests – clarification on TIF as a means of financing, return of \$1 million, Bald Point Trust Fund usage, public betterment. He will ask for plain language examples on prepayment, etc. Motion made by Frank Gibson, seconded by Ben Houston to send formal letter. Motion passed. Reminder that June 19 is a critical date in the events calendar. This is the public hearing to adopt the ordinance and the initial assessment resolution.

Development Committee (Allan Feifer)

They continue to monitor ongoing projects. No known problems at this point.

Communications Committee (Ann Maruszak)

Current deadline for the newsletter is 4/20. Ann requested clarification that this deadline is still valid. After discussion, it was decided that this is still a valid date. Ann requested that articles be sent to Beth. She is also checking into archiving our old newsletters as a historical record of APTA. She is researching organizations to handle our data.

Membership/Beautification Committee (Joann Deibel)

We currently have over 230 members. She still has the old "Alligator Point" sign and since we are not anticipating re-installing it in the welcome garden, she wondered about disposal. Bill Wargo is to check possibility of adding it to the turtle sign. The grapple truck is scheduled for the last full week of the month.

After the committee reports, there were questions and general discussion. Ann Maruszak brought up the point that the county park will be included in our renourishment project and will have public facilities. Perhaps the county can be persuaded to kick in some personnel and/or money since it will benefit the general public.

Regarding the transportation corridor, there will be a detailed study coming soon. Currently, it proposed that there will be a 4-lane thru Sopchoppy and a 2-lane feeder from 370/Leonard's Landing into the 4-lane around Carrabelle.

There will be a continuation of the administrative hearing on the Ashley case at the Gibson Inn on April 25, 26, 27. Details in the current issue of the Chronicle.

Bill Wargo gave a report on turtle monies. As of March 30, the fund balance was \$1,014.47 plus \$25 he had just received from Bill Kimbrough. He still has \$75 from the grant and is applying for new grant money. He also requested volunteers for turtle patrol. He will welcome any time that anyone can donate to this most worthy cause.

Motion made to adjourn by Don Munroe, seconded by Ben Houston, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Camilla Godfrey, Secretary

Members absent: Decker, Hambrose, Mensching, Suber