

**APTA – Alligator Point Taxpayers Association
Minutes or Board Meeting – July 14, 2007**

President Ken Osborne called the meeting to order at 9 am. He called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the June meeting which were emailed to all board members. Motion made by Ben Houston to accept minutes; second made by Bob Deibel; motion passed. He then called for any questions or corrections to the treasurer's report. Motion made by Paul Parker to accept; second made by Ben Houston; motion passed.

He then explained that the Nominating Committee had worked on a slate of officers and replacement board members for the coming year. Ballots will be mailed to each APTA member and must be received back in the proper envelope for counting on September 1, 2007. Ben Houston, Chairman of the Nominating Committee then gave the following nominations for officers and board members for the coming year: President: Ken Osborne, 1st VP – John Murphy, 2nd VP – Eddie Sosebee, Treasurer – Bill Kimbrough, Secretary – Camilla Godfrey. For the 5 open board positions, the following members were nominated: Jim Cummins, Donna Decker, Allan Feifer, Frank Gibson, Don Munroe, Sam Rogers, Lee Shelby, Dick Waters. Motion made to accept this slate by Frank Gibson; seconded by Joe Hambrose; motion passed. The president then called for any nominations from the floor by individual office. There were none forthcoming so he called for a motion to close the nominations. Motion made by Ben Houston; seconded by Paul Parker; motion passed - nominations were closed.

President Osborne then requested approval to use Mailmasters for sending out the ballots and information packet to each member for the election. Motion made by Ben Houston; seconded by Paul Parker; motion passed. He then appointed the following members to act as the Administration Committee for the September 1 election. They will receive the sealed envelopes, open them and tally the votes for each nominee: Paul Parker, Ben Houston, Rob Hinchee, Juanita Gibson and Carol Kimbrough.

He then called for a report from Dick Waters on the updated Beach Renourishment funding breakdown. Dick opened his report with the statement that the figures he was about to show us were totally unacceptable to him personally and he would not support this increased funding proposal. He feels that these figures are flawed and he is working to see if they can be corrected. He also stated that the beach renourishment is completely a county project and APTA has no authority whatsoever in this project. We have tried to work with the county to have the maximum community input into the project. When the project was originally presented to us in March, the local share was 3.4 million. At that time, three potential problems were identified – parking/access, DEP funding of middle section (216-219), turtle lighting/environmental.

The turtle lighting issues are being addressed. The Planning & Zoning (P&Z) department will monitor the lighting and will enforce the regulations. The 2-year grace period is up so if you have lighting on your house which shines toward the beach and you are south of

the coastal control line, you will have to change to turtle-friendly lighting. Jim Cummins mentioned that the ordinance requires that the light be pointed downward, no larger than a 45 watt bug light, have a black baffle and the light source can not be visible from the beach. The turtle ordinance is completely separate from the beach restoration project and was not precipitated by this project.

At our last meeting the new local share was up to 4.3 million based on adequate parking and beach access. This issue is also being resolved. The reason for the increase was the funding for the section from marker 216-219. DEP has not yet ruled on cost sharing on this portion. So the numbers do not reflect sand being placed in this area. We are still hoping for a favorable ruling on this.

Originally the local share was to be 3.4 million, then they said 4.3 million and now they have come back to us with a new local share figure of 5.7 million. This would result in a new assessment for Zone 1 of \$3662, Zones 2 & 3 of \$1283 and Zones 4 & 5(Mud Cove) of \$552. Dick reported on the new figures he was given which constitute the increased total of \$11.1 million. There are serious concerns about the basis of these increased figures. Dick has asked to see the working papers which show how these figures came about. There was general discussion from the audience as to property tax increases, county setbacks, original intent of the idea of beach renourishment and the fact that TIF (tax increment financing) needs to be tied into this project.

Dick offered the following for consideration: 1) expend every effort possible to get 216-219 back into the cost sharing by the state, 2) put sand in 216-219 even if we have to pay because it would reduce the overall costs by \$1 million, 3) make certain TIF is included in the project, 4) re-examine all the project costs.

Ken asked for direction from the group for the Tuesday commission meeting as to how we pose our response to these new numbers. It was agreed that he would request serious consideration of the above 4 options and note that while original numbers had strong community support, these new numbers do not have this support because they are simply unaffordable for this community. He will be non-confrontational but firm that we originally agreed to support a much smaller set of numbers and we simply cannot afford the increased figures. Motion made by Ben Houston that this be his appeal to the county; seconded by Frank Gibson; motion passed. General discussion followed as to the time table facing us and the need for a large representation from our community at the meetings and workshops and the fact that there are other issues coming up that will require money, i.e. need for increased water supply for AP.

Since Bob Mensching has moved, President Osborne asked for a motion to replace him on the current board with Sam Rogers who had the next largest vote total in the previous election. Motion made by Ben Houston; seconded by Frank Gibson; motion passed unanimously.

There were no formal committee reports. Joe Hambrose mentioned that the Board of Adjustment has requested that 1-1/2 feet be taken off the total height of a house on St.

George that is already completely built. Tom Vanderplaats reported that the water department is replacing the water line on Fiesta and that Bobby Williams has been hired to replace Bob Mensching. The Volunteer Fire Department still needs volunteers. Tom Roberts Road has now been completely resurfaced but is not yet tied into Harbor Circle. In the case of an evacuation emergency, it could be made passable. There will be a budget workshop for the county in the old courthouse on the top floor at 9am on August 8. Allan Feifer stated that CCFC is trying to get more records open to the public.

Motion made by Joe Hambrose to adjourn; motion seconded by Paul Parker; motion passed and meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Camilla Godfrey, Secretary

Members absent: Don Munroe, Bill Kimbrough