

St. Augustine Port, Waterway & Beach District

Minutes of Regular Meeting

April 18, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McGuinness.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.**

It was reported that the District had as of February 15, 2006, \$1,532,000 in available funds.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT.**

It was reported that a proposed scope of work for the Harbor Management Plan was distributed at the last meetings. Bulletin boards have been ordered for all locations.

**REPORTS.**

**Harbor Management Plan.**

John Regan of the City of St. Augustine reported that there had been a discussion with the City Commission with regard to the Scope of Work. The City Commission favored proceeding with that portion of the Scope of Work relating to the permitting of the Mooring Fields. It would take until August or September to complete that portion which would be usable in any scenario the City Commission might adopt. The issue of whether the mooring fields will be privately or publicly operated will not be worked on until after the new City Garage opens. In response to a question, Mr. Regan indicated that the City Commission has not committed any funding during the current fiscal year. He will convey, however, to the City Commission the desirability of cost sharing by the City.

Dr. Rajesh Srinivas of Taylor Engineering reported that the Harbor Management Plan will cost an estimated \$143,000 including \$89,000 for permitting and design to support the application. Item will be included in the next Agenda.

**Matanzas Inlet Signs.**

A prototype of the Matanzas Inlet signs has been developed. The applications to the Florida Department of Transportation and the Fish and Wildlife Commission will be ready to be sent next week.

**Distribution of Guides.**

A report was made as to the distribution of guides. 13 ½ boxes of guides are left. Discussion ensued as to where remaining guides will be distributed. A letter will be sent to Sea Grant indicating that remaining guides are to be distributed only to marinas.

**Sea Oats Project.**

Dr. Srinivas reported that although six prospective bidders had taken out bid packages, only one bid was received in the amount of \$37,200.00. **Upon motion by Commissioner Gleeson and seconded by Commissioner Rivers and passed, the contract was awarded to Quiet Plants of Florida with Taylor Engineering to act as Contract Administrator.**

**No-Wake Zone Hospital Creek.**

Ronald Brown reported that the District does not have the authority to designate a no-wake zone and that the District should not authorize the placement of a no-wake zone on a private dock.

Commander Fricke of St. Augustine indicated that the construction of a private sign on the dock might result in a citation before the St. Augustine Local Code Enforcement Board. He also indicated that there were four vessels in the area, none of which were "live-aboards."

**Fire Fighting Unit.**

Commander Fricke reported that the City of St. Augustine was going to create a fire-fighting unit for small fires on vessels, something larger than a fire extinguisher and less than a full fireboat.

**Derelict Vessels at Butler Beach.**

Commander Fricke reported that the vessels did not constitute a hazard to navigation.

**Extension of Sea Oats Project.**

At the last meeting, information on the cost of extending the Sea Oats project was requested by Commissioner George of St. Augustine Beach.

Dr. Srinivas reported that he had the information. He reported that planting would probably commence in about 90 to 100 days, depending upon how long it took to grow the plants. Whether the project could be expanded for the City of St. Augustine Beach would be dependent upon whether additional plants would have to be grown.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS.**

**Renewal of domain name.**

The domain name could be extended either for one year or for as long as five years. Discussion ensued as to the effect of Auglink on website.

Mr. Brown noted that Old City Web Services, Inc. is separate from Auglink and under different ownership. Matter will be placed on next Agenda.

**Mercury Vapor Lights.**

Commissioner Benjamin reported that the County was proposing an Ordinance prohibiting mercury vapor lights on docks. The lights interfere with the ability to see channel markers. It was noted that the proposed Ordinance only applies to the unincorporated areas of the County. A letter will be sent to John Reagan requesting that the City of St. Augustine adopt a similar Ordinance. The Chairman will send a letter of support to the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners.

**Secretarial Services.**

The Chairman reported that Mrs. Paterson still, unfortunately had health problems. Mrs. Paterson had been the secretary for the District for as long as the Chairman could remember.

Dennis Bell was requested to report as to alternative solutions to meeting the needs for secretarial services.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

None.

**NEXT MEETING.**

It was announced that the next meeting would be May 16, 2006 at St. Augustine Beach City Commission Chambers at 4:00 p.m.

Whereupon, the meeting was duly adjourned.

Items for next Agenda:

Scope of Work Harbor Management Plan.

Renewal of domain name

Secretarial Services.

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SECRETARY-TREASURER

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CHAIRMAN