

**PUNTA GORDA ISLES
CANAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
APRIL 16, 2018**

MEMBERS PRESENT: David McBride, Chairman
Fredric Cort, Jake Dye, Fred Hannon,
Robert Knabe, Paul Raffa, Colleen Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor
Irene Ploskina, Community Outreach Coordinator
Gary Disher, Public Works Analyst
Sharon Knippenberg, Controller

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. Next Scheduled Meeting – May 21, 2018

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes – March 19, 2018
 - Mr. Dye commented he did not recall making a statement on page 3 under Item A, New Business.
 - Recording Secretary Welch explained she could have misattributed the comment if she did not recognize the voice when listening to the meeting’s recording.
 - Mr. Cort noted in previous minutes, “confirmed” was used to convey that the speaker had received the stated answer to a question.
 - Recording Secretary Welch agreed confirmed was used in that manner many times in order to capture the spirit of the meeting more concisely.
 - Mr. McBride recalled Mr. Roger DeBruler had given the explanation attributed to Mr. Dye, questioning if the minutes should be amended.
 - Mr. Knabe voiced preference for attributing the comment to Mr. DeBruler.
 - Mr. Hannon suggested the minutes should avoid such constructions using “confirmed.”
 - Mr. Hannon MOVED, Mr. Raffa SECONDED approval of the March 19, 2018 minutes as amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- There were none.

REPORTS

- A. Patrol Updates – March 2018
- Mr. McBride reviewed the March 2018 Marine Volunteers in Policing Report, as delineated in the agenda, drawing attention to a dinghy recovery, the movement of a sailboat, two boats stopped for netting in the canals and a medical emergency near Fishermen’s Village. He noted the continuation of situational directed patrols near areas of significant seawall damage in addition to the regular patrols.
- B. Budget Utilization Report – March 2018
- Ms. Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor, reviewed the March 2018 Budget Utilization Report, drawing attention to mangrove trimming performed at Sancho Panza Court.
 - Mr. McBride suggested maintenance be performed at Ponce de Leon as well.
- C. Finance Reports – March 2018
- Ms. Miller drew attention to the March 2018 Finance Reports, confirming there were no questions.
- D. Seawall Replacement Status Reports – March 2018
- Mr. Cort inquired as to one contractor’s apparent delay.
 - Ms. Miller responded a job was not marked complete until the lot’s sod was replaced, explaining complications related to laying sod had caused the delay. She added riprap also contributed to delays at some properties. She then announced Shoreline added another barge to their fleet to transport dirt.
 - Mr. Cort questioned if low priority items would require less time to complete.
 - Ms. Miller replied in the negative, explaining low priority denoted less urgent failures, such as those at vacant lots or lots where deadmen had slipped.
 - Mr. Dye thanked staff for the recent workshop on seawall repair, inquiring as to any unexpected calls.
 - Ms. Hannon replied there were none, thanking Board members for their attendance at same.
- E. Permits Authorized by City Staff – March 2018
- Ms. Miller announced staff had authorized 18 permits.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Miller introduced Ms. Irene Ploskina, Community Outreach Coordinator, explaining she would work with contractors and residents to resolve issues and keep everyone informed of repair progress. She pointed out the recent workshop had been Ms. Ploskina’s first task.
- Mr. McBride remarked the workshop had been an impressive start.

- Ms. Miller announced the technical difficulty regarding maps on the City's website at the previous meeting had been addressed.
- Mr. McBride then questioned the status of 1217 Aqui Esta Drive.
- Ms. Miller responded the contractor began work April 6, 2018, noting approximately eight panels had been installed to date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Hurricane IRMA Seawall Failure Updates

- Mr. Gary Disher, Public Works Analyst, announced staff was working on a briefing delineating the gaps between Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-approved seawall replacements which would require Canal Maintenance Assessment District funds for replacement. He explained the Committee could discuss the selection of gaps for repair at the May 21, 2018 meeting.
- Ms. Wright questioned if the State would contribute funds toward repairing the gaps.
- Mr. Disher responded in the negative.
- Mr. McBride inquired if the gaps would be classified by age and if an estimated cost for repair would be provided.
- Mr. Disher estimated the seawall would cost \$500 per foot in addition to riprap costs, requesting the Committee narrow the parameters used to analyze specific properties before staff began examining the gaps.
- Mr. Raffa questioned if repairs were ahead of schedule.
- Mr. Disher replied Shoreline was behind schedule.
- Ms. Miller announced the contractors recently submitted updated schedules, noting Marine Contracting Group was progressing well. She explained Duncan was behind schedule by approximately three weeks due to the discovery of additional damage, but they had brought in more equipment.
- Mr. Disher pointed out repairing the additional damage would put Duncan ahead of schedule when they began repairing medium-priority lots.
- Mr. Dye inquired as to the placement of riprap.
- Mr. Disher responded the City was considering placing riprap in front of all new seawalls, explaining FEMA was providing one hundred percent mitigation funding for replacement costs but would not fund the installation of riprap in front of older undamaged seawall. He noted riprap would be included around storm water outfall pipes in the future.
- Mr. McBride questioned if riprap was necessary for all seawall given the exceptional performance of newer seawall, opining riprap made it harder to install docks.
- Mr. Disher replied he would discuss the Board's concerns with Mr. Mark Gering, City Engineer.

- Ms. Sharon Knippenberg, Controller, explained FEMA inquired what mitigation efforts could prevent future seawall failure, adding analysis discovered none of the seawall with riprap failed; therefore, the City presented riprap as a measure to prevent future seawall failure. She explained the City was only committing to provide riprap for FEMA-funded seawall replacements.
- Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of riprap installation.
- Mr. Cort questioned if the additional assessment amount had been confirmed.
- Ms. Knippenberg recalled the assessment was estimated to be between \$75 and \$100 dollars. She then explained staff was pursuing a five-year loan rather than a ten-year loan to prevent further increases to the assessment and to save financing costs.
- Mr. McBride advocated for communicating with residents regarding the additional assessment.
- Ms. Knippenberg agreed, noting the regular assessment and the additional assessment would each be clearly specified. She recalled Mr. Disher's discussion of gaps between FEMA-funded seawall replacements, pointing out the additional assessment would not fund the replacement of those sections of seawall which the City desired to replace concurrent with damaged sections but which FEMA had refused to fund.
- Mr. McBride confirmed those segments would be accounted for separately, questioning if they would require an increase in the base assessment.
- Ms. Knippenberg replied in the negative, explaining some of Fiscal Year 2018/2019's budget could be used to fund those segments. She then suggested advertising an agenda item discussing the additional assessment for the May 21, 2018 meeting.
- Mr. McBride asserted public discussion should be held once the City had a firm idea of the amount of the additional assessment.
- Ms. Knippenberg explained there was not sufficient time to present the additional assessment to the Committee and City Council in addition to holding a Public Hearing. She stated the nature of the additional assessment would allow the amount to change as needed each year.
- Ms. Wright inquired if borrowing from other City departments was an option.
- Ms. Knippenberg replied in the negative
- Ms. Wright inquired as to the type of financing the City was seeking.
- Ms. Knippenberg replied a non-revolving line of credit not to exceed \$30 million over 30 months with a pay-back period of 5 years, concluding the interest rate was excellent.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned: 2:15 p.m.

David McBride, Chairman

Sara Welch, Recording Secretary