

## MINUTES, March 18, 2009: Manasota and Sandpiper Key Advisory Committee

The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM by BJ Galberaith, Chairman. In attendance were Committee members Betty Sue Carroll, John Dubowik, Phil Eason, BJ Galberaith, Betsy McCallum, and Norb Trohoski, as well as a number of residents and interested parties. Roxann Read from Growth Management was also present. Four special guests arrived shortly.

### Secretary's Report

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

### Architectural Review Committee

The meeting scheduled for 3/20/09 has been cancelled.

### Regular Business

The Chairman welcomed new member Phil Eason, who introduced himself and told the group something of his background and interests.

Betty Sue Carroll brought up the allocation of committee members to representative functions. Roxann Read felt that those assignments should be permanent, and new appointees should be assigned strictly to represent their function. She also said the BCC had, in error, assigned too many people to 3 yr terms, and would correct the situation in January. Ms. Read also mentioned that Staff is planning at least one day-long workshop run by architects to explain the code to the public. Several Committee members felt that such a workshop or workshops should be held during a period when the majority of the Islands' stake-holders (residents) were present.

### Special Meeting on Water and Fire Protection

BJ Galberaith introduced the special guests, Howard Hartfelder, Charlotte County Fire Marshall; Tom Burns, Construction Services Fire Marshall Inspection Supervisor; Jay Linden, the Engineer for Englewood Water District; and Chief Bonakoske, Chief of the Englewood Fire Department. Roxann Read explained the essence of the section on fire hydrants from the Community Plan and Overlay Code to the guests. The Chairman then explained the two-fold problem in fire protection: the 6" non-looped main south of the roundabout and the large distance between hydrants north of the roundabout.

The guests explained that it was illegal to put additional hydrants on a 6" main, but that the northern part of the Keys could support additional hydrants if funds could be found. They told the Committee that monies for upgrading water mains and hydrants came from funds collected through impact fees, which are currently suspended. Ours is not the only area in need of updating, but a cost-sharing between EWD and the local area might put a new main at the top of the project list. Although the trucks currently carry 1000' of 5" hose, water down-stream on a dead end line would be severely limited in a major fire, or with one hydrant in use. As for the distance from fire to hydrant, Chief Bonakoske told the group that the firefighters have an amazing 4 minute response time from telephone

call to the Islands, but that time is increased by distance from water source and difficulty of access to some properties. The group of guests was extremely helpful in explaining many details and complexities of water service and fire protection. They were understanding and sympathetic to the seriousness of our situation but were unable to offer solutions that did not require additional funds. It was pointed out that Shoreview Rd. had no hydrants and possibly could be granted a variance to install some. Mr. Linden suggested that the public was welcome to come to their monthly or bi-monthly meetings, and someone from the Committee might want to attend to plead our case. The Chairman and Committee thanked our guests emphatically for the very interesting and informative discussion.

#### Committee Members and Advisor's Comments

It was suggested that we look into seeing whether a variance could be given for hydrants on a 6" main. Identifying the most needed hydrants and finding ways to fund them was also suggested, as was looking for the possibility of getting "Stimulus" money or forming a separate MSTU. There was an idea that a water tank could be connected to the Stump Pass Park water supply. It was pointed out that sections of the Community Plan shouldn't be dropped when they don't fit the parameters of a zoning code, which brought up the unfinished business of finding a solution to pile driving. Roxann Read agreed to check with Jeff Ruggieri on the progress of that issue.

#### Citizen Input

Bill Miller inquired about the difference between MSBU and MSTU, and the Chairman explained that an MSTU collected tax based on property valuations, while an MSBU collected the same amount from each residence.

Because there will not be a quorum for April 1, that meeting is cancelled. Roxann Read agreed to post the cancellation on the County site.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15PM. The next meeting will be April 15, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Sue Carroll, Secretary