

West Galveston Island Property Owner Association (WGIPOA)

Board of Directors Meeting

January 16, 2021

The WGIPOA Board held a meeting by Zoom on January 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 9:10 by Jerry Mohn, President. Directors present were Rosemarie Gonzalez - Dick Kuriger – Pirates Beach & Cove, John Lightfoot- Pt San Luis, Peggy Zahler-Spanish Grant Beach, Jennell Tanner-Point West, Julie Greenwell- Sea Isle, Barbara Hankins – Sportsman Road, and Susan Gonzales representing Isla Del Sol, and Jamaica Beach.

The minutes of the October 17, 2020 and December 2020 financials were reviewed. Motion by Dick Kuriger and seconded by Peggy Zahler, the board approved the minutes and accepted the financial report.

Jerry Mohn recognized Mayor Craig Brown, Marie Robb District 6 Council, City Manager Brian Maxwell, and Michael Jenkins representing Mays Middleton’s office.

District 6 Happenings – Marie Robb. Marie stated the focus is on the drainage. A meeting was held with TxDot concerning the current FM3005 project. The project is causing flooding. The issue is coming from the fact that the ditches were dug down and the culverts are not connecting to the out falls. We have another two years before the project will be completed. There is also an issue with getting in and out of the neighborhood. Marie met with TxDot to see if they can smooth out the access points. The city reached out on the coastal spine and are looking at a fortified structure similar to geotubes. The Holiday Inn time share geotubes have worked well through storms. The last event, which was not even a storm, caused \$3 million in damage. Marie asked the board and attendees what would be the best way to get her reports by zoom meeting and or by written reports. It was suggested to use the same method as the City Manager uses, by written report. Brian Maxwell, stated the City will help with labor and equipment for the fortified dune project. The sand source identified is from the Texas International Terminal Project. The Beach Maintenance Committee for the Parks Board also identified a sand source.

City of Galveston – Mayor Dr. Craig Brown and City Manager Brian Maxwell:

Mayor Craig Brown stated Michael Jenkins and Mays Middleton are researching getting guidance from the GLO. Mayor Brown stated the Hotel usage and real estate is at an all time high even after the pandemic, three historic storms and one evacuation. The 2020 budget was reduced by \$7.5 million, but the revenue for Galveston was only reduced by \$800,000. Hotel tax dropped 14% from the 2019 figures. The 2021 plans are based on the lessons we have learned. The importance of our beaches to residents and visitors.

Cruise lines are still not operating currently, prediction is they are looking at opening April 1, 2021. Caribbean is still on schedule to begin the construction of a hundred-million-dollar cruise terminal Pier 10 and reportedly to make this happen as partners with one of the largest stevedore companies in the world. With the completion of the cruise terminal it will bring three revenue

streams to the port, much needed capital for infrastructure repair and cargo expansion. Bids were obtained for the development of park improvements at Sandhill Crane Soccer Complex. This complex located at 7 Mile Road and Stewart Road will include restructuring soccer fields, upgrading and/or installing new lighting, optimizing the existing parking lot, restroom facilities, seating, and shade enhancements. These improvements will be an added benefit of sports tourist. We continue to pursue addressing strong code enforcement across all of our neighborhoods. To improve public safety is the benchmark of our 2021 financial plan. The recycling center we are reviewing the ever-changing recycling industry. We are in the planning stages we are looking at building a new recycling center next to the transfer station on Harborside and will keep you updated.

Shriners hospital here in Galveston it is making plans to expand their footprint considerably here on the island and all indications from my conversations this week if they will start construction in the near future their expansion is very very large and they are planning to bring an extra 150 physicians and healthcare specialist to the island . They are building 80 residential units on their campus to accommodate those families from all over the world till 2021 will be a year of change the dedication and partnership 2020 prove to all of us that we must be diverse and are offering in ability to say we also must rely on our partners to make it through tough times

The Mayor stressed the role for of everyone getting vaccinated with this COVID-19. I'm extremely bullish on Galveston for 21 we will continue to invest as a partner we will continue to work together to solve the many drainage problems on the island. The critical project on the West End is FM 3005 drainage. The Sportsman Road project is also working on drainage.

The meeting was recorded, and the link is as follows:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/tirgyoy7wx204e3/zoom_0.mp4?dl=0