

West Galveston Island Property Owners Association

March 16, 2024

0900 Call to Order

0900 Introduction of Board Members

The WGIPOA meeting was held on March 16, 2024 at West End Marina Restaurant. The meeting was called to order by Jerry Mohn, President. A quorum was established with the attendance of Jerry Mohn – President; John Lightfoot – Point San Luis; Craig Vance – Terramar; Julie Greenwell – Sea Isle; Chris Lauer – Bermuda Beach; Guy Sulloway – Pointe West; Sarah Hawk – Sportsman Road; Peter Moss – Sands of Kahala; Debbie Reinhart – Beachside Village; and, Rosemarie Gonzales – Acapulco Village.

0902 Introduction of Elected Officials

Taz Jones – Council Person at Jamaica Beach and City Council Member Marie Robb. County Commissioner Joe Giusti; and, Galveston Chief of Police Doug Balli. House Doctors of Galveston (Luke Mazur) and Welby Financial are our corporate sponsors.

0905 Approval of February 17th meeting minutes and February 31st financials

Moved by Julie and seconded by Rosemarie.

0907 Approval of Officers

The extension of the officers from various communities were unanimously approved for another three year term expiring 2/28/27, including: Bermuda Beach, Terramar, Spanish Grant Bay, and the Condominiums. President – Jerry Mohn; Vice President – Peggy Zahler; Treasurer – Craig Vance; and, Secretary – Chris Lauer.

0910 West End Police Report from Lt. Sean Migues.

Last Friday, many high schoolers visited the island. There were quite a few stops for speeding, car wrecks, and vehicles abandoned on the roads and under houses. At one point FM 3005 was shut down on the south end of the island in order to stop the mob from over running the existing resources of the police department. There are a few changes being set for the next potential influx of people to the island including pre-staging barricades.

The amount of drugs and weapons identified in stopped vehicles was staggering. Added to that is the level of violence and culture of “lack of accountability” from folks living outside of Galveston County.

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While social media is leading to the inundations for “flash mobs” of people. Galveston PD is working with the FBI and those people that are being managed on the beaches to help manage crowds and resources.

If you see something, say something. For all non-emergency issues, please call the non-emergency phone line right away at 409-765-3702. Getting the right information to the right people quickly is the best way to address your issues.

0953 Galveston Park Board (Kimberly Danesi)

The Park Board is funded in multiple ways including Hotel Occupancy Taxes (HOT tax), state and federal grants, as well as funds raised by on-beach parking sales.

The CEPRA 13 grant is a federal fund for \$23 million. This will allow for sand sourcing and placement in the dune nourishment project from Delanara to 13 Mile Road. Jason Hardcastle – Chair of the Galveston Parks Board of Trustees, was introduced as well as Director of Coastal Projects, Sheryl Rozier, and Executive Director of Coastal Operations, Vince Lorefice.

1013 District 6 Happenings by Marie Robb, Galveston Council Member - District 6

Marie has had meetings with Texas Gas Transmission to discuss bringing gas to the West End. For additional information to determine when and how to hook up your house to a natural gas line, you can visit the Facebook page, “Gas for the West End” or email dyendrall@msn.com.

Marie is pushing for developers to place deed restrictions to limit or remove short-term rentals in the new developments. She is also asking that they add benefits to the community such as parking, wider roads, commercial benefits, and commitments to natural gas line implementation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please text Marie Robb at (409) 256-4518 or email at Marie@MarieRobb.com, and she will answer and/or forward the issues to the appropriate agencies.

1022 Beach Maintenance Advisory Committee (BMAC), Chris Lauer

Natalie Bell with the State Coastal Resources Department discussed the Beach Maintenance Reimbursement Program. She mentioned that Galveston did not receive any of these funds because we were not spending more on cleanup and maintenance activities than we were receiving from our Hotel Occupancy Taxes (HOT tax).

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A sargassum forecast was given by Dr. Hal. The floating seaweed identified so far includes high volumes in the Caribbean and with low volumes in the Gulf.

Currently there is < 1% chance for a sargassum inundation to the island this year. To check on additional details from the forecast, you can visit www.sargassummonitoring.com.

Melody Smith with “Visit Galveston” discussed how they increase tourism to the island. This is done through hosting writers and groups like the National Tourism Association. Various excursions are presented including a push for sustainable tourism. If you have a tourism based business, you can get a free listing on their website, www.visitgalveston.com.

The beach nourishment project from Delanara Park to 13 Mile Road is scheduled for construction in 2025.

Beach Signage is being updated to include what to do with injured or deceased wildlife, nesting bird signs on East Bach, as well as the signs designed by kids as part of the SPLASH program.

Larry Denner was also introduced as a member of the BMAC.

Taz Jones recorded the meeting as follows:

Part 1: <https://youtu.be/NalWZqFuBt0>

Part 2: https://youtu.be/N1XO_6rxnU

1026 Adjournment

The next WGIPOA meeting will be April 20th, 2024 at the West End Marina in Sea Isle, first floor at the Sand Bar.