

DUCK KEY SECURITY DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of March 5, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Sylvia Hernandez, Chair
Rick Sherman, Vice Chair
Laurie Oestreicher, Secretary
Van Waddill
Dave Maki
Bill Grayden

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Philip Kircher

QUORUM PRESENT:

Yes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Capt. Hiller, MCSO
Sgt. Trevor Wirth, MCSO
Lt. Derek Paul, MCSO
Simon Leird, Keys Security

Residents:

Ron Oestreicher, DKPOA
Stormy Hayes
Michael Solomon
Ellen Tanis
Bill Tanis
David Williamson
Jon Porter
Thomas Merryman
Terry Regelman
Margie Casey
Dennis Casey
Fritz Anderson
Bobbie Hagel
Carrie Delbecg
Mona Barnes

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 3:00 by Chair Sylvia Hernandez
- Location of meeting: Hawks Cay, Dolphin C
- Date of meeting: March 5, 2019

MOTION: To approve the January 2, 2019 Agenda. First by Van Waddill, seconded by Laurie Oestreicher.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: To approve the January 2, 2019 minutes. First by Laurie Oestreicher, seconded by Rick Sherman.

MOTION CARRIED

STANDING REPORTS

MCSO: Sylvia H. thanked Capt. Hiller and MCSO for having the MCSO Speed Sign at the Truman Bridge, advising motorists of the 10 MPH Speed Limit on bridges. Capt. Hiller noted it had been very critical and effective. Tickets were issued, as his team was monitoring the bridges. He will keep putting the sign up periodically.

Sylvia H. asked about the incident of 2/14/19. Sgt. Wirth replied it had been a reported theft of a Hawks Cay guest, but later the money was found. There were active cases on Green Briar of grand theft and on Harbor Drive where 170 gallons of fuel was stolen from a boat on a lift. He noted they were starting to see Marine related thefts in Marathon and warned all that lower units, motors, were taken from boats on lifts. There have been both residences and marina thefts in Marathon. He encouraged all to make sure there are secure locks and, if possible, security motion lights on boats, along with resident security cameras. He also reminded us to put away any fishing equipment. Having the serial numbers of equipment and motors would help them.

Sylvia H. advised the audience there is a new form available, both on hard copy and also online, to alert MCSO when a resident is going to be out of town, and they will advise their patrols to watch the home on a daily basis. Michael Solomon, a resident, asked Capt. Hiller what to do about boat issues. Capt. Hiller advised him to call MCSO, and they will alert the Coast Guard and FWC. Fritz Anderson, a resident, asked about boaters cutting through the turtle grass. Capt. Hiller advised him to call FWC as they will ticket for damage to turtle grass. Sylvia H. asked Capt. Hiller about the outcome of the out-of-control speeding car incident on Yacht Club Island. Capt. Hiller reported they had tracked down the car owner and found she is an employee at Hawks Cay. They have addressed the issue with her.

Keys Security: Simon Leird reported that there had been 2 calls about non-residents fishing on Allamanda St. Both the resident and MCSO were called in. Sgt. Wirth advised that trespassers are issued warnings at the first offense.

DKPOA: Ron Oestreicher reported that DKPOA had a successful Island Cleanup Saturday March 2. Over 50 Duck Key residents turned out to help and the island looks better for everyone's efforts. Ron O. called out a special thank you to MCSO and Sheriff Ramsey and his team of 7, who worked along with the residents to clean up Duck Key. Ron O. also reported there are 290 property owners who have not paid the voluntary DKPOA dues this year, and there is an ongoing effort to get all to pay so the "Island Beautification Project" can continue. DKPOA hopes to plant additional palm trees on the island right of ways this year. The Canal Dredging Project continues its fundraising efforts, still \$38,000 to go. The project is waiting on an additional period for any residents comment, 30 days required by the State and 30 days by the County.

Hawks Cay: Yunior Rodriguez, Hawks Cay Manager, reported that currently Hawks Cay is at 90% occupancy and they expect this to continue as they are sold out through March and April with Spring Break.

Ron Oestreicher, a resident, asked Yunior Rodriguez if Hawks Cay had plans to replace and light the channel markers, as they were pre-Hurricane Irma. He advised they were in the scope of the plans during the marina repairs, and were tied to the marina work being done. First the seawall will be replaced, then all other work. This should be complete in 30 days. Yunior advised the Hawks Cay's newly implemented "Welcome Gate" is effective in controlling traffic and non-guests from entry. He also advised FWC is keeping 2 boats at their marina, which will aid in controlling illegal fishing, help monitor boat speeds and other rules. If any Duck Key residents need to report issues try to get the boat decal #'s, and they should call the Resort at 305-743-7000 and ask for Ed at the marina. Ed advises boater guests when they check in of the "Rules" concerning speeding in the canals and Tom's Harbor, and asks them to follow proper etiquette. Yunior informed us they advise all guests at Hawks Cay of the proper etiquette for Duck Key, regarding golf carts, bicycling, bridge crossing, and trespassing. Hawks Cay rental golf carts are not allowed to cross the Truman Bridge, and all Hawks Cay golf carts are red. Employees drive blue golf carts. If any residents see any Hawks Cay golf carts on the Island, they should get the golf cart # and advise Yunior. Yunior introduced all to a new Hotel Manager, Monica Poland. She advised all to call her with any questions and/or concerns. Board Member Rick Sherman asked if Hawks Cay management had received the letter sent to their management, detailing issues of concern, as he had not seen a response. Yunior said he thought there had been a response, and would follow up on it, and if need be respond again.

FWC: Capt. Dipre was not in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

Camera Update: Cameras are all working fine now, but 2 of the tag readers are not working. Bosch has informed Sylvia H. that the three of our five tag readers are not appropriate for Florida tags, so DKSAB is trying to get the tag readers replaced at no cost. Sylvia H. has asked Christine Limbert, Monroe County Attorney, for help getting this issue resolved, as the company installed the wrong equipment. The Truman Bridge tag readers do read tags correctly.

Update on "Slow Speed Zone" on all Duck Key Canals: Sylvia Hernandez has been in contact with Rich Jones, Monroe County Marine Resources. He is working with the GIS Dept. to have the maps drawn up to send to FWC Tallahassee. There was discussion on whether Tom's Harbor area will have signs, and resident Michael Solomon asked if it could be included.

Evaluation of Speed Radars: Sylvia H. passed out a new report detailing the effectiveness of the Speed Radars, showing that the total incidents of speed violations has been greatly reduced even though we have more cars on the road. The higher number of speed violations are occurring between 8 to 9 AM, 12 to 1 PM, and 4 to 5 PM. Capt. Hiller noted the times and advised he will tell his patrols to be aware of these higher traffic hours.

Rick Sherman asked Capt. Hiller to please have his patrols monitor the bridge speeds during these hours as well.

The discussion came up again, about an addition of Radar Speed Signage on Indies Drive, both North and South. Sylvia H. advised due to the curve in the road going North to South she has been advised they would not work correctly, so they were not an option. This was challenged by resident Ron Oestreicher as on North Indies Drive at the beginning is a long straight away, and again at the end of Indies South there is a long straight away, and most of the speeding on Indies is at these points. Sylvia H. advised she will revisit this topic with Judith Clark at the County Office and told Ron Oestreicher to feel free to contact Judith Clark on this issue. Margie Casey, a resident, asked to get the Speed Radar sign moved, as she is building a house on West Seaview Drive and the current Radar Sign will be blocking her driveway. Sylvia H. advised she will contact the County to have the sign moved.

NEW BUSINESS

Action requested: Contract with Keys Securities. Discussion began with the Board being advised that the current contract could be extended for 1 year or put out for bid. Stormy Hayes, a resident, asked if all Keys Security does is call MCSO, why are they needed? Sylvia H. answered that Keys Security is present from evening to early morning hours, when residents are sleeping and not aware if there are issues. Keys Security is patrolling during

this time and would be aware of issues and take care of them. Sylvia gets daily reports from Simon Leird and has knowledge of Keys Securities reports of any incidents. It was asked these reports be brought to the future DKSAB meetings. Residents asked what the current contract cost is, and it was announced it is \$60,000 yearly, currently \$17.00 an hour for their service. Rick Sherman advised all that costs were looked at years ago of having Keys Security or a dedicated and paid for Police presence, and the Police would cost the same with approximately 1/3 of the current hours covered. Discussion ensued about the cost of "off-duty" police patrols for Duck Key. Capt. Hiller advised it would be "volunteer" only basis, and at this point they would not have the manpower to cover our hourly needs. The off-duty policemen will only take the hours they want to cover and during holidays they would not be available due to County needs of manpower. Rick Sherman advised all the Keys Security has "stepped up their game" and is a value to Duck Key. If there is concern in the future, the current contract can be cancelled by either party within 60 days. Michael Solomon asked if we could not have some type of Security system more high-tech. Sylvia H. responded we have cameras on all the bridges and tag readers, what more would be needed?

There was discussion about arming the Keys Security personnel. Simon L. responded that he doesn't want his guards with guns. Capt. Hiller advised the Keys Security people would need permits to carry guns, as well as different training and a class 3 license with different restrictions. It was then asked if the Keys Security team should take lessons on how to patrol the Island, as the MCSO patrol goes slower, watches the cars coming in and out of the Island more thoroughly, etc. David Williamson proposed that DKSAB contract for a dedicated Deputy for the Island instead of Keys Security. Capt. Hiller advised he could not supply an officer at this point, due to his current open positions, but he could "post" for the job for "Off-Duty Officer", costing \$45.00 hourly, but he could not guarantee that an Officer would accept the job. Capt. Hiller suggested DKSAB contact Sheriff Ramsey for further discussion, and thought this would require legislation.

MOTION: Rick Sherman motioned for a vote to extend Keys Security current contract for 1 year, and explore ideas of a dedicated Deputy for Duck Key with Sheriff Ramsey. Bill Grayden seconded.

MOTION CARRIED

Action requested: 10% increase in non-ad valorem property tax.

MOTION: Rick Sherman motioned for a vote to decline to ratify the increase. Laurie Oestreicher seconded the motion.

For: Laure Oestreicher

For: Rick Sherman

Against: David Maki

Against: Bill Grayden

Against: Sylvia Hernandez

Against: Van Waddill

MOTION DECLINED

MOTION: Sylvia H. motioned for a vote to increase the property tax by 10%.

Against: Rick Sherman

Against: Laurie Oestreicher

For: David Maki

For: Bill Grayden

For: Sylvia Hernandez

For: Van Waddill

MOTION CARRIED

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

At this point the general meeting ended, and the Strategic Planning meeting began.

Rick Sherman reviewed for the group the Mission of DKSAB as approved by the board 4 years ago.

Rick S. informed all he had written to County Attorney Shillinger asking for clarification on the purpose of DKSAB. Bob Shillinger replied that there were three options:

1. Continue with the Ordinance "as is"
2. Tweak the Ordinance to include safety in the definition of security
3. Ask for an amendment to broaden the scope

There was discussion on security versus safety, and whether we wanted to ask the County Attorney to clarify the matter. We would come back to this issue in a future meeting.

PRIORITIES:

Discussion concerning the breakwater damage caused by Hurricane Irma and repairs needed. Sylvia H. thought that since there are environmental concerns, there is a possibility the County could find a grant to pay for it. She had researched available grants, found some that might be appropriate, and emailed them to John Schwarz. She also pointed out that DKSAB available funds would not go very far to pay for the breakwater. David Williamson pointed out that Attorney Bob Shillinger had told him in writing that he did not think it would be an appropriate use of the security funds.

Rick Sherman suggested we should list project to spend funds on, both capital and recurring.

Listed for future discussion:

- Full time Police for Duck Key
- Breakwater repair

- Additional Radar Signs on Indies Drive
- Light/Sign on rocks at Channel entrance
- Reserve \$8,000 for "Slow Speed" Signs on canals
- Increase Keys Security evening hours, and additional hours on Sundays
- Explore camera companies for replacement from current company
- \$8,000 for auto tag upgrades
- Hire a community security consultant
- Speak with Ocean Reef on how they handle security
- Emergency funds for post hurricane clean up allocation, containers/dumpsters

Financial:

Rick Sherman suggested that because of all the construction going on we could expect revenues of \$115,000 for 2020 and \$120,000 for the following two years.

Rick Sherman suggested that at the next meeting we prioritize projects and put together a 3-year plan.

David Williamson suggested that we may have some meetings in the evening so more residents could attend.

Ron Oestreicher suggested that DKSAB post the minutes on NextDoor for community viewing. Sylvia H. explained that they were posted on Facebook and the County Website and that NextDoor may not be the appropriate venue. Laurie Oestreicher suggested posting a link to the minutes on NextDoor.

Rick Sherman called for an update on the new bridges at the next meeting.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 4:00 PM on Hawks Cay.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Laurie Oestreicher, 390 East Seaview Drive, Duck Key, FL
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