

Palm Island Estates Homeowners Assoc.
1/08/22 Annual Meeting

President Meryl Schaffer called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM. A quorum was met with 96 paid memberships and 48 in person + proxies. Board members in attendance: Craig Baresel, Candy Cohen, Linda Cotherman, Pat Gordon, Sally Johnson, Meryl Schaffer, Heather Stout, and Lindsay Yates. Theresa Blanco and Cori Palmere attended remotely.

Minutes from the 2021 Annual Meeting were approved.

President's Report– Year by the Numbers sheet attached

(New board members elected last year for 2-year terms were Candy Cohen, Pat Gordon, Cori Palmere, Meryl Schaffer, and Lindsay Yates.)

Treasurer's Report – Posted to the web page. Income was \$12,500 (primarily Dues) Expenses were \$8,000 for Net Cash of \$3200. Major expenses for the year: Liability Insurance - \$3900, Pay pal Fees - \$1500, Beach Access Maintenance - \$1,200. Year-end Legal Expense (Sewer) - \$57,000 to date

Committee Reports –

- a. Info Central/Sally – Meetings with Fire Chief Fair & Michael Poff on Beach Renourishment
- b. Island Watch/Linda – Exotics removed from the Island r.o.w.'s. The road contract renewal is scheduled for next year. Certain FPL poles have come under scrutiny for causing outages.
- c. Barrier Island Fire Advisory Board /Candy – New station opening in February, March public opening. Two new members have joined the Board.
- d. Utility Update/Craig – The County 5-year plan is way behind schedule. Our Island is no longer in the 5-year plan.
- e. Administration/Lindsay – Membership total is 245, with 53 being new
- f. Scholarship/Heather – No Scholarships were awarded this year.

Old Business: Nothing to discuss

New Business:

- a. The 2022 Budget was approved.
- b. Board members elected for 2-year terms: Craig Baresel, Theresa Blanco, Linda Cotherman, Sally Johnson, Kathy Sickles, and Heather Stout.

PIE Action/Central Sewer – Meryl

The PSC hearing to approve/disapprove EU's application is scheduled for February 8, 2022. The PSC considers primarily 4 criteria that must be met to approve a certificate:

- 1) Need for service
- 2) Financial ability of applicant

- 3) Technical expertise to construct & maintain the service
- 4) Rates that are fair and equitable

- It has not been proven that septic tanks are causing Red Tide
- There has been no actual testing done to support EU's claim that our septic tanks are polluting.
- No single entity or person for oversight of the project
- Initial proposed connection estimate was \$20,000, now \$12,000 plus \$1300 charge for lateral connection. Why the big difference?
- Hidden costs could include: separate additional electric panel, back-up generator, tree and landscape clearing, no compensation to property owner for easement grants made to EU for access.

We have a massive letter writing campaign to the PSC ahead of us to oppose EU's application for service at the February 8th hearing.

Question & Answer & Comments:

J.B. – Does EU have a contract with Knight Island Utility giving them control of bulk water rate?

B.G. – Did CC disengage us (barrier islands) from the 5-year Utility plan? How can they do that? CC “endorsed” the EU proposal to provide sewer to the islands? The recently resigned Utility Director, Craig Rudy, did so in a deposition.

J.P. – Discussed a meeting he had with Bill Truex. The County wants nothing to do with Island Sewer service. He also had a meeting with Jack Boyer. It appears he is mostly interested in the revenue that could be realized from holding the right to provide service, rather than actually constructing/providing the service. Does the PSC actually look at other options or other types of systems?

L.S. – Sewer would definitely create a larger density threat.

Special Thanks to:

Buzz Mallett – Excellent maintenance on our roads

Ray Smith – American Flag

Monica Errico – Covid Tests

Next Board Meeting is January 11, 2021.

Meeting adjourned 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully,

Pat Gordon

NOTE: 01.10.22 **Treasurer's Report** – Lindsay Annual meeting quorum: 97 dues-paid, 48 attending, 15 proxies.