

PIE BOARD MINUTES
Special Meeting
APRIL 9, 2004

President, Valerie Guenther, called the meeting to order at 2:07 PM. Present: Meryl Schaffer, Carol Peterson, Mike Fahlmark, Jim Clinton, Andy Nichols, Cassie Ator, Bob Horswill, Dan Kett, Susie Kett, Kimber Dill

Andy Nichols presented a joint position paper representing the interests of PIE, Palm Island Resort, Knight Island Utilities and Island Environmental Utilities. The paper was crafted by Andy and Dean Beckstead following a meeting at which they determined that all of the entities named above wish to preserve the future of the islands and must take joint action to advance our common interests. The issues reflected in the paper were discussed by the PIE Board at our regular meeting on Tuesday, April 6, 2004. Following discussion regarding the lots on Thornton Key, Valerie solicited comments on the position paper from all board members in attendance. The paper will be presented to the Advisory Committee at their meeting on April 10, 2004.

Valerie reported on a meeting she had had with Charlotte County officials regarding taxing districts. If we were part of an MSBU (Municipal Services Benefit Unit), controlled by the community, we would have more control over the processes and decisions made regarding municipal services for our islands.

A question was asked regarding the withdrawal of Island Environmental Utilities application to the Florida Public Service Commission. "If I.E.U. has pulled out, what guarantee do we have that someone else won't come in and apply for a permit?" The group consensus was that there is no guarantee and we will have to deal with the problem if, and when, it comes up in the future.

Andy pointed out that the joint position paper represents a current agreement between all the entities. It may change in the future. There are no guarantees.

Valerie made the point that we have a responsibility as a community not to demonize individuals, businesses, etc. but to collaborate and accomplish things together. We represent PIE as board members but the Advisory Committee must validate our positions with the community at large.

Bob Horswill asked about having a written letter/agreement containing the position paper. It was determined that this is unnecessary (and would not be legally binding). It would be a tactical error to treat this as a victory, it is a cooperative disengagement.

Julie Nichols discussed the FLUM and the 1990 Barrier Island Overlay as constraints against development.

Kimber Dill made a motion to accept the joint position paper for presentation to the Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Dan Kett and passed unanimously.

(Kevin Mackin and Dick Aulenti voted by proxy)

William Caldwell (Billy) had a meeting with several of the board members regarding his plans for the property around the current ferry landing. It was suggested that he consider using some of the property to build a community center instead of developing it commercially. He is planning to move the ferry landing to the north to be able to accommodate a drive-on, drive-off ferry. There are 4 single family home sites south of the road and 9 acres north of the road which could contain a community center and nature preserve.

There was discussion regarding PIE's involvement with a community center if Caldwell built it. It is possible that Caldwell was granted a variance for commercial building rights. Andy will contact Gary Wilkins to look into this. After hearing from Gary, we will look at the costs and possible plans for a community center. This process should take 2 – 3 years.

Bob Horswill presented an outline for the activities of PIE Environmental and asked that we begin to send letters to builders regarding a "tree rescue" program which would preserve trees cleared from lots prior to building. Bob will bring a letter to the PIE Board for review.

Jim Clinton made a motion to reconsider the sale of the road grader. The motion was seconded by Andy Nichols. In favor: Cassie Ator, Meryl Schaffer, Dan Kett, Suzie Kett, Jim Clinton, Andy Nichols. Opposed: Bob Horswill, Mike Fahlmark.