**Belleair Beach Belleair Shore** Clearwater Indian Rocks Beach **Indian Shores** Madeira Beach



**North Redington Beach Redington Beach Redington Shores** St. Pete Beach Treasure Island

The BIG C was hosted by **Belleair Shore**. The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Mayor Pat Sorrano on Wednesday, July 26, 2017, at Belleair Beach Town Hall, 444 Causeway Blvd., Belleair Beach, FL.

# 1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Sorrano.

2. Roll Call (according to the sign-in sheet)

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Belleair Beach Mayor Leslie Notaro Belleair Shore Mayor Bob Schmidt Indian Rocks Beach Mayor R.B. Johnson Mayor Patrick Soranno **Indian Shores** Madeira Beach Mayor Maggi Black North Redington Beach Mayor Bill Queen Redington Beach Mayor Nick Simons St. Pete Beach Mayor Alan Johnson Treasure Island Vice-Mayor Larry Lunn

### **GUESTS PRESENT**:

1

Clearwater Marine Aquarium Lindsey Flynn, Supervisor of Nesting Clearwater Marine Aquarium Yvette Fernandez, Sea Turtle Biologist Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber Doug Izzo, Government Affairs

Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue Larry Schear, Commissioner

TI/Mad Beach Chamber Missy Hahn, President

Belleair Beach Jewels Chandler, Councilmember

Mike Hakerson, Councilor **Indian Shores** Diantha Shear, Vice-Mayor **Indian Shores** 

**Indian Shores** Bill Smith, Councilor David Will. Commissioner Redington Beach Belleair Beach Wanda Schwerer, Vice-Mayor

Clearwater Marine Aquarium Kelly Martin, Director of Animal Care Pinellas County Andy Squires, Coastal Resources Manager

Derryl O'Neal, Acting City Manager Madeira Beach Tampa Bay Newspapers Bob McClure, Editor

Sand Key Civic Association Patti Thompson Kristi Pettit. Government Relations Clearwater Gas

Forward Pinellas Bret Burks, Planner

Sharon Joy Kleitsch, Founder The Connection Partners Cassidy McGrane. Intern Treasure Island Terry Hughes, Chief of Police **Indian Shores** FL House of Representatives Shayra Rosario, District Secretary FL House of Representatives Kathleen Peters, Representative

Treasure Island Pam Middleton, Deputy City Clerk
Pinellas County Rick Walker, Emergency Management

Belleair Beach Nancy Gonzalez, City Manager

Newsletter Bob Griffin, Publisher

Treasure Island Stacy Boyles, Assistant Public Works Director

Intercoastal Travel Bob Myers, Consultant Cookie Kennedy, Vice-Mayor

# 3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the agenda. The voice vote was unanimous.

## 4. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the June 2017 Minutes. The voice vote was unanimous.

## 5. Approval of June 2017 Treasurer's Report

Secretary/Treasurer Mayor Soranno read the June 2017 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made and duly seconded to approve. The voice vote was unanimous.

## 6. Correspondence

None

#### 7. New Business

Bob Esposito, Government Liaison with FDOT to discuss "Local Governments Working with FDOT"

Mr. Esposito explained FDOT was there to help the Barrier Islands with all their renovation and building projects that affected Gulf Blvd. Mr. Esposito urged everyone to call his office well before starting any work so his office could coordinate efforts to assess any impact to traffic on Gulf Blvd.

Lindsey Flynn, Acting Supervisor of Sea Turtles at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium to discuss "The 2016 Sea Turtle Nesting Season"

Ms. Flynn reviewed the Sea Turtle Nesting Season explaining it was a very good year for state with a record number of nests including to three false crawls for rarely seen turtles in the area. Ms. Flynn explained there were still lighting issues both on the beach and Gulf Blvd.

The Mayors discussed better ways to inform tourists about the care of nests including flyers at the local hotels and seasonal rentals reminding guests not to leave beach chairs, umbrellas or anything lying on the beach overnight. These items hinder hatchlings from getting to the gulf. The Aquarium's contact information was included.

## 8. Old Business

Pam Middleton, BIG-C Assistant requested funds to fix BIG C website/email. A motion was made and duly noted. The voice vote was unanimous.

Sharon Wise from St. Pete College spoke to the Council about her admiration for the structure and leadership of the BIG C and expressed her desire to have a conversation about how the BIG-C's formats could work in her groups.

## 9. Miscellaneous

None

### 10. Legislative Update

Representative Kathleen Peters spoke to the Council about the next legislative session which include the Home Rule debate. Ms. Peters expressed the need for Barrier Island representation in the legislature. The Council discussed reviewing candidates for the future election.

Mayor Queen stated the Big C needed to do their due diligence and look at candidates. Mayor Soranno suggested a subcommittee for this purpose and to hold a candidate's forum. Mayor Johnson spoke on holding the candidate's feet to the fire and not accept lip service,

# 11. City Events

Representatives from each municipality reviewed their upcoming event schedules.

## 12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 30, 2017 at the Clearwater Sailing Center, 1001 Gulf Blvd., Clearwater, FL

Mayor Robert Minning BIG C President