

Big C Minutes  
April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The BIG C meeting was called to order by President, Mayor Al Johnson at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Madeira Beach City Hall, 300 Municipal Dr, Madeira Beach, FL 33708.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Johnson.

**2. Roll Call**

Indian Rocks Beach	Mayor Kennedy
Indian Shores	Mayor Soranno
Redington Shores	Mayor Henderson
North Redington Beach	Mayor Queen
Redington Beach	Mayor Will
St. Pete Beach	Mayor Johnson
Madeira Beach	Mayor Hendricks
Treasure Island	Mayor Payne
Belleair Beach	Vice Mayor Gattis
Belleair Shore	Mayor Schmidt
Clearwater	Council Member Teixeira

Attendees:

Gina Johnson	Waterfront Realty
Tim Johnson	Waterfront Realty
Rich Cariello	Redington Beach
Robin Miller	TBCCOC
Zach Westfall	Pinellas County
John Mortellite	Pinellas Suncoast FD
Nina Bishop	St. Pete Beach
Jessica Morrow	TBCCOC
Chaquita Clark	Duke Energy
Nicholas Eddy	Commissioner Kathleen Peters
Lucinda "Cinda" Krouk	Redington Shores
Robin Gomez	City of Madeira Beach
Megan Powers	City of Madeira Beach
Dawn Peters	Candidate PCSB
J. Shoobridge	Redington Shores
Diantha Schear	Indian Shores
Larry Schear	Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue

**3. Approval of Agenda –**

- Bill Queen motion to approve
- Pat Soranno 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Motion passed unanimously

**4. Approval of Minutes**

- Bill Queen motion to approve
- Marybeth Henderson 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Motion passed unanimously

**5. Approval of the March 2022 Treasurer’s Report.**

- Marybeth Henderson motion to approve
- Pat Soranno 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Motion passed unanimously

**6. Correspondence**

- A. None

**7. New Business**

A. Presentation on Climate Change, Dr. Roland Lajoie

- Dr. Roland Lajoie covered the effects of climate change and the effects on the reefs, climate events, and other issues we are now experiencing. Dr. Lajoie explained that most of the cause is human beings consuming too much and not preserving enough increasingly releasing CO2 and methane into the atmosphere.
- If/where the Greenland and Iceland ice caps melt it will cause upwards of 200 feet of sea elevation.
- By 2050 many of the roads in Florida will be underwater, we are already experiencing “sunny day flooding” where high tide causes flooding without any rain in Miami areas.
- Higher temperatures will start to kill off the reefs which will not only effect barrier protections but will also kill off fish effecting a major food source.
- Climate Change disrupts weather patterns and causes extreme weather events to become more common such as hurricanes. As the global temperature as increased, so has the number of reported natural disasters.
- There are ways to help reduce the pollutants in the atmosphere like carbon capture, but it is going to take more of an international cooperation not just the US. China alone released double the amount the US does in CO2 emissions.
- Best short-term suggestion would be to create small nuclear reactors in small communities. They would be self-contained and can be transported on a semi-truck in a box. It would take 20-25 years before it would need to be recharged. Larger nuclear plants are not the answer as they cost millions to maintain, the rods need to be changes after a couple years, and regulations take upwards of ten years to resolve.

**8. Old Business – None**

## **9. Legislative Update –**

### **A. Short Term Rental Bill**

- Mayor Kennedy a couple of us met with Speaker DiCeglie and representative Chaney who said short term rentals were a partisan issue. We are concerned in our community on short term rentals. 86% do not support short term rentals in our town.
- Mayor Will, our residents are not being heard they do not want short term rentals
- Mayor Kennedy, we need a representative who will represent us not what the majority wants\Mayor Bill queen- property rights are the upmost important to them, and they do not want to go against the speaker of the house, they want to stay will who has the power in the house.
- Mayor Payne- Let's find another tune that will resonate with them since the term "home-rule" will not resonate with them.

## **10. Public Comments –**

- A.** Keith Meyer, Circuit Court Judge- Up for reelection this term. He is a local guy who grew up in John's Pass. If you have any questions please visit [votekeithmeyer.com](http://votekeithmeyer.com).
- B.** Michael Welch, St. Pete Beach Resident- Marched in 1<sup>st</sup> Earth Day parade in New York City 50 years ago and have been in involved in beach retention. Roland's presentation should scare everyone to death. If we could put more trees than concrete it would be a big start in the right direction. Concrete is a major problem, the more seawalls we put up instead of mangroves the worst we are making things. Don't buy big trucks for the city, buy electric vehicles. You are all on the right page but there are more things we can do like don't eat Mc Donald's would be a very good start for your health and the environment.
- C.** Dr. Bishop, Pinellas County- 2-3 inches in 20 years are the projected sea level rise. The beach nourishment project will probably be pushed back to late summer/early fall.
- Mayor Queen asked if we can piggy back off the nourishment project
  - Dr. Bishop said the Army Core does not have any other funds for other beaches not listed on the contract. As of right now no, they funds will only be for Treasure Island and Sand Key.
  - Robin Miller, Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of commerce- There might be a possibility of interim fixes in between nourishment projects working with Charly Justice and the Tourism Development Council. Initiated conversations with the county for funding, putting packet together. Asking Mayors to send information by May 6<sup>th</sup>. Will work with DEP on the sand shifting project.

## **11. City Events –**

- A.** Each city reported their upcoming events.


The meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 25th, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Hosted by City of St. Pete Beach, St. Pete Beach Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr, St. Pete Beach, FL 33706.

Minutes Prepared by: Megan Powers  
Executive Assistant to the City Manager, City of Madeira Beach, FL

Date Approved: 05/25/2022

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



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Amber LaRowe, MMC, City Clerk  
City of St. Pete Beach



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Alan Johnson  
Barrier Islands Governmental Council President  
Mayor of the City of St. Pete Beach, FL