



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Public Works Department

MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Shore Protection Board was called to order on Monday, November 21, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Council Chambers.

II. ROLL CALL

On roll call, all members were found to be present with the exception of Board Member Katz who arrived at 9:05 a.m.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Ecclestone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Town Manager, Thomas Bradford, advised that The Breakers group requested a deferral of their agenda item IX, as they needed additional time to look at elements associated with their proposal.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Frank and seconded by Board Member Goldstein to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 27, 2016 MEETING

Vice Chair Frank brought up two (2) items from the Shore Protection Board Meeting held on October 27, 2016 that needed revision:

1. How much money is actually available for funding. With the Town's credit rating, we have \$700 million available, not \$200 million.

2. Mr. Frank also noted that the \$100,000 available for Woods Hole Group will be allocated, \$50,000 for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 for a total of \$100,000.

The minutes of the Shore Protection Board Meeting held on October 27, 2016 were not approved; pending revision.

**MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

VI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Katz complimented staff on the success of the Reach 7 project. He is concerned with protecting the dunes and requested a review of the sea oats to verify that they are healthy. He also questioned if we are planting enough sea oats and if it was a good idea since sea oats may have to be replanted annually. Mr. Katz also asked for the condos along the beach to become more involved in populating and protecting the dunes.

Vice Chair Frank noted that the Sloan's Curve sand has stayed in place and the Town will monitor the movement of sand in the areas where structures could be considered in the future. Mr. Frank asked about cost sharing for turtle monitoring.

Public Works Director, Paul Brazil, advised that he did not know the exact amount that was cost shared on monitoring.

Coastal Program Manager, Robert Weber, advised that there was biological, physical, and turtle monitoring that was cost shared as a result of the Beach Management Agreement. The total amount of cost sharing over the past three (3) years was a few hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Frank said all Shore Protection Board Members should go to the Beach Management Agreement meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.

Board Member Johnson thanked Public Works Director, Paul Brazil, and Coastal Program Manager, Robert Weber, for the education session that they provided to the Shore Protection Board members.

Board Member Goldstein commented on the fact that the Town spent \$80,000 on Town plantings on the dunes and that they have held up very well. With the bad weather the dunes did not erode and asked if replanting would help.

Coastal Program Manager Weber stated that the dunes overall in Reaches 3, 7, and 8 remain healthy even though some of the dunes in the south end of Reach 8 has eroded after Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Weber will give an update at the next Shore Protection Board meeting.

Board Member Gavigan voiced concerns regarding the Mid-Town beach area specifically near Clarke Avenue, Seaspray Avenue, and Seaview Avenue. He noted that the beaches looked to be in poor condition and asked about any long range plans to address the condition of the beaches in that area. Mr. Gavigan expressed that something needs to be done.

**MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

1 Board Member Baker agreed with Mr. Gavigan on the condition of the beaches in the Mid-
2 Town area especially Clarke Beach. Mr. Baker is also concerned that the U.S. Army Corps of
3 Engineers will be dredging the inlet and that the sand will be placed in the off shore which is
4 not a good idea. He stressed that sand is needed and inlet sand should be placed on the Town
5 beaches. Mr. Baker recommended a conversation begin with Town residents at the north end
6 regarding sand transfer options.

7
8 Chair Ecclestone asked if sand can be brought in without a permit.

9
10 Mr. Brazil advised that one of the later agenda items will discuss what can or cannot be mined.

11
12 Board Member Goldstein recommended going to Town Council to get the U.S. Army Corps
13 of Engineers to place sand on the beaches.

14
15 Mr. Brazil advised that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will not be doing a dredging project.
16 They will dredge every other year and, with their budget, they can place it on the dry beach.
17 If they do an interim project, they can place a small amount of sand in the near shore off of
18 Reach 1 and 2. This process is better than what has been done in the past.

19
20 Mr. Goldstein recommended going to Town Council to further discuss the U.S. Army Corps
21 of Engineers placing sand on the beaches. Mr. Goldstein asked if The Breakers proposal was
22 for The Breakers area only, or will it benefit the nearby beaches.

23
24 Town Manager, Tom Bradford, stated that The Breakers program does go beyond The
25 Breakers area. They are proposing a groin near the Ecclestone property. He asked that we
26 wait until The Breakers group present their proposal and have a discussion then.

27
28 Board Member Gavigan asked about any large dredging projects beginning in the near future.

29
30 Coastal Program Manager Weber advised that there will be a large dredging project at the end
31 of 2017.

32
33 Mr. Brazil also agreed that there will be a large dredging project at the end of 2017 into the
34 beginning of 2018.

35
36 **VII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS**

37
38 There were no comments made by the public.

**MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

VIII. CURRENT SHORELINE CONDITIONS

Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager

Coastal Program Manager, Robert Weber, gave a power-point presentation with photographs taken during three (3) time frames; conditions on October 26, 2016, conditions before Hurricane Matthew (October 4, 2016), and conditions on April 13, 2016.

Mr. Weber noted that the Mid-Town beach area is somewhat eroded. Seas are still rough after Hurricane Matthew and effects can be seen in the shoreline conditions.

Town Manager, Tom Bradford, commented that the groins at the Mid-Town beach area were exposed and asked if that was a result of Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Weber explained that there is a seasonal function which causes the groins to become uncovered in the winter.

Mr. Bradford also mentioned people walking through the newly planted vegetation and inquired if signs could be placed to prohibit people from walking on the vegetation. Mr. Weber said when turtle monitoring season is over, signs and barriers can be placed to deter people from walking on the dunes and damaging the vegetation.

Board Member Katz mentioned that sand was placed near Reach 7 and, because of people walking on the dunes, the sea oats suffered. He stated that if there was a physical barrier, it would deter people from walking on and damaging the sea oats. He invited a discussion on finding the optimum level of protection for the dunes. He noted that the cost to install the dunes was substantial and therefore warrants further discussion.

Mr. Weber advised that signage can be placed in the high traffic areas.

IX. PRESENTATION OF THE BREAKERS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR BREAKERS/CLARKE AVENUE BEACH SHORE PROTECTION

[Paul Leone, President, The Breakers, Brett Moore, P.E., President, Humiston & Moore Engineers, and Mohamed Dabeas, P.E, Vice-President, Humiston & Moore Engineers]

Postponed until further notice.

X. COASTAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager

a. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lake Worth Inlet Maintenance Dredging

Coastal Program Manager Robert Weber advised that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' project that was scheduled to begin at the end of 2016 has been postponed. He advised that recently collected survey data did not warrant dredging this coming winter. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will perform additional surveys and then, if needed, a small interim

**MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

1 project will be done in the spring and sand will be placed on the near shore. The next full
2 scale project will take place in Reach 1 and Reach 2 in the winter of 2017/2018.

3
4 Chair Ecclestone inquired on the term of easement agreements. Public Works Director.
5 Paul Brazil, answered that historically the Town has gotten ten-year easements but in recent
6 years, residents have granted easements based on specific events.

7
8 **b. Reach 8 Environmental Impact Statement**

9
10 Coastal Program Manager Weber stated that the Reach 8 Environmental Impact Statement
11 is waiting on the Record of Decision from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the
12 request should be available in the Spring of 2017 to move forward with permitting.

13
14 Board Member Katz stated that there should be communications made to residents in South
15 Palm Beach to make them aware that there will be a project coming to Reach 8.

16
17 **c. Groin Rehabilitation Permitting**

18
19 Coastal Program Manager Weber stated that we are on a better timetable with regards to
20 federal permitting then the Reach 8 Environmental Impact Statement. The U.S. Army
21 Corps of Engineers has asked for additional information and consultant CB&I is working
22 to put a submittal together. If the submittal is sufficient, the federal permitting should
23 likely be complete.

24
25 **d. Reach 4 Dune Restoration**

26
27 Coastal Program Manager Weber stated there is a new hotel being built at 3550 South
28 Ocean Boulevard and 6,300 cubic yards of sand will be excavated. The Florida Department
29 of Environmental Protection is requiring that the same amount of sand has to remain on
30 Palm Beach Island and has given the developer the flexibility to place the sand in another
31 section of the beach. Mr. Weber advised that the sand may be placed in the Mid-Town
32 area but because the sand characteristics are not compatible with the Town's Beach
33 Management Agreement, the sand will be disposed of and compatible sand from an upland
34 mine will be brought in to substitute. This will be done at no expense to the Town.

35
36 Chair Ecclestone inquired if the new sand can be placed at Clarke Avenue Beach.

37
38 Coastal Program Manager Weber advised that the sand cannot be sacrificial and is to be
39 placed on a stable beach where a sufficient berm exists in front of the dune.

**MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

**XI. SAND MINING AND OVERVIEW OF LONG RANGE FORECAST OF THE
TOWN'S COASTAL MANAGENENT PROGRAM**

H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works

Public Works Director, Paul Brazil, explained that mining in the near shore is not good for the beaches and, therefore, is not permitted. Mr. Brazil stated it would pose a detriment by changing the wave characteristics and how much sand we have on the beaches. We are currently mining in areas that will not be detrimental to the shoreline. In the long term, we identified six (6) borrow areas from a sand search. Three (3) of the six (6) borrow areas are identified in the Town's Beach Management Agreement. Mr. Brazil explained that the three (3) feeder beaches in the Town will help to move sand into other areas of the beach when the sand is placed. The Town has sufficient sand reserves offshore. The Federal Government did a "Sand Needs" analysis for the East Coast of Florida and identified a need of 170 million cubic yards over the next 50 years. Dade and Broward Counties are almost out of sand and will be mining offshore of Martin or St. Lucie Counties in federal waters. The mined sand will then be transported in to the beaches. Palm Beach Island has enough sand offshore to help replenish its beaches over the next 15 to 20 years. However, even if there are challenges in the future, mining of off shore sand, because Broward and Dade counties will have mined in the off shore and transported sand to their beaches, there will be procedures in place to help other municipalities with the endeavor.

Vice Chair Frank noted that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has reported that sufficient sources of sand exist to support the regional sand needs for at least the next 50 years.

Mr. Brazil advised that the closer our sand sources are, the less expensive the project will be. Mr. Brazil, stated that sand is not always off the shoreline of communities that need sand.

Board Member Katz suggested that we look at new technology to protect the sand so that it will keep our beaches enjoyable through the future.

Board Member Baker stated that even though we are lucky to have identified a high sand quality, we have to fight to retain the sand sources that we have identified.

Board Member Johnson asked on the needs of sand from the northern border of St. Lucie County to the southern border of Broward County. For the four (4) counties, (St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, and Broward), 174 million cubic yards of sand is needed. There is 280 million cubic yards of sand available, if needed.

Coastal Program Manager, Robert Weber, stated that during the Sand Needs Analysis, all local municipalities and counties with Beach Management Projects reported their expected needs over the next 50 years. Mr. Weber stated that for the purpose of this Shore Protection Board meeting, he only brought the data for Palm Beach County, he can provide a link of the entire report to the Shore Protection Board members.

**MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

Chair Ecclestone asked if research could be done to see if it is possible to legally hold sand that is in our reserves.

XII. DRAFT ANNUAL SHORE PROTECTION BOARD REPORT TO TOWN COUNCIL

Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager

Coastal Program Manager, Robert Weber, stated that each year Chair Ecclestone presents the annual report from the Shore Protection Board. Mr. Weber reviewed the report and took questions from members. Chair Ecclestone will present the report to Town Council on December 13, 2016. Attendance for the past year from Shore Protection Board members is at 100 percent.

Town Manager Bradford advised that the search was on-going to secure a public relations consultant for the Public Works Department.

XIII. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works

Chair Ecclestone advised that the next Shore Protection Board meeting will be held on January 30, 2017.

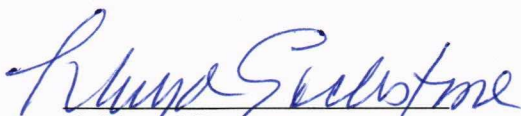
XIV. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters to discuss.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the November 21, 2016 Shore Protection Board meeting was adjourned at 10:23 AM.

APPROVED:


E. Llwyd Ecclestone
Chairman