

Abbreviated Minutes of Upper Captiva Community Panel Meeting

January 27, 2007

Attending: Dave Tompkins, Rick Fox, Peter Aldrian, Richard Craven, and Kristie Anders

Guests:

Margaret Banyan of Johnson Engineering,
Jim Mudd Planning Lee County

Attorney Bob Pritt was unable to attend

Public: as indicated in the sign in sheet

Cora Ogle, Jim Ogle, Fran Deture, Louise McDonald, Maxine Otis, Deane Richardson, Ashlyn Sims, Thomasin Shepp, David Shepp, Joann Beiermeister, John Fuller, Marian Fuller, Barbara Miklavcic, Arthur Mason

9:40 am

JEI means Margaret Banyan for Johnson Engineering, Inc.

Richard Craven provided the public with a summary of the interviews conducted by the Panel. Of the three candidates, Johnson Engineering, Inc. was offered the contract.

Margaret Banyan was introduced as Johnson Engineering, Inc. representative. She in turn introduced Jim Mudd (479-8108) of Lee County Planning Department in charge of community planning panels.

The public was reminded that regularly scheduled Community Panel meetings are open to the public, subject to the Florida Sunshine Laws and will meet regularly the third Saturday of each month following the Upper Captiva Fire Commissioners' Board Meeting at 11:30 or immediately after the Fire Board adjourns if their meeting extends beyond 11:30. Notice will be given at the regular public meetings, posted on island bulletin boards and as best as possible through the available Internet list maintained by the Upper Captiva Civic Association.

There was a discussion of the financial arrangement with the County, JEI and the Panel. JEI is willing to work within the financial constraints of the Panel and agree to incremental payments to coincide with the timeline presented during the interview process. Jim Mudd concurred that the County will release the funds as work is completed with 15% of the funds retained until final work is submitted.

Jim Mudd shared some experiences he has had with other community panels through out Lee County. Mudd distributed handouts that described some existing Land Use Codes specific to the Lee Barrier Islands. (Not attached as a complete set was not received by Anders)

JEI gave an overview of the process. A survey will be developed for owners of properties on North Captiva. There will be an initial letter of notice using the public tax rolls as a basis for the mailing. Most of the survey responses will be managed through a web site on SurveyMonkey.com. However any one indicating a desire to respond by US Mail may do so by requesting a hard copy of the survey. Interviews with other stakeholders such as long term renters, business, and workers will be conducted on island by JEI. The compilation of the data will lead to community meetings facilitated by JEI.

JEI will draft proposal of recommendations to amend the Lee County Comprehensive Plan. After review by the Panel, this draft will be sent to County staff for comments. Eventually the recommended changes are sent for approval of the Lee Board of County Commissioners and on to the State of Florida.

Jim Mudd also indicated there may be an additional \$50,000 available for the second phase, which is a similar process to make changes to the Lee County Land Development Code. The Comp Plan should be used for general vision statements and the Code changes would be utilized for more specific objectives. The process of both major phases will take two years and some Community Planning Panels sustain themselves long beyond the initial grants.

JEI was given a copy of the instant poll conducted by the Civic Association listing island concerns. The public then offered some concerns they hoped will be addressed such as under age cart drivers, gas powered vehicles, fishing violations and more.

JEI (Banyan) said the next steps are to finalize the contract; develop the initial letter to owners; draft a survey; identify other stakeholders and set goals for community involvement meeting. The panel will be given drafts for their comments and responses given directly to Margaret Banyan as Panel, under Sunshine Laws, may not discuss the business of the panel among themselves out side the public meetings. Panel was also reminded that final comments on the contract should be sent to Bob Pritt, the Panel's attorney.

The next Community Panel Meeting is at 11:30, at the Upper Captiva Fire House.
Meeting adjourned at 10:55.