

Minutes of UCCA Meeting, April 14, 2013  
11:00am at Safety Harbor Clubhouse

Board members present: Ann Murphy, Vicki Kirsh, Arthur Mason, Sue Ann Cousar, Fran DeTure, Steve Muse, Katie Walsh; by phone Jackie Byrnes & Tom Palazzo.

Also present: Dave Tompkins, Marcia Andrews, JoAnn Beiermeister, Bob Cousar, Sandy Werner, Randy & Stephanie Lord, Sam Horsley, Deane & Sandra Richardson, Maxine Otis, Karen Sirabian, Jerry Vernon, Gene Murphy, Danny Davenport, Richard Pepper, L.A. Brickner, Steve & Marion Hall, Kristie Anders.

Ann called meeting to order:

Treasurer's Report - Fran DeTure: St. Pat's a success; cleared \$16,000. Thanks to those who donated a golf cart to be raffled off. Cking \$27,532.20, MMA \$17,692.23, CD1 \$15,360.72, CD2 \$30,393.22 = total \$90,986.37

Kinsey Inn: Petition to rezone was withdrawn.

NC Marina - Steve Hall: On April 1, BoCC voted 5-0 to deny the rezoning application filed by NC Marina Group of investors. UCCA conducted an online survey to get Island's opinion. The Lee County Staff studied the case carefully and recommended denial. Then after many hearings with Hearing Examiner, she recommended approval. Major issues: the capacity of our Fire Dept. to fight a Marina fire with gas pumps present.

Arthur: Raised over \$50,000 and there are still some bills and we don't know what's next.

UC Fire Dept. - Chief Richard Pepper: Mike Adams was concerned about lack of response from 911; study said no fault with Sprint/Century Link. Multiple power outages could have caused problems. County felt they had adequately addressed the question of 911 - they received a call at 9:18am, despite the fact that people phoned at 9:00 and 9:05am. Advice: Call 911 first, but if you don't get through, dial station directly 472-8899.

Homeowners need to be aware of external egress from upper floors and Adams were one of the last houses that was required to have it - and that's how they escaped. Consider ladder, or slide. Consider vegetation around your house - keep it cut back. We are a wild land/urban interface. Keep a garden hose hooked up, fire extinguishers on every level and where to place them - near exit. Dano Speers is looking at a re-charge to sprinkler system out near the road rather than under the house so that even after power is off, your well pump will continue to feed sprinkler system and FD can hook up easily.

How are Islanders notified about an emergency? Lee County has a CodeRed system based on a geographical location. We hope to set up such a system. Propane tanks are only low danger. (Adams house: propane was not an issue, low pressure and zero impact. Explosions reported were probably golf cart batteries or stored fuel.) Fire District's budget is in negative because of property values being low. TurboDraft that FD acquired will be big help. It is easier to draft from a canal rther than the Gulf. TurbotDraft will allow us to get a water source closer. Another new aid is two ram monitors that will supply water and easy to set up. Hose have been replaced. Our fire fighters do not enter a burning structure because they do not have breathing apparatus (one unit is \$4,000) but we would have to have four: 2 in and 2 out ready to assist. Personal protection gear cost \$18,000 and is now big help. Thanks to UCCA for donatin to Friends of the Fire Dept. ISO suppression schedule requires FD to have ladder truck if houses exceed 30 feet and our houses do.

Friends of the Fire Dept. - Gene Murphy: A UCCA letter mailed out in a couple of months will give a lot of information about what we can do to protect our homes. Commissioners are sensitive to our issues following the Feb.17 fire. Our fire break between residential and Park is

overgrown and useless. Denise Sabatini is long-range planning person with County who may be able to help. Mr. Harper is new public safety director arriving soon to begin work. FD looked into possibility of digging a pond on each road to be drafted from. The ponds would have to be rated. Another is horizontal wells, or laying pipe under the road. Just laying pipe crossing under airstrip to feed north end, estimate was \$45,000.

UC Community Panel - Kristie Anders: Panel has sent draft of Brazilian Pepper eradication to County. Panel is working on a code to limit weight and speed of electric car. Panel asked for Variance meetings be held on the Island and we want zoning to be included. JoAnn Beiermeister to be on nominating committee. Three to be elected to Panel, one appointed by UCCA. Bert is chair of nominating committee. Zeke is UCCA's nominee and we need to reappoint or replace.

UC Road Commission - Bert:

What's Next with NC Marina? Their investors think they can still build new Marina (but not dry storage building) and sell gas. We should thank Commissioners for their vote in our favor. Letter to Editor of News Press works.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Sue Ann Cousar, communications secretary