

UCCA General Meeting
Safety Harbor Clubhouse
October 23, 2016 at 11:30am

Minutes of October 2016 meeting.

Meeting was called to order by President JoAnn Beiermeister at 11:35.

Board members present: JoAnn Beiermeister, Jackie Byrnes, Ann Murphy, Jack Rutledge and Andrew Anderson by phone. Absent: Fran Deture, Helen Justice, Deb Skinner, Sue Ann Cousar

Attendees present: Karla Harlan, Bill Byrnes, Tim Smith, Bob Kinniry, Dale Swope, Karen Sirabian, Dan Hrycyk, Linda McPherson, Brian Thometz, Charm Thometz, Carolyn Creagh, Joe Miklavcic, Hans Wilson

New Board member Jack Rutledge was introduced. New Board member Deb Skinner was unable to attend.

There was no treasurer's report as treasurer Fran Deture was unable to attend the meeting.

Fire Chief Kinniry's report: Chief Kinniry stressed the need for all property owners to be responsible for trimming back the foliage on their properties which would impede the flow of traffic, especially the fire department vehicles. He also reported that a worker involved in a remodeling project had been bitten by a snake. He warned residents to be careful of snakes and indicated that there was possibly a new species on the Island. Karen Sirabian volunteered to contact Kristie Anders of the SCCF to find out if it would be advisable for the UCFRD to keep an anti-venom at the station for snake bites. (It should be noted that Karen, subsequent to the meeting, forwarded to the Board a memo from Chris Lechowicz, herpetologist at the SCCF, who indicated that there were no documented venomous snakes ever recorded on Upper Captiva.) Chief Kinniry also reminded Islanders that the County is requiring that all Brazilian pepper trees on the Island be eradicated by 2021, and that A.J. LaVallie and Tom Jenkins both have a supply of garlon for that purpose. The Chief concluded his remarks by informing us that the crew boat donated by JoAnn Beiermeister, which had been stolen and wrecked, was replaced by a new crew and emergency response boat which was purchased for \$19,000, and that the Department is working on upgrading their equipment as finances permit.

Joe Miklavcic updated the Board and attendees regarding the beach erosion project that he discussed at the April meeting. So far, the group has only spent money to gather information and get reports. Hans Wilson, a licensed profession engineer specializing in ocean engineering who has been involved in many beach restoration projects, gave a lengthy presentation. Mr. Wilson teamed with Huntston and Moore to study the north end of the Island. They produced a report that encompasses the entire north end, which is available upon request. He indicated that there were four options in dealing with the erosion, (1) Nourishment, (2) Minimal Structures, (3) Structural Management, or, (4) Do Nothing. We then heard from Tim Smith, a Safety Harbor Club member and geologist, who opined that hard structures would protect the houses that they were in front of, but that just sand bags could also be an option.

Finally, there was a discussion regarding property owners blocking off easements on various roads on the Island. Jack Rutledge indicated that the property owner at the end of Oro Pesos has attempted to block beach access and has erected signs to that effect. Similarly, the owner at the end of Night Hawk has also blocked beach access by erecting signs and rope fences, installing pavers in the easement, and planting dune grass. The UCCA will survey its membership in order to determine if it is the desire of the majority to retain an attorney to deal with these issues.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40.