

**MINUTES  
FORT MYERS BEACH  
MARINE RESOURCES TASK FORCE  
Town Hall  
2525 Estero Boulevard  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chair Veach. Members present: Patty Feste, Greg Holmes (left at 6:00), Steve Johnson, Mary Rose Spalletta and Bill Veach.

Excused: Shannon Mapes and Justin Paulauskis.

Staff: Rae Burns

**II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 13, 2019**

Ms. Feste nominated Louise Close and Chantel Blais for Murphie Awards.

**MOTION:** Chair Veach moved to approve the minutes as amended; second by Ms. Feste.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment**

**V. CURRENT ITEMS**

**A. Mulholland Award**

Dr. Leroy Hommerding and Tom Myers are the two nominees.

**MOTION:** Chair Veach moved to submit Dr. Hommerding and Mr. Myers to Town Council for the Mulholland Award; second by Ms. Spalletta.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**B. Good Citizen Award aka the “Murphie”**

To be determined next month.

**C. Fertilizer Ordinance**

Ms. Burns will contact the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) regarding the possibility of creating a new ordinance. She discussed challenges with the process to change it. She suggested reviewing both ordinances to determine which one was best. Consensus was reached to revisit the discussion when Ms. Mapes was in attendance.

D. ADA Accessibility

No report.

E. Reusable Bags

Chair Veach reported that the bags should be available any day. Chair Veach suggested distributing the bags at the Farmer's Market. Ms. Spalletta suggested exchanging plastic bags for the reusable bags. Ms. Feste suggested having people sign a pledge. Discussion was held regarding distributing bags while walking on the beach, the Beach School, Bay Oaks, Town Hall, Publix, potential sponsors, Council meetings, Woman's Club, Friends of Matanzas Pass Preserve, Garden Club, Community Foundation, Mound House events, Newton Park, churches, library, Council Members, advisory committee members and Town staff.

F. Signs

Ms. Burns commented that they needed a locking clasp to secure the signs to the posts. Discussion was held regarding various ways to mount the signs.

G. Glyphosate Use on Fort Myers Beach

Chair Veach noted that it rained since the solutions were applied to the test squares. Ms. Burns noted that some herbicides did not penetrate the root system.

H. Green Yard Certification

Ms. Feste distributed a list of criteria. She noted that Council suggested they change the name. Ms. Feste came up FMB Friendly Yard Certification. Discussion was held concerning irrigation, compost, fertilizers, herbicides, native vegetation and points required to meet certification. Ms. Feste will incorporate comments and provide a draft before the next meeting.

Chair Veach suggested conducting another patch experiment with different types of turf. Mr. Johnson volunteered to be the point person for the experiment.

## **VI. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Mr. Johnson brought up a turtle friendly lighting certification for beachfront owners. Ms. Burns suggested he contact the Turtle Conservancy for grant opportunities. She described the program and noted that she submitted a list of buildings that did not provide turtle friendly lights. She commented that the turtle lighting postcards were ready to be picked up for distribution. Chair Veach suggested contacting Turtle Time regarding the turtle friendly lighting certification. Mr. Johnson will provide a draft of the certification by the next meeting.

Ms. Burns stated that FWCC (Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission) staked out bird nesting areas on the beach.

Chair Veach noted that he was out of town June and July.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT** – no public comment

**VIII SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

Remove ADA Accessibility and Mulholland Award. Add turtle friendly certification and sod experiment.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Chair Veach moved to adjourn the meeting; second by Ms. Spalletta

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ with/without changes. Motion by \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

Vote: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ 

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