

**MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Town Hall
2525 Estero Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Goggin.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. REORGANIZATION

MOTION: PSC Member Childs moved to nominate John Goggin as Chair; second by PSC Member Knickle.

VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

MOTION: Chair Knickle moved to nominate Heidi Jungwirth as Vice Chair; second by PSC Member Childs.

VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

IV. ROLL CALL

Chair Goggin recognized Ron Fleming and Ed Scott for their service.

Members present: Suzanne Bahan, Mike Childs, John Goggin, Heidi Jungwirth, Jim Knickle and Dawn Thomas.

Excused: Tom Gressman

Staff: Public Works Director Chelsea O'Riley

Council Liaison: Dan Allers

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 1, 2020

MOTION: PSC Member Jungwirth moved to approve the minutes; second by PSC Member Knickle.

VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

VII. RESEARCH & MAKE RECOMMENDATION ON LCSO COMMUNITY POLICING AND NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Liaison Allers stated that Town Council suggested that they work with the fire and police departments for community policing ideas. He noted that staff from the Outreach Center were unable to attend the meeting.

Chair Goggin stated that the data on the calls to the sheriff's department did not provide an unbiased opinion on what the calls were, what they involved, where they were and how they were resolved. As far as a neighborhood watch, they didn't know the problems or where they were. He questioned whether the contracts with the sheriff and fire department covered the current issues or whether they needed a new community policing contract. Chair Goggin noted that the fire and sheriff departments agreed to meet with PSC and provide detailed information regarding the calls. He stated they needed more information before determining how or whether to move forward with neighborhood watches or community policing.

PSC Member Childs suggested that PSC Member Knickle be the liaison to the sheriff's department.

PSC Member Thomas agreed that they needed more information regarding the data. She described the neighborhood watch program in her community.

PSC Member Knickle stated that they had to understand the data before moving forward. He was surprised that community policing was offered at a price. In his experience, community policing meant that officers got to know the community, regularly attended neighborhood meetings and offered suggestions to keep the community safe.

Director O'Riley stated that the information would come from the Town Manager and only one person should be the liaison to the sheriff department and another for the fire department.

Chair Goggin will request detailed reports from the Town Manager for next month. He will outline a process and Director O'Riley will distribute it for input to the appropriate parties.

Chair Goggin requested the contracts for the sheriff department. He mentioned surveying the community for their feedback on problem areas.

VIII. LIGHT STUDY, RFP UPDATE AND PSC PARTICIPATION IN THE REVIEW

Director O'Riley stated that they did not receive any response from the first RFP, so another was sent to bid. Chair Goggin questioned whether PSC would be part of the evaluation team. Director O'Riley replied that the Town Manager determined who made up the evaluation committee. PSC Member Childs questioned whether Florida Power & Light (FP&L) was contacted. Director O'Riley replied that the consultant would evaluate all options and provide a recommendation.

IX. FOOT OF THE BRIDGE DESIGN STATUS

Chair Goggin reviewed the issue for new members. He noted that the County presented their design at the recent Council meeting and he requested that PSC receive a copy of the presentation. Director O'Riley stated that the previous Council endorsed the plan. She indicated that she would request a copy of the presentation. Discussion was held regarding PSC's design. Director O'Riley commented that the State had the final say on the plan.

X. BAY ST. SHELTER STATUS (BUDGET AND PROGRESS)

Director O'Riley reported that the sidewalk project was complete and the shelter pad was poured. LeeTran confirmed they would install and fund a shelter on Bay Rd. before January 3, 2021. She

remarked that conduit was installed for future development. Chair Goggin reviewed the code blue feature and PSC recommended that Council move forward with acquiring a code blue device for that shelter. Director O'Riley will follow up with LeeTran concerning grounding the device.

XI. SIDEWALK MARKINGS

No progress. Chair Goggin suggested that Liaison Allers bring it up with the current Council. Director O'Riley commented that it was a county sidewalk and required an Interlocal. PSC Member Thomas described a dangerous biking/pedestrian situation near Times Square. Liaison Allers brought up involvement with landscape and PSC Member Jungwirth remarked they already submitted a landscape plan. Director O'Riley will contact PSC Member Gressman for sidewalk demo options

XII. MEMBER'S ITEMS

PSC Member Childs expressed concern regarding the cost of the lighting plan. Chair Goggin questioned cutting parking at Bay Oaks to encourage public transportation since LeeTran and tram stops were one block away. He also mentioned creating paid parking. PSC Member Knickle wasn't sure about cutting parking, but he supported encouraging public transportation. Chair Goggin questioned whether they wanted to pursue the Town offering free bells for bikes. PSC Members agreed it was a great idea. Chair Goggin and Director O'Riley will research prices. Chair Goggin discussed requiring lights and bells and noted they could bring it back up with the Town Manager. Director O'Riley stated that the signal at Old San Carlos and Estero was out for bid. No items from other members.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

XIV. SET NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Meeting dates for the next three months: November 17, December 15 and January 19, 2021.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Chair Goggin moved to adjourn; second by PSC Member Jungwirth.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Adopted NOV 17, 2020 with/without changes. Motion by _____
(DATE)

Vote: _____ Signature:  _____

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