

**MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Town Hall
2525 Estero Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

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

Excused: John Goggin and Tom Gressman.

Staff: Public Works Director Chelsea O'Riley

Council Liaison: Dan Allers

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 20, 2021

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

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

VI. PRESENTATION FROM LIGHTING CONSULTANT

Suzanne Lansford played a video introducing the project and members of her team. She discussed hiding light sources from the beach. A handout was provided to PSC Members. Ms. Lansford clarified items in the project scope and reviewed the information in the handout. She noted that a recording of the previous presentation to stakeholders was available online.

Liaison Allers questioned whether they considered network dimmable rather than network switchable. Ms. Lansford replied that it was an option. Joe Hancock noted it was viable technology, but there were issues in the State of Florida. He stated that dimming would only pertain to white lights and color-changing was only done in the commercial arena. He discussed shielding the point source of light.

PSC Member Knickle questioned whether they researched other barrier islands. Ms. Lansford replied that the information would be included in their final report. She requested that PSC Members fill out the boxes in the handout and return them to Director O'Riley.

Town Manager Hernstadt pointed out that they could not deviate from state safety standards. He discussed dealing with two state agencies with different priorities. Consensus was reached to complete the study individually and schedule another meeting next week to discuss.

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

PSC Member Knickle reported that he and Director O'Riley met with officers and discussed having them attend PSC meetings. The officers explained why PSC Members should not analyze the crime reports. Director O'Riley added that the Town would have to pay for the officer's time to analyze the records. PSC Member Knickle indicated that a representative could attend monthly meetings. He questioned whether a community policing presentation by the Sheriff's Office would be feasible. Liaison Allers agreed that a presentation to discuss the cost of community policing versus project-specific policing would help the community understand. Consensus was held regarding scheduling a presentation. Director O'Riley will send a request to the Sheriff's Dept.

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

See VI.

IX. FOOT OF THE BRIDGE DESIGN STATUS

No update.

X. BAY ROAD SHELTER STATUS (BUDGET AND PROGRESS)

Director O'Riley reported that she would have to find a different vendor for code blue quotes.

XI. SIDEWALK MARKINGS AND BIKE SIGNAGE

Director O'Riley stated that the wrong way signs were installed last week and she was not involved in conversations regarding sidewalk markings.

XII. BICYCLE LIGHTS AND BELLS PROCUREMENT

Director O'Riley noted that they received samples of bells from one vendor, but the quote was too high. They will investigate prices and products from other vendors. She reminded members to submit budget items for the add-on list.

XIII. BIKING BEST PRACTICES

No update.

XIV. MEMBER'S ITEMS

PSC Member Thomas addressed visitors having access to the safety survey. She questioned sending the survey to hotels and adding a survey QR code in Times Square. PSC Member Knickle agreed that feedback from visitors was important. Director O'Riley reported that they received 608 responses to date.

Director O'Riley provided a report of PSC posts from Coordinator Dexter.

Consensus was reached to put \$2,500.00 on the budget add-on list.

No items from other members.

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Lee Johnson, resident and Turtle Time Member, provided her phone number to answer questions regarding how lights on the beach affected the turtles. She offered to meet with them on the beach at night. She stated that the FWCC and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) worked together concerning requirements for roadways. She offered to send a copy of the Green Book to PSC Members. She encouraged them to watch the longer stakeholder's meeting for details. She read a letter from a Dark Skies Community in Flagstaff regarding safety with amber lights. The author stated that they did not have any complaints from first responders or others in 32 years. She played an audio excerpt from Dr. Robin Trindell, who spoke at the stakeholder's meeting.

XVI. SET NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Add fire department and LSCO. The special meeting to discuss the survey was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

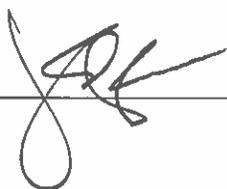
XVII. ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Adopted 6-15-21 with/without changes. Motion by GOGGIN
(DATE)

Vote: 6-0 Signature: 

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