

**MINUTES**  
**FORT MYERS BEACH**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
Town Hall  
2525 Estero Boulevard  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

**Tuesday, March 15, 2022**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

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

Staff: Administrative Officer Randy Paniagua

Council Liaison: Dan Allers

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 8, 2022**

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

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

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

**VI. LCSO & FMBFD UPDATE – no update.**

**VII. TOWN COUNCIL CODE BLUE UPDATE – no update.**

**VIII. BICYCLE LIGHTS AND BELLS**

**A. Distribution Plan**

Chair Thomas reported that she contacted the school concerning holding an event at the end of the year. PSC Member Knickle indicated that Council passed an ordinance requiring lights and bells on all bicycles. He questioned when it took effect and how it was enforced. Liaison Allers replied that the ordinance took effect immediately and he would check regarding enforcement. Chair Thomas discussed contacting rental owners and companies regarding installing lights and bells on their bicycles. Administrative Officer Paniagua stated that he would contact the short-term rental coordinator for contact information.

**B. Bike Lanes and Markings**

Chair Thomas noted that Rob Phelan informed them that Lee County would conduct a study regarding bike lanes and crosswalks. Discussion was held regarding riding with or against traffic.

**IX. PUBLIC SAFETY WEBPAGE AND EDUCATION**

Chair Thomas stated that Communications Coordinator Jennifer Dexter was updating information on the site.

**X. MPO MEETING UPDATES – no update.**

**XI. MEMBERS ITEMS**

PSC Member Bahan questioned adding signage or lighting at Old San Carlos and Fifth Ave. because pedestrians were crossing everywhere, and it was dangerous. Chair Thomas mentioned contacting the Sheriff’s Dept. PSC Member Knickle questioned whether beach patrol could assist with educating the public at that location. Chair Thomas indicated they needed to start issuing citations. Administrative Officer Paniagua commented that they could request an officer from the Sheriff’s Dept. Chair Thomas brought up installing railings to direct pedestrians to crosswalks. Liaison Allers added that Lee County was aware that many people supported adding railings. PSC Member Jungwirth stated that Mr. Phelan previously told the PSC that there were too many driveways to make railings effective. Liaison Allers discussed congestion at the Lani Kai and noted the topic was on his follow-up list.

Chair Thomas noted that Communications Coordinator Dexter sent an email blast concerning reporting burnt-out lights and she will request that the information be added to the Town’s webpage. PSC Member Childs mentioned that it took up to 10 days to replace a light and he will follow up with FPL. Discussion was held regarding adding a light to a dark side street. Liaison Allers reported 22 existing lights on town-owned Estero Blvd., 128 on county-owned Estero Blvd. and 271 on town-owned side streets. FPL proposed 80 lights on town-owned Estero Blvd., 476 on county-owned Estero Blvd. and 1,040 on town-owned side streets based on a photometric study. Administrative Officer Paniagua stated that instructions for reporting burnt-out lights were already on the town’s webpage.

No items from other members.

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

**XIII. SET NEXT MEETING AGENDA – April 19, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** PSC Member Knickle moved to adjourn; second by PSC Member Jungwirth.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Adopted 4/19/2022 with/without changes. Motion by \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

Vote: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Dawn Thomas

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