

1 BEACHSIDE RESIDENT TASK FORCE
2 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
3 MINUTES
4 JANUARY 6, 2016
5

6 The Beachside Resident Task Force held a meeting on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at the City
7 Commission Chambers, 210 Sams Avenue, New Smyrna Beach, Florida. Chairman Crocker
8 called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.
9

10 The following members were present:

11
12 Jay Crocker
13 Deborah Dugas
14 Carol Ann LaRoza
15 Tish Whiting
16 Amy Brackel
17 Doug Davis

18 Randy Herman non-voting member
19

20 Joseph Sharpe was absent. Also present were City Manager Pam Brangaccio; Assistant City
21 Manager Khalid Resheidat; Police Chief Mike Coffin; Recording Secretary Tammy Dickerson
22 and members of the public.
23

24 **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

25
26 **Amy Brackel made a motion to approve the minutes as amended of the regular meeting**
27 **held November 4, 2015; seconded by Doug Davis. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**
28

29 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

30
31 Cynthia Lundberg, 400 Cedar Avenue, stated her name then addressed the Board. She asked
32 why the city's fireworks are being done in a residential neighborhood.
33

34 Mr. Resheidat stated that the firework request go to the City Commission for approval and get
35 approval from the Fire Marshal which has special requirements. He stated that the fire
36 department is nearby when the fireworks are going off.
37

38 Ms. Lundberg stated that there is nothing to curtail people putting off fireworks all night long
39 such as signs.
40

41 Margaret Yarranton, 309 Florida Avenue, stated her name then addressed the Board. She stated
42 that striping is desperately needed on North Cooper and Florida Avenue so drivers will know
43 where they are supposed to be. She stated that the parking by Pat Collado's business is difficult
44 to get around when trucks are parked there.
45

46 Peggy Bellflower, 505 South Cooper Street, stated her name then addressed the Board. She
47 stated that on May 6, 2015 the Board directed staff to implement a 4-way stop on the corner of
48 Cooper and Oakwood Streets. She stated that the Assistant City Manager followed up with the

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1 Board at their next meeting telling the Board that staff doesn't plan to look at the 4-way stop
2 until after the Cooper Street traffic calming has been implemented. She stated that this 4-way
3 stop has nothing to do with the traffic calming it has to do with drivers running the stop sign on
4 Oakwood Street. She stated that the numerous accidents on this corner are reason enough to
5 implement the 4-way stop sign. She asked the Board to follow through with the 4-way stop sign
6 at this corner. She stated that the short term parking in front of the post office on Flagler Avenue
7 hasn't been implemented either. She stated that the Board requested 2 hour parking on Flagler
8 Avenue but a few of the merchants wanted 4 hour parking and they got what they wanted instead
9 of what the Board requested.

10
11 Chairman Crocker stated that the Board is an advisory Board and don't have the power to
12 instruct staff on what to do.

13
14 Mr. Resheidat stated that the city needs to wait until after traffic calming goes in until
15 implementing 4-way stop. He stated that 4-way stops have to meet a certain criteria in order to
16 be installed or otherwise it becomes a liability to the city. He stated that if we wait for the study
17 until after the traffic calming is implemented so will be more valuable than now. He stated that
18 the Task Force that he was referring to was the Parking Task Force that recommended 2 hour
19 parking on Flagler Avenue and it wasn't a few merchants it was a lot of the merchants on Flagler
20 that stated that 2 hours wouldn't be sufficient for people to do business on Flagler Avenue.

21
22 Joan Jones, 500 South Cooper, stated her name then addressed the Board. She asked what kind
23 of criteria does the 4-way stop sign have to meet.

24
25 Mr. Resheidat stated that FDOT has a certain criteria that has to be met for 4-way stop sign and
26 he didn't have that information available at tonight's meeting. He stated that after the traffic
27 calming is installed a traffic study will be completed and if it meets the criteria staff will make a
28 recommendation to the City Commission. He stated that staff isn't disagreeing that the 4-way
29 stop sign is necessary we just have to do the study before it is installed.

30
31 Ms. Brangaccio stated that they have done the study in the past and that area didn't warrant a 4-
32 way stop sign. She stated that we will do it again after traffic calming is completed.

33
34 Tom Brown, 704 South Cooper Street, stated his name then addressed the Board. He stated that
35 there are 2 no truck over 1 ton signs on Cooper one is on Ocean Avenue and the other is on 2nd
36 Avenue. He stated that there needs to be another one on Flagler Avenue and 3rd Avenue so they
37 will know before they start getting done the street. He stated that he would like the Board to
38 propose a standard 25mph signs on all 2 lane roads on beachside due to all the different speed
39 limits that are on the beachside.

40
41 Chairman Crocker stated that the area doesn't meet the criteria to change the speed limits on the
42 beachside to 25mph.

1 **NEW BUSINESS**

2
3 **ADDRESSING PROBLEMS OF PARKING AND MOBILITY AND IT'S IMPACT ON**
4 **THE NEIGHBORHOOD ON BEACHSIDE**

5
6 **CONSIDER LOTS FOR SALE TO ADDRESS PARKING ISSUES (FLAGLER AND**
7 **SOUTH ATLANTIC AVENUES)**

8
9 Mr. Resheidat discussed the parking lot on Jessamine that it available for parking and looking for
10 any recommendations from the Board. He stated that the lot is adjacent to the city's parking lot
11 on Jessamine. He stated that there were two appraisals on the lot in the Board's package. He
12 stated that the appraisals came in at \$640,000 as of April 2014 and the other one was \$525,000 as
13 of May 2014 He discussed the parking kiosks that have been implemented and some parking
14 issues they have had with them and installing more no parking signs due to the issues.

15
16 Chairman Crocker asked how much the Jessamine parking lot was going to be to purchase the lot
17 and how many parking spaces will the city get for this purchase.

18
19 Mr. Resheidat stated that he didn't have the exact figure but he believes that the price that the
20 realtor was asking for the lot was more than the appraisals.

21
22 Chairman Crocker stated that it looks like parking is on average \$37 to \$44 per square foot.

23
24 Mr. Herman asked how much the parking lot on South Atlantic was purchased for.

25
26 Ms. Brangaccio stated that it was \$1 million and the county paid for it.

27
28 Mr. Herman stated that if the city invest money in small parcels it really doesn't take care of the
29 larger problem that we have with parking. He asked if it made since to buy smaller parcels
30 instead of saving the money for a larger parcel.

31
32 Mr. Resheidat stated that he thought it was a wise decision to go after anywhere you can find
33 parking it won't hurt.

34
35 Margaret Yarrington, 309 Florida Avenue, stated her name then addressed the Board. She stated
36 that she urges the city to buy any parking that is available. She stated that we have a rising tide
37 situation and eventually there will be no beach parking available and also alleviate the parking
38 from the CRA parking situation.

39
40 **Doug Davis made a motion to recommend the City Commission look in to the purchase of**
41 **this lot on Jessamine Avenue; seconded by Amy Brackett. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

42
43 **REVIEW THE TRAFFIC CALMING MANUAL**

44
45 Chief Coffin stated that after a complaint comes in we look to see if it's an enforcement issue or
46 if we need to look in to some form of traffic calming for the situation. He stated that the draft

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1 calming manual goes through how that process works and also the traffic calming measures. He
2 stated that there are pros and cons to installing traffic calming devices. He stated that the courts
3 have ruled that the traffic control devices have to be reasonable. He stated that there is a criteria
4 for traffic calming devices and if you don't use the criteria it's unenforceable.

5
6 Mr. Davis asked if there had to be so many people to complain before the city would look in to
7 it.

8
9 Chief Coffin stated that the first thing the Police Department will determine is if it's an
10 enforcement issue or if it's an issue with the street. He stated that we will put out a traffic
11 control counter which will measure the size vehicles, the speed, what time of the day and if there
12 are any speeding issues. He stated that will give us the 85% and then we will contact a traffic
13 consultant.

14
15 Mr. Resheidat stated that the traffic calming device will have to meet the criteria but also we will
16 have to have 75% of the residents agree to install the device.

17
18 Ms. Dugas asked if someone just needs to call in to make a complaint such as speeding or if it
19 has to be a number of people.

20
21 Chief Coffin stated that questions will be asked of the person complaining such as when the
22 speeding occurs, what type of vehicles and how many vehicles are traveling the street. He stated
23 that there has to be 500 vehicles a day traveling the street. He stated that the police department
24 will come out to determine if it's a speeding problem or a perception problem.

25
26 **DISCUSS PRIORITIES FOR TWO FINAL MEETINGS**

27
28 Chairman Crocker stated that the Board has two more meetings and asked if the Board have any
29 suggestions on topics they would like to discuss. He stated that before the next meeting if the
30 Board could bring forward any recommendations to vote on. He stated that we should have
31 these items on the next agenda to be able to vote on.

32
33 Mr. Herman asked how effective these recommendations are. He stated that the Board should
34 make a recommendation on how to enhance the effectiveness on these recommendations.

35
36 Chairman Crocker asked Mr. Herman if you are asking the Board to recommend how to make
37 these Board recommendations more effective.

38
39 Mr. Herman stated that was correct.

40
41 Chairman Crocker asked the Board Secretary to place that on the agenda for recommendation.

42
43 Mr. Davis asked if the Board should send their recommendations to the Board Secretary.

44
45 Chairman Crocker stated that would be a good idea to get it to her in time to place it on the
46 agenda.

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1 Mr. Resheidat stated that the Board should come up with about 4 to 5 items as a group.

2
3 Ms. Whiting stated that the Board has concentrated on parking and traffic but there is more to the
4 beachside than just the downtown area. She stated that the Board hasn't discussed the lagoon at
5 all such as what the city can do such as the grass that is planted and things that will help the
6 environmental concerns.

7
8 Chairman Crocker stated that environmental concerns could be on the agenda.

9
10 Mr. Resheidat stated that the city does take that serious. He stated that we have improved the
11 discharge of Riverside and we have used different types such as baffle boxes and other things we
12 have done to improve that.

13
14 **OLD BUSINESS**

15
16 **UPDATE ON CENTRAL BEACH PROJECT**

17
18 Mr. Resheidat stated that the last public meeting we had was December 10, 2015. He stated that
19 he believes that most of the residents are happy with the project. He stated that the contractor
20 has really moved quickly on this project. He stated that there have been some complaints on the
21 8-foot sidewalk on South Cooper Street. He stated that the sidewalk on Pine Street has been
22 installed.

23
24 Mr. Herman stated that there were concerns from the residents on the 8-foot sidewalk on one
25 side of the street and unfinished on the other side of the street.

26
27 Mr. Resheidat stated that normally there is a sidewalk on only one side and it will be sodded not
28 unfinished on the other side of the street.

29
30 **UPDATE ON SIDEWALKS PROJECT PHASE II (SPECIFICALLY NORTH PINE**
31 **STREET, SOUTH COOPER STREET SIDEWALKS AND TRAFFIC CALMING)**

32
33 Mr. Resheidat stated that we had a public meeting regarding the 2nd phase of sidewalks and there
34 were residents that were concerned about the North Pine sidewalk. He stated that we promised
35 them that we would go out to the site and see if we could change the placement of sidewalk.

36
37 Chairman Crocker asked what the concerns were.

38
39 Mr. Resheidat stated that some of the concerns were parking in the right of way because it's the
40 only means of parking for them and some of them just don't want it because they feel like it's
41 not needed. He discussed the compromise on the sidewalk placement and the residents seem to
42 be happy now.

43
44 Ms. Dugas stated that the cars parking in the right of way do cause accidents and hoping the
45 sidewalk will prevent that from happening.

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1 Chairman Crocker stated that he would like to see the city eliminate at least one of those
2 crosswalks.

3
4 Mr. Resheidat stated that it might take away from people parking in front of their house.

5
6 Ms. Whiting asked why not use the pedestrian flags at the crosswalks.

7
8 Mr. Resheidat stated that a pilot project is going before the City Commission as a
9 recommendation to place flags on Saxon Drive and if it works maybe we could put them on Pine
10 Street as well.

11
12 Ms. Bellflower stated that on July 9, 2015 at the Beachside Residents Task Force meeting it was
13 stated that there would be a traffic study done on South Cooper Street and wanted to know if it
14 had been completed.

15
16 Mr. Resheidat stated that the city is waiting until the traffic calming is installed and this is a pilot
17 project on Cooper Street.

18
19 Chairman Crocker stated that he remembers that conversation and it was if the traffic calming on
20 Cooper Street diverts the traffic on to other roads then a traffic study will be done at that time.

21
22 Ms. Brangaccio stated there have been two traffic studies done in this area in the past and there
23 shouldn't be one done again until after the traffic calming is installed. She stated that we will
24 look at the 4-way stop and any traffic that might be diverted on to other streets at that time.

25
26 Ms. Bellflower stated that the police chief stated that there has to be 75% of residents in favor of
27 putting in traffic calming devices and was a petition done for this traffic calming on South
28 Cooper Street.

29
30 Chairman Crocker stated that the manual is only a draft and isn't in effect now.

31
32 Ms. Bellflower stated that it seems unfair to the residents on South Cooper Street that they had
33 no say in the traffic calming device installed but everyone else will have a say in a traffic device
34 installed.

35
36 Chairman Crocker stated that this is a draft and in the future any traffic calming installed
37 residents will have a say in the project.

38
39 Ms. Bellflower stated that there was a petition signed by every resident in the block of the
40 Cooper Street where the sidewalk is being installed that they didn't want an 8 foot sidewalk and
41 what happened to that petition.

42
43 Ms. Brangaccio stated that was presented to the Beachside Resident Task Force at their last
44 meeting.

45

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1 Mr. Resheidat stated that the residents on South Cooper Street approached Vice Mayor Reiker to
2 ask that she ask staff to resolve these speeding and traffic issues on South Cooper Street so that is
3 why it was decided to install these traffic devices for that reason as a pilot project during the
4 Central Beach project. He stated that is what brought about the traffic manual.

5
6 Ms. Bellflower stated that her question is why build an 8 foot sidewalk that goes to no
7 connecting sidewalk.

8
9 Chairman Crocker asked how wide the sidewalk is on South Atlantic Avenue.

10
11 Mr. Resheidat stated that there is an 8 foot sidewalk on South Atlantic Avenue and Saxon Drive.

12
13 Bonnie Jacobs, 823 South Cooper Street, stated her name then addressed the Board. She asked if
14 there was going to be double striping on South Cooper Street. She stated that she attended one of
15 the Beachside Resident Task Force meetings where the residents were against that.

16
17 Mr. Resheidat stated that we only have to do that the first 25-50 feet from the intersection.

18
19 Ms. Jacobs stated that is there a reason that if all the residents want a 4-foot sidewalk that the city
20 can't revisit that and change it back to the 4-foot sidewalk.

21
22 Chairman Crocker stated that we have rehashed this several times now and prefers not to do it
23 again.

24
25 Mr. Herman stated that one of the discussions of this Board was to include bikers and that was
26 why an 8-foot was recommended.

27
28 Tom Brown, 704 South Cooper Street, stated his name then addressed the Board. He asked how
29 the 8-foot path will be divided for both bikers and walkers.

30
31 Chairman Crocker asked that question be asked to city staff outside this meeting.

32
33 Caty Balfrey, 835 South Cooper Street, stated her name then addressed the Board. She asked
34 how wide the traffic devices would be.

35
36 Mr. Resheidat stated that they are 9-foot wide.

37
38 Ms. Balfrey asked if sod was proposed on the east side of the street and who will be maintaining
39 the sod.

40
41 Mr. Resheidat stated that the homeowner will need to maintain the sod if they want it or if not
42 then then don't have to.

43
44 Ms. Lundberg stated that her property was damaged during the central beach project.

45
46 Chairman Crocker stated that needs to be taken up with staff not this Board.

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1 Leslie Long, 707 and 816 South Cooper Street, stated her name then addressed the Board. She
2 stated that her mom owns both those properties and her mom wants to know if the city will be
3 maintaining the property up to the sidewalk.

4
5 Mr. Resheidat stated that it will be the property owner's responsibility.

6
7 Mr. Herman asked if golf carts will be able to go on the 8-foot sidewalk.

8
9 Chief Coffin stated that no motorized vehicles are allowed on the sidewalk.

10
11 **COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF**

12
13 Chairman Crocker stated that he would like to see the following on the next agenda for the Board
14 to make recommendations to the City Commission:

- 15
16 1. Complete sidewalk on west side of Peninsula Avenue, north from Flagler Avenue.
17 2. Fill gaps to complete continuous sidewalk on Pine Street between Oakwood Avenue and
18 Crawford Road.
19 3. Fill gaps to complete continuous sidewalk on Cooper Avenue from Ocean Avenue to
20 Lincoln Avenue.
21 4. Create continuous designated bicycle route the entire length of the beachside from
22 Smyrna Dunes Park to southern city limit.
23 5. Traffic flow improvements at intersection of Pine Street and Jessamine Avenue.
24 6. Aesthetic improvements to Detweiler Park.

25
26 Mr. Davis stated that Barracuda's restaurant property is up for sale and thought that should be
27 considered for the city to purchase for parking.

28
29 Ms. Brangaccio stated that the city submitted that to Volusia County in 2012 but the county
30 wasn't interested in buying lots with active businesses in them and it was occupied at the time by
31 the Barracudas restaurant.

32
33 Mr. Davis stated that Barracudas is trying to raise the funds to purchase the property.

34
35 Mr. Herman stated that once the Beachside Resident Task force sunsets he hopes the residents
36 will bring their concerns to the Neighborhood Council.

37
38 **ADJOURNMENT**

39
40 With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45p.m.