

**BURNT STORE ISLES ASSOCIATION, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
November 7, 2014**

**Officers Present**

**Directors Present**

<b>President</b> – Gene Murtha	<b>Special Projects</b> – Doug Paquin
<b>Secretary</b> – Mary Drummond	<b>Membership</b> – Lori Gurr
<b>Vice-President</b> – Frank Wiechec	<b>E-Communications</b> – Don Hallman
	<b>Social</b> – Judy Vanderweele
	<b>Security</b> – Donald Clark
	<b>Community Standards</b> – Jayne Perkins

**Officers Absent**

**Directors Absent**

<b>Treasurer</b> – Connie Higgins	<b>Past President</b> – Doug Rhees
	<b>Legal Liaison</b> – Mirko Vlcko
	<b>Planning</b> – Brian Stirling

The BSIA Board meeting held on November 7, 2014 at Twin Isles Country Club was called to order by President Gene Murtha at 9:00 am. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll call was held to account for Officers and Directors present. Also in attendance were four members, Doug Holmes, Janet and Jeff Jarr, and Charlie Council.

The minutes of the October 3, 2014 Board meeting were approved and accepted unanimously. Motion to approve was made by Judy and seconded by Don C. *The minutes will be posted on the Burnt Store Isles Association website.*

The Treasurer’s report was presented by Gene. Connie’s October 30, 2014 financial report was accepted as submitted and filed for audit.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION TOPICS**

**Board of Directors 2015 Volunteers - Update**

Richard Coates, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, now has a full slate of officers for BSIA’s 2015 Board of Directors. Richard was able to persuade a member to run for President after the required 14-day advance notice of the proposed candidates had been sent to all members. Richard has not divulged the name of the candidate for President, and there is a question regarding his responsibility to do so. He plans to nominate the

candidate at the Nov. 11 General Membership Meeting. After asking the Board's attorney, Ed Wotitsky, for a bylaws interpretation, Gene confirmed that our bylaws do not mandate release of the candidate's name until the General Membership Meeting occurs on Nov. 11.

#### Establishment of a "BSIA Underground Wiring Feasibility Committee"

Ed Minzer has volunteered to be on a committee with Richard Dressel to study the feasibility of installing underground wiring in BSI. We are hoping to have a group of 5 for this important and comprehensive work. We are still looking for three more committee members. Gene will mention this need to complete the committee at the General Membership Meeting on Nov. 11.

#### November Annual Meeting

November 11 is the scheduled date for our Annual General Membership meeting. Since it is Veteran's Day, Gene has asked Marcella Brown to perform a musical tribute to all of our members who served in any branch of our Armed Forces. The meeting time will be 7:00, preceded by a social period beginning at 6:30. Charlotte County Sheriff Bill Prummell will be the featured guest speaker at the meeting. The agenda for the meeting has been published on the BSIA website. Signs advertising the meeting are up at the entrances and American flags are displayed at the entrances for Veteran's day.

#### Discussion of Bylaw Changes

The Board has decided to defer until next year any proposal of changes in bylaws regarding extension of Board Officers' terms of office, remote attendance and electronic voting by Board members, and notification to members to be allowed by email as well as postal service delivery. Mirko has done some preliminary work on the wording for these proposed bylaws changes, but we would like to give the Board ample time to allow for discussion and forethought before the proposals are presented to the membership for a vote. Gene suggested that the nominating loophole in our bylaws regarding disclosing candidates also be closed. This has been deferred until the March 2015 meeting.

#### Policies and Procedures Manual: Review

Mary suggested that policies and procedures in our BSIA Manual of Policies and Procedures that align with Punta Gorda City Code and Ordinances really do not belong in our guide. It would be good if the membership would be made aware that these such topics are addressed and enforced by the City of Punta Gorda, but they should not be considered Board policy unless they are more restrictive than City code or Ordinances. Judy suggested that if we wish to delete any items from the Manual that we keep them in the Manual but mark them as removed because that item is covered by city code. We could note these topics which might be of interest to the membership on the website and reference the City Code which controls those issues. Don H. suggested that we could post to the website the document provided by Terri Tubbs (from City of Punta Gorda

Code Compliance) that compares City Code to BSI deed restrictions. Obviously, if one of our Board Manual policies is more restrictive than City Code, we would want to leave it in our Manual. Mary moved that because there is no difference between City Code and Items 1, 2, and 3 (relating to Cul-de-sac Maintenance and BSI Trees) in our Board Manual that these be removed from the Manual of Policies and Procedures for BSIA. Motion was seconded by Doug P. and passed unanimously. The membership should be informed.

#### Annual Dues Invoicing and Credit Card Acceptance

Lori is excited at how well the membership dues renewal system by email and credit card payment option are working. Thirty members have renewed their memberships online by credit card to date, and she has around 15 renewals for which she has received checks. Lori said that the total household membership number is 511 today. If a person pays by credit card online, the member can print a receipt immediately after paying, and a receipt email is also sent to that person after the transaction is complete. Don H. says that we will attempt to have payment made for BSIA events online by credit card sometime next year now that the online dues invoicing and payment seems to be a success.

#### Discussion on Removal of Contractors list from BSIA website

The list of recommended contractors has been removed from the BSIA website. Don H. is researching a better option. There is already a social media vehicle in place – a blog for BSI residents called Nextdoor Burnt Store Isles. Winston Rake currently manages this blog, and it has potential to be a good place for people to post positive or negative comments about contractors they have used. Don H. will ask Winston to attend our December board meeting to further explain Nextdoor Burnt Store Isles. This might be a great thing for our community and awareness of BSIA.

#### Mowing of Empty Lots

A Macedonia Drive resident contacted Gene about the unkempt vacant lot next door, and then later they complained about trash being dumped on that same lot. The City Code Compliance department should be contacted if there are issues such as these. The City requires that an owner must either maintain vacant lots or enroll in their mowing program. If an owner is not in compliance with keeping the vegetation 12 inches or less in height, the City will do the mowing for you and place a lien on your home for payment. Lori said that vacant lots whose owners have opted out of the City mowing program have a yellow dot spray-painted on the street in front of the property.

#### Review of Planning Director Proposal

Brian was absent, so we could not discuss his proposed description of duties.

## **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

### Security

Don H. said that he and his team helped organize a Fraud and Scams seminar which was presented by the Punta Gorda Police for the first time in October. Attendance numbered 21 at this very informative class, and the police department is now presenting the program to other groups because of its success with our BSIA members. Two of Don's team members have expressed a willingness to serve with the new director in 2015. Gene mentioned that Punta Gorda Citizens Academy is looking for a new group to educate in January 2015. He says it is an excellent experience and well worth the time spent attending the classes and field trips.

### Social

Judy and her committee are preparing for the Annual Meeting on Nov. 11. A check for \$200 for the use of Burnt Store Presbyterian Church has been written. She will need to spend \$40-45 for supplies for the meeting, as there will be appetizers and desserts available to members before and after the meeting. Any donations of appetizers or desserts by members for the meeting will be appreciated. There are many functions, some in conjunction with the BSIBC, that members can attend in December. It will be a busy month, and Judy is asking that members support the activities offered.

Don H. says there is an unused website option available for people to sign up for events. This will eventually be offered along with the credit card payment option for events.

### Special Projects

Doug P. has been digging up dead shrubs from cul-de-sacs in BSI. He has inquired about a new storage option at Punta Gorda Self Storage on Cooper Street for \$480 for 14 months. This unit will be air-conditioned and much nicer than the current unit. He will make arrangements to move the stored items from Port Charlotte to Punta Gorda before year-end. The City lighting at entries is still not working properly. He will be in touch with the City again to see if this issue can be resolved.

### Standards

20 new homes have been approved thus far this year compared to 15 total for 2013.

The next meeting will be Dec. 5th at 9:00 at Twin Isles Country Club.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Drummond,  
Secretary