

**BURNT STORE ISLES ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 2, 2015**

Officers Present

Directors Present

President – Doug Rhees	Special Projects – Doug Paquin
Vice-President – Jayne Perkins	Membership – Lori Gurr
Secretary – Mary Drummond	E-Communications – Don Hallman
Treasurer – Connie Higgins	Social – Judy Vanderweele
	Standards – Melissa Lockhart
	Planning – John Forr
	Past President – Gene Murtha

Officers Absent

Directors Absent

	Security – Kathy Williamson
	Legal Liaison – Mirko Vlcko

The BSIA Board meeting held on January 2, 2015 at Twin Isles Country Club was called to order by President Doug Rhees at 9:00 am. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jayne and recited by all present.

Roll call was held to account for Officers and Directors present. Also in attendance were three visiting members: Chet Sliski, Bud Bell, and Chick Petrosino.

The minutes of the December 5, 2014 Board meeting were approved and accepted unanimously. Motion to approve was made by Jayne and was seconded by Melissa. ***The minutes will be posted on the Burnt Store Isles Association website.***

President's report

Doug R. reported that he requested a legal opinion from Ed Wotitsky, the Association's attorney, regarding the Florida Sunshine Laws as they pertain to the work of our Board and our appointed committees. The answer that he received from Ed says that because our Association is not a Chapter 720 organization, we generally are not subject to the Sunshine Laws. We, as Board members, do not need to be concerned about having discussions with others regarding issues before us because our charter defines our Association as a Chapter 617 organization.

Doug R. says that Nancy Prafke, Punta Gorda City Councilwoman, has been in contact with him regarding complaints she is receiving about noisy and fast traffic (primarily

trucks) on Tripoli between Madrid and Monaco trying to get to the traffic light at Monaco and Highway 41. She plans to contact the Dept. of Transportation to see if there is any way to allow left turns from Madrid onto 41. The police may be asked to patrol that area for speeding and trucks over 6-wheels that are illegally using that street.

Doug R. requested information about the breakdown of funds on the monthly treasurer's report. Connie showed that she has such a report but is not able to email it to the Board because of its format. She will attempt to provide this more informative monthly report to the Board.

Vice President's report

Jayne says that the Association approved 22 new homes for construction in 2014. Our community is growing! Two builders have told her that they have 6 or 7 homes planned for 2015 in BSI.

Treasurer's report

Connie presented the final numbers for 2014. Cash balance at the end of the year was \$67,937, which is \$1,894 more than we had at the beginning of the year. \$33,000 of this is restricted for legal and landscape funds. An additional \$5,000 will be added to the legal fund as voted on by the membership in November. About 50% of the membership pays dues with the two-year option. Connie's December 24, 2014 financial report was accepted without comment as submitted and filed for audit.

E-Communications report

Don has updated the website with the 2015 Board members' names, contact information, and photos. He is still trying to get all of the photos to show up on the website as the same size. For some reason, they do not display properly.

Don has provided each of us with a list of Board contact information (email addresses and phone numbers). He explained that we have account login email addresses with storage which we must pay for, and forwarding email addresses for all Board members.

The Board has discussed remote connection to Board meetings for those members who might be away at the time of a Board meeting. Don says that teleconferencing is quite expensive to use through Go Daddy. We might be able to connect by cell phone and have members call into a meeting to another cell phone on speaker phone for a vote (or just to make comments) if our bylaws are amended to allow it. Our bylaws currently do not allow a Board member a vote unless he is physically in attendance at a meeting.

Membership report

Lori reported that BSIA now has 523 household members, three more than at the end of last year. Many (229) have still not renewed their memberships. She will have new welcome packets available at the mixer tonight and at the February Board meeting. The

online credit card payment option is working well, although fewer than 60 memberships have been renewed by credit card thus far. Invoices will go out again by email on Jan. 5 to those members who remain unpaid. Payment must be made by Jan. 31 to be included in the 2015 BSIA membership directory.

Planning Director report

John reports that the bathymetric survey for Alligator Creek dredging needs is now being performed on the perimeter canal. The lock widening should occur soon.

Doug R. says that John is embracing this position on the Board to be a little more focused on what is going on outside our community that might have potential impact on us. As the new Planning Director, John has provided the Board with a draft of Recommended Long-term Goals for BSIA that he has compiled. Doug R. plans to meet with John to finalize a list of goals for the Board.

Special Projects report

Doug P. has taken down the Christmas decorations from the entrances and will place them in the storage unit. He says that the Board needs to decide what, if anything, will be done to improve the appearance of the entrance islands. Doug R. said that Joan LeBeau from the city came up with suggested plantings several years ago. The new plantings were installed then by Jones Landscaping, but the Monaco islands do not seem to be thriving for some reason. Doug P. needs to get with the Joan LeBeau to address what the problem is there before money is invested in shrubbery again.

We still have the same storage in Port Charlotte.

Lori volunteered to make new bows for the entry islands for the Christmas wreaths before they are put up next year. The ribbon has lost its bright red color.

Standards report

Melissa is working with Jayne to determine what her duties encompass as Standards Director. Thus far, she has approved a home paint color. There is no specific color palette for decision-making, so primarily it is color tone that determines whether a color will be acceptable in BSI. Doug R. suggested that if Melissa wants to compile a color palette to bring to the Board with the possibility of presenting it the membership at a later point in time, he thinks that would be a worthwhile project.

Social report

Judy's committee meets the first Monday of each month. Dinner and darts is scheduled for Feb. 3 at the Ice House. A maximum number of 64 reservations will be taken, so we

cannot use the online reservation system with credit cards because there would be no control over numbers with checks also being accepted.

Judy has reserved Twin Isles Club for the March 10, 2015 General Membership meeting and optional dinner. She asked whether the Board is willing to subsidize the meal cost for those who would like to have dinner before the meeting. The Association paid \$6 per person last year toward the cost of dinner (total cost \$784). The Board would like to do the same for this year's meeting to encourage members to attend the meeting.

Doug R. made reference to an inquiry Judy received regarding the possibility of a Christmas decorating competition. There was formerly a contest in BSI and awards were presented. Doug would like to see this be reinstated. There were previously signs posted for best decorations. Awards might possibly be framed pictures of their decorations to the winners. We could ask the Boat Club to be involved since many of the canals would be decorated.

The picnic at Ponce Park is scheduled for Mar. 28. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and pot luck items are on the menu. The website could possibly be used for reservations for this event. It is always well-attended.

Doug R. asked Judy if she will schedule a date for a Board appreciation dinner at TICC in mid-January for the combined group of outgoing and incoming Board members. Spouses are to be invited. Board members' dinners would be paid for by the Association.

TICC has requested that Judy, as Social Director, meet with them to see if she has any ideas regarding membership and how we might be able to work together to enhance membership numbers for and or benefits for both the Club and BSIA. Judy solicited comments from the Board regarding suggestions that she could pass along to TICC management.

Past President report

Gene made the Board aware of an issue with the dredging of the BSI canals. The dredge material is being transported to and then dumped in other, deeper parts of the BSI canals rather than trucking the dredge material out of the area. One dumping spot is behind his home because there is a deep hole there, and he and his neighbors are tired of looking at the equipment sitting behind his home. He thinks that the holes will never fill because of tidal movement of the water. Gene is going to suggest to the City and the EPA that the process be changed. He has already contacted the CAC for BSI. The CAC meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30.

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaw Changes

Doug R. says that once Mirko is back in Florida that perhaps Gene, Mary and he could meet with Mirko to work on the wording for several proposed changes to the BSIA bylaws. Hopefully, we will be prepared to present these changes to the membership at the March 10, 2015 General Membership meeting.

Gene reminded the Board that Jan. 13 at 5:30 is the Open House for the Punta Gorda History Center.

The Underground Wiring committee will keep the Board apprised of developments in their exploratory process as it becomes available. They are currently trying to get information from FPL regarding the cost of a study for BSI. Perhaps we should take some kind of a poll before the March Membership meeting to get an indication of interest from the membership on whether or not the committee should continue their work.

NEW BUSINESS

Doug R. wonders if it would be worthwhile to have a wine and cheese event at the club for local realtors for us to make them aware of BSIA and BSI and its deed restrictions and canal depths. Realtors also need to be informed about the Condo Associations within BSI and their relationship to BSI and BSIA. Jayne suggested that perhaps local builders should also be invited if such an event is planned. Maybe TICC would be willing to co-sponsor a gathering or offer half price lunches to realtors and their clients. It would be good to post on the BSIA website contact information for all Condo Associations within BSI. Doug R. will research this and make a list of the Condo Association presidents.

Candidate search committee and terms of office will be discussed as part of the proposed bylaw amendments.

Doug R. is proposing that we investigate the cost of and desire for security cameras that could be posted at the entrances to BSI. The Police Chief says they are very inexpensive, and the contents would only need to be viewed if an incident occurred that required police investigation. This idea would need to be brought before the membership for feedback at the March General Membership meeting because some residents might view it as an infringement of their privacy.

Chick Petrosino, Chair of the Underground Wiring Committee, expressed his concern that the Board will not be able to disburse funds to the committee when needed. Doug R. reassured him that this will not be an issue. They just need to make a request and the Board will vote on the request. Doug R. needs to get his name on the BSIA checking account signature card so he will be authorized to sign checks.

The next meeting will be Feb. 6th at 9:00 at Twin Isles Country Club. The BSIA and BSIBC mixer will be held that evening at the Club.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Doug R. and seconded by Melissa. Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Drummond
Secretary