

**BURNT STORE ISLES ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 6, 2015**

Officers Present

Directors Present

President – Doug Rhees	Membership – Lori Gurr
Vice-President – Jayne Perkins	E-Communications – Don Hallman
Secretary – Mary Drummond	Social – Judy Vanderweele
	Standards – Melissa Lockhart
	Planning – John Forr
	Security – Kathy Williamson
	Legal Liaison – Mirko Vlcko

Officers Absent

Directors Absent

Treasurer – Connie Higgins	Special Projects – Doug Paquin
	Past President – Gene Murtha

The BSIA Board meeting held on March 6, 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 Kathy and recited by all present.

Roll call was held to account for Officers and Directors present. Also in attendance were a few visiting members: Doug Holmes, Chick Petrosino, and Charlie Council.

The minutes of the February 6, 2015 Board meeting were approved and accepted unanimously. Motion to approve was made by Melissa and was seconded by Kathy. *The minutes will be posted on the Burnt Store Isles Association website.*

President's report

Doug R. recently attended a city council meeting at which there was consideration of new recycling containers. The city is acquiring bids on 36-gallon bins with lids and wheels. These would replace the current 12-gallon bids which must be carried to the curb. The current bins are difficult for some residents to carry, and animals and the elements are also concerns. The City plans to ask us to voice our opinions either on Facebook or on the City website regarding this idea of changing bins. Nancy Prafke should have this information.

The March 10 general membership is next week, and the agenda has been published and is on the BSIA Bulletin Board. Doug solicited a resident recently and encouraged him to rejoin the BSIA, which he did. Mirko suggested that when the underground utility survey

is mailed to all residents of BSI, we should include a letter with information about BSIA and its purpose and projects and encourage non-members to join the Association. Questioned by Doug R., Doug Holmes's (member of the underground utility committee) opinion was that it would be good to promote the Association at every opportunity. Doug R. will be asking those members attending the General Membership Meeting to complete a questionnaire after the meeting to voice their opinions about the meeting and the value of information presented at the meeting.

We have recently have a couple of deed restriction issues. One was a complaint from a member whose neighbor is using a saw to manufacture things in his garage. After lengthy discussion, it was decided that Melissa should contact the City and ask whether this is an allowable operation in our neighborhood. Then we will go from there with how to respond to the complaint.

Vice President's report

Jayne reported that the other deed restriction issue arose from new house construction on Andora. Jayne called the builder, who told her to contact the owner regarding the need for plans and \$150 fee. The owner, who currently is a BSIA member and is living on Tripoli, said that we are totally incorrect about our deed restrictions. Mirko wrote him a letter with no response from the owner of the new home. There was discussion regarding the owner's position, and Mirko offered to deal with him directly. Mirko's opinion is that the initial communication when there is a plan for new house construction should be with the owner rather than the builder. Mirko suggested it would be helpful if the City would notify us when a permit is issued for new home construction so we would have the owner's name without going through the builder first. Doug R. will ask City Councilwoman Nancy Prafke if she can get this accomplished with the permitting department. Jayne will update the new construction form for the new process of contacting the owner first and post it to our website.

Treasurer's report

Doug R. presented the Treasurer's report as of 2/27/15 provided by Connie. Cash balance is \$66,806. \$39,800 of this is restricted for legal and landscape funds. The Treasurer's report was accepted and filed for audit.

Secretary report

In regard to the proposed bylaws amendments, Mary said that the recent BSIA mailing included notice of the March 10 General Membership Meeting, the proposed amendments to the bylaws, and a proxy/absentee ballot. The entire membership received this mailing, which went out on February 24, two weeks in advance of the General Membership Meeting at which the vote for the proposed amendments will occur. At the meeting, we will need to make certain that we meet the requirements for a bylaw to be changed: at least 10% percent of members must be present (a quorum) and at least 2/3 of those voting (including proxy/absentee votes) must be in favor of each amendment.

The Association is required after the General Membership Meeting to send a notice to all members informing them of the results of the votes to change our bylaws and that the numbers requirements for voting were met. We have 60 days in which to accomplish this. Mary will prepare a notice to be emailed to our members before the end of March. The same notice will be mailed by USPS to those without email addresses. This notice will also remind members that if they prefer to receive notices by USPS rather than email that they must provide written notification to the Association of such preference.

Social report

Judy said that she has received reservations for 108 people for dinner for the General Membership meeting and several who have said they will come to the meeting only. She has received 49 reservations to date (all but one of those online) for the Ponce Picnic on March 28. Doug R. will introduce all board members that are present at the March 10 meeting. Judy will need an updated membership list before the meeting for purposes of giving out voting cards, checking people off for dinner, etc. She also needs to know our needs in the way of printed items for the meeting.

Community Security report

Kathy said people are parking cars in the vacant lot near the Monaco entryway. If you notice that cars are parked on any vacant lot between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m., please call the Punta Gorda Police Dept. rather than City Code Enforcement. Kathy has also received complaints about solicitors and computer scams. Solicitors are required to have a permit – if they do not, call the Police Dept. to report them. She plans to set up a Scam seminar at the Police Dept. like Don Clark did last year.

Community Standards report

Melissa's primary issue is the complaint about the resident using the saw in his garage, which she will address with the City.

Membership report

Lori reports that BSIA has 462 active household members as of today. There are 121 inactive members, and she does not want to remove them from the system. Doug R. and his telephone committee evidently got some results because some members renewed. Lori thanked Doug for this. Lori has updated welcome packets (letters from new presidents of BSIA and BSIBC). The welcome packets and verbal communications work well, and she will remind the membership of this at the meeting next week. Lori would like to discontinue ordering name badges for new members unless they make a request at a mixer. There is no reason to spend money for the name badges unless members actually attend our functions. The 2015 directories are in the mail.

Special Projects report

Doug P. provided Doug R. with a photograph of an example of a well-maintained cul-de-sac which will be displayed in the next quarterly BSIA newsletter.

Planning Director report

John reports that he has researched security camera costs. For under \$9,000 we can purchase cameras for Monaco, Madrid and the lock entrances that will record for 2 weeks and then will record over that video. The reason for the cameras is to deter criminals. There would also be a sign posted stating that surveillance cameras are in use. There would not be any monitoring of the video unless there is an incident reported to the police. At that point, the police would want to view the video. Mirko suggested that we should try to capture license plate information if we are going to the expense of installing cameras. This would add some to the cost. We are mostly concerned with traffic leaving the community rather than entering.

Doug R. has asked John to try to organize a wine and cheese event at the club for local realtors and established builders for us to make them aware of BSIA and BSI's deed restrictions. Doug would like to have a drawing for two rounds of golf as a door prize as an incentive to attend such a function.

Doug R. asked John to look into entryway monuments. He is thinking that perhaps a creative committee to decide how to revamp the monuments is a good idea. Lighting on the trees might be a nice addition. Perhaps an architect could design new monuments.

BUSINESS

Tripoli Traffic Issue

Doug R. said that City Council is looking into our traffic issue on Tripoli. The City Council is asking the FDOT to take a look at the situation and come up with a solution. Doug R. noted Charlie Council gave a thorough assessment of the issue in a presentation at a City Council meeting. One option that we could consider is to reduce the speed limit to 25 mph from our current 30 mph. Nancy Prafke has suggested that perhaps a traffic signal at 41 and Acline might relieve the situation.

Residential Development

Charlie Council addressed a recent property purchase. Our community historically has been very sensitive to land development activities. An individual has purchased 6 lots (3 on Mondavi and 3 on Monaco). The Association needs to be aware of what the plans are for these properties (we have vigorously fought rental units earlier). There is also a question about the future use of the Muscle Car City building. Melissa has heard that Wal-Mart has purchased that property again for a neighborhood market. In regard to

home businesses, the City is looking to see what the impact of each home business is on the neighborhood as far as noise, traffic, etc.

Underground Wiring Committee

Chick Petrosino from our Underground Wiring Feasibility committee came to the Board with a status update. The City would be willing to float a bond to cover the big investment which would be made for the money it would take to install underground utilities in BSI, but the question is how to pay the estimated \$88,000 for a feasibility study. It could be tacked onto the big bond, or an assessment could be made. The committee contacted Charlotte Miller, our local FPL representative, who took the issue to her corporate office. There were no new suggestions from FPL as to how to fund the study. The committee is planning to make a factual presentation to the group at the General Membership Meeting on March 10 and then ask the members attending to give their opinion as to whether the committee should proceed with this project. If this small representation of BSIA members shows enough interest in underground utilities after hearing the facts, the committee will proceed with the straw ballots. If there is not enough interest shown from either of these surveys, the committee will not do any further work on this project. Doug R. suggested that if there is positive reaction about this project at the membership meeting, we could then have online communication of the facts to all of the membership and ask members to complete a survey regarding burying our power lines. If BSIA members have enough interest, the committee will try going to City Council members to see if they can be persuaded to put up the money for the study.

Doug R. reported that a meeting was held about a cut-through to Alligator Creek from the bird section of PGI. There is great positive interest in PGI for this, but it would create a lot of congestion in Alligator Creek, so it would not be good for BSI.

Mirko pointed out that our deed restrictions specify that canal maintenance is to be paid for by linear feet of seawall on each property, but the City bills each property owner a set fee for seawall maintenance. There is a conflict between our deed restrictions and the more recent City Ordinance. The City will be made aware of this and we will see what comes of it.

The next meeting will be April 3rd 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 Mirko and seconded by Melissa. Meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Drummond
Secretary