

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

Officers Present

Directors Present

President – Gene Murtha	Special Projects – Doug Paquin
Vice-President – Frank Wiechec	Social – Judy Vanderweele
Secretary – Mary Drummond	Security – Donald Clark
Treasurer – Connie Higgins	Membership – Lori Gurr
	E-Communications – Don Hallman
	Planning – Brian Stirling

Officers Absent

Directors Absent

	Legal Liaison – Mirko Vicko
	Community Standards – Jayne Perkins
	Past President – Doug Rhees

The BSIA Board meeting held on March 7, 2014 was called to order by President Gene Murtha at 9:00 am. Roll call was held to account for Officers and Directors present.

The minutes of the February 7, 2014 Board meeting were approved and accepted. *The minutes will be posted on the Burnt Store Isles Association website.*

The Treasurer’s report was presented by Connie Higgins and filed for audit. She has filed the Association’s annual report with the State of Florida. She has received an invoice for the annual premium for D and O liability insurance. The crime insurance premium was reduced to \$211 from the original estimate of \$350.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Presidents Report and Review of Issues:

Gene Murtha

General discussion topics

Screen projector

Gene stated that the screen projector that he ordered after obtaining the consensus of the Board has arrived, and he will be testing it this weekend. Twin Isles has a screen for our use during meetings there.

Youth Basketball League

The Punta Gorda Police Jammer program is looking for sponsors for its Youth Basketball League. The cost of a sponsorship is \$300. Gene feels that this would be good public relations for BSIA to become a sponsor. There is a \$600 donation line item in our 2014 budget, so this would only need the approval of the Board to make the contribution.

Motion for BSIA to become a sponsor in the Youth Basketball League for \$300 was made by Frank Wiechec. Lori seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Recordkeeping

Judy had a question regarding the treasurer's recordkeeping procedures. She objects to copies of checks being kept for longer than necessary and wondered if they could possibly be shredded after our annual audit is complete. Connie and Lori agreed that there is not be a reason to retain these copies as far as their duties are concerned, but Connie will make certain that our auditor approves before beginning a new procedure with checks.

Punta Gorda Citizens Committee

Bill Hughes, a former BSIA Board president, was present at this meeting to discuss the work of the City of Punta Gorda Citizens Committee. He has been asked to represent BSIA as a member of this group. The goal of this committee is to prioritize a wish list of proposed projects, some of which will be funded by the Optional 1% Sales Tax referendum in November (assuming it passes). This tax, if approved, will result in an estimated \$2 million annually for 6 years to be spent on projects deemed worthy by this committee. There are currently 90 items on this list. Bill would like to have the Board's input into what its top 10 or 15 items of interest might be. He will need this information before next Thursday's Committee meeting. Bill will try to obtain the link for accessing this project list. One suggested addition to the list is to construct a sidewalk on Macedonia Dr., a busy street used by many walkers.

Gene commented that he would like to see city advisory boards working more closely with different community associations for support and feedback.

2014 Membership survey

Gene and Don H. presented the results of the recently completed membership Survey. The Constant Contact survey module is a wonderful tool, and they were very pleased with the 61% response rate to the request to return the survey. Lots of good information can be gleaned from the questionnaire answers, comments and suggestions received from our interested members. The survey will give the Board guidance as to what we are doing well and where we are lacking. Comments

will be forwarded to appropriate Officers and Directors anonymously so that we can better direct our committees' work to align with the membership's wishes. The Board would like to get a more accurate idea of interest by household rather than by individual for the questions involving expenditures or possible assessments. Gene will make a summary-type presentation of the survey results at our March 1 membership meeting.

Quarterly newsletter

Gene reminded Board members that articles for the next quarterly newsletter are due to him before March 29. He still does not have a volunteer to work as publisher. Charlie Council continues to work on advertising for the publication.

Email and website standardization

Don C. would like for there to always be available on the BSIA website an updated list of additions to the most current membership directory, which has a Jan. 31 cut-off date for new or existing member information. Don H. will create such a list.

Just for informational purposes, Don H. can do a poll or a mini-survey at any time. He used this feature of the survey module to get an estimate of the number of extra chairs needed for those who will be attending only the business portion of the March 10 membership meeting.

Credit card acceptance

We will move forward on BSIA becoming credit-card capable during this year, as the survey results indicated that 65% of respondents were in favor of the Association accepting credit cards for payments for events and dues.

Old Business

Airport concerns

Gary Quill, Punta Gorda Airport Director, will speak on Monday at the membership meeting regarding the air traffic noise and patterns.

Speeding in BSI

Don C. reports that speeding is an issue, but no new signs are desired, according to survey responses. The Punta Gorda police will be increasing their presence in our community to help curtail the offenders. Waterway speeding is also an issue. The city has donated paint and supplies, and BSIBC members will be painting seawalls to remind boaters to reduce speed to minimum wake as we are in a manatee zone.

Shredder day

Doug P. is getting organized for BSI Shredding Day, to be held on April 19 in the tennis courts parking area at Twin Isles Country Club. The shredding is free to members of BSIA and members of Twin Isles. Anyone else will be charged \$10 for the service. Lori will provide a list of current list of members for the activity. A Twin Isles member list will also need to be procured from their staff beforehand. Doug will amend the dates on our two shredding day signs and will post the them in conspicuous places near the entrances to the community.

Cul-de-sac maintenance

Gene's suggestion is that we should survey residents who live in the cul-de-sacs in BSI regarding their willingness to maintain the area adjacent to their homes. Doug will contact the city to ask what they can and will provide in the way of shrubbery and mulch for our cul-de-sac areas. We need to create a plan of attack for this issue of needing to have minimum standards for these islands. Perhaps there are residents who are not adjacent to these islands but would enjoy doing the maintenance gardening for the sake of neighborhood beautification. We need to determine if there is interest in this arena.

Board member reports

Planning – Brian Sterling

Brian has the plans for the architectural changes requested to add an attached garage to the home at the corner of Macedonia and Maltese. He has some concern about the exterior appearance of the structure on all 4 sides. He is going to ask the owners to provide the Board with an artist's rendition of the final structure in order to go forward with the approval process. Brian, Jayne, and Gene will all be involved in the review.

Membership – Lori Gurr

Membership is now at 478 but is growing. There have been some recent additions. The new BSIA directories have been mailed. Bob Armstrong suggested to Lori that our directory should look just like the directory for BSIBC, our community boat club. She lamented that it was too late to make the change for this year's directory, but we will certainly take Bob's suggestion into consideration for next year's book. Welcome packets are available for any member to take to a new neighbor or neighbor who is not a member. We need to promote BSIA to anyone who is a resident or property owner. The Welcome Committee consists of all members of BSIA! Just contact Lori if you need any welcome packets. Badges are ordered for those who are new members. Lori will be out of town. Please send any correspondence to Connie Higgins.

Security – Don Clark

Don reports that Punta Gorda Police Dept. is instituting a Neighborhood Watch program in the entire city. Our Board will have no involvement for liability reasons, but the Police will be soliciting regional and neighborhood individuals to assist in their initiative. An email will be sent to BSIA informing them of this program in our Community Bulletin Board on our website.

Social – Judy Vanderweele

Judy indicated that at this point, 67 people plus invited guests are planning to attend the March 10 dinner and membership meeting. There are 3 new members of the Social Committee, bringing it to a total of 15 members.

The committee is working on a July 4 gathering with BSIBC at Hurricane Charley's. There would be a buffet dinner and it is a short walk to view the fireworks from there. Cost will be \$24/person for the meal.

Gene asked Judy if it would be possible for her committee to set up a Sunshine Group to cheer up members that are ill or need to know that someone cares.

New Business

A general Membership meeting is to be held on March 10th at Twin Isles Country Club. Agenda has been prepared and there will be a few speakers from the community – Punta Gorda's Vice Mayor Carolyn Freeland, City Council representative Nancy Prafke, and two Punta Gorda Airport directors, Gary Quill and Ron Mallard. This meeting has been highly advertised on our website. Members are invited to come to the business meeting at 6:45 regardless of whether or not they are attending the dinner.

Next meeting will be April 4th at 9:00 at Twin Isles Country Club.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Drummond
Secretary