

**BURNT STORE ISLES ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 5, 2015**

Officers Present

Directors Present

President – Doug Rhees	Social – Judy Vanderweele
Secretary – Mary Drummond	Special Projects – Doug Paquin
	Planning – John Forr
	Security – Kathy Williamson
	Membership – Lori Gurr
	E-Communications – Don Hallman
	Past President – Gene Murtha

Officers Absent

Directors Absent

Treasurer – Connie Higgins	Standards – Melissa Lockhart
Vice-President – Jayne Perkins	Legal Liaison – Mirko Vlcko

The BSIA Board meeting held on June 5, 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 Doug Rhees and recited by all present.

Roll call was held to account for Officers and Directors present. Also in attendance were several visiting members: Joanne Ziemer, Chick Petrosino, Doug Holmes, and Larry Wicks.

The minutes of the May 1, 2015 Board meeting were approved and accepted unanimously. Motion to approve was made by Kathy and was seconded by Doug P. *The minutes will be posted on the Burnt Store Isles Association website.*

President's report

Doug R. wanted to inform the Board that the City is sealing the pavement on Tripoli Blvd. in an effort to extend the life of the road surface. Residents may ask us what is happening there.

The renovation work on the lock is moving along. By the middle of next week the contractor should have the fendering complete. They had not anticipated having to replace the wheelboards. Water seems to be flowing through the opening smoothly.

Nancy Prafke says that the State will meet with Doug R. and her early in August regarding the traffic situation on Tripoli. The State has suggested twice that we install

traffic-slowing devices (i.e. speedbumps). We do not think that will solve the issue, but it may be difficult to find a solution. Doug will report the results of that meeting at our August Board meeting.

The results of last year's audit have been received stating that our financial records are in good shape.

Doug R. reported on Jayne's list of new construction and applications for renovations in our community. It is a substantial list considering the size of BSI and should bode well for us and membership in BSIA.

Doug R. received a letter from a home watch person who found Welcome packets sitting on the front porches of homes recently purchased by snowbirds. His concern is that is an invitation for burglary since no one is home to pick them up.

Treasurer's report

Doug R. presented the Treasurer's report as of 6/1/15 provided by Connie. Cash balance is \$68,504. \$36,800 of this amount is restricted for our legal fund. The Treasurer's report was accepted and filed for audit.

Community Security report

Kathy said that she received a call from a snowbird resident who complained that a neighbor was parking their vehicles on the vacant lot in between their homes. Kathy suggested that they call Punta Gorda Code Compliance and the Police. That seemed to take care of the issue.

Social report

Judy's committee is now meeting at 8:30 rather than 9:30 when they hold their gatherings. Judy reported that her committee is considering March 19, 2016 (the last Saturday before Easter weekend) for our picnic at Ponce Park. She was concerned that some of our cooks might not be around then, but she is going to apply for the permit for that date. She has contacted Burnt Store Presbyterian Church for available dates for our November Annual Membership meeting. The church is open for the Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015 date, so she is going to secure the fellowship hall. The committee is planning an evening event on August 7 (our regular mixer date) at Twin Isles Club and they would like to have live music if we could do it without great expense. Gene suggested a fellow who plays the guitar at the Farmer's Market on Saturdays and another one who plays the steel drums.

Planning Director report

John reports that June 17 is the date for the realtors gathering for lunch and informational/promotional meeting. So far there are 27 realtors who have signed up for

the event. John says that he will announce at the meeting an incentive: we will give new homeowners a year or two of BSIA membership (one year for buyers of existing homes and two years for owners of new construction) in the hopes that they will continue the membership when the free membership expires. John has planned the agenda for the meeting. The Club will be announcing some incentives, also, to encourage new residents to join TICC.

The monument/entryway medians project is still in the planning stages. John has a couple of people who have volunteered to come up with a new monument/landscaping plan. There was some discussion about materials and plantings. Doug R. pointed out that the City maintains the entry islands, so if we replace the stones with grass, we would be responsible for doing the mowing unless we plant naturally tall grasses rather than turf. John will ask the volunteers to come up with a plan. Whatever changes we might make would require city approval. Doug R. asked John to work with Doug P. on the island landscape planning.

Doug R. would like John to present security camera information at the next meeting.

We need to survey the entire membership to see if there is interest in making the expenditures for monument/island renovation and security cameras once the proposals have been finalized.

Membership report

Lori reported that membership now stands at 488. She is giving out a lot of Welcome packets. Lori asked when the free membership will begin for buyers and builders. Doug R. said that the incentive will begin on June 17, the date the free membership program is announced at the realtors' meeting. Lori is looking for a person to train for the position of membership director so they can begin training in the fall when the activity level is back to normal in the fall. She plans to vacate the position at the end of 2016.

Special Projects report

Doug P. said he will keep up with the flags for holidays when they should be displayed.

Past President report

Gene reminded everyone about the special BSI CAC meeting next Tuesday. Gene suggested that we advertise the canal work that needs to be done (perimeter canal dredging) and inform the membership of tax assessments that will forthcoming for that project along with the increases in canal/seawall maintenance assessments. Not everyone is well-informed about the canal situation. Perhaps it would be a good idea to invite Gary Brewster to attend each Board meeting to give us an update.

BUSINESS

Newsletter

Joanne Ziemer, BSIA newsletter editor, was in attendance to remind Board members to write articles for the newsletter – drop dead date is June 29 for the newsletter to go out in mid-July. Joanne may encourage members to contribute general interest articles to the publication. Doug R. would like to see us continue with the hard copy mailed newsletter to all members rather than a mostly-electronic mailing. He is suggesting that after one reads the newsletter to share it with a neighbor who is not a member. Maybe a Q&A section of the newsletter would be a valuable addition. Don says that our survey option on Constant Contact allows us to keep it open for questions for the Board if we want to use that capability.

Rim Canal Dredging

The dredging of the rim canal will not benefit all homeowners in BSI. It will probably take a year to secure the permitting for the dredge. The entire community needs to have a better understanding of what it is all about. The City wants us to get a good sampling of what the pulse of BSI is on this project.

BSIA memberships

Doug suggested that we need to be proactive about promoting our community and increasing membership in BSIA. The realtors' awareness of BSI should help us in this area. We need to take advantage of the fact that older residents of BSI who are no longer members of BSIA are selling their homes, and new potential members are moving in. Joanne says that property transfer information is published weekly in the newspaper so we can easily gather new owner information for existing homes.

July 3 Board meeting

After polling the group, Doug R. decided that he will hold a Board meeting on July 3 if enough members are able to attend.

Underground Wiring Committee

Chick Petrosino from our Underground Wiring Feasibility committee came to the Board with a status update. Since our last Board meeting on May 1, Chick's committee met with FP&L representatives in person and through conference call meetings. John Leer, the FP&L rep in charge of underground projects in Florida, said that there would be large boxes needing easements for the underground project. Chick had handouts showing a picture of a switch cabinet which would require a 20'x 20' easement. The size of these cabinets is 8'x 8'x 5'. There is a Vista box which is about a foot smaller in each dimension. FP&L's estimate is that approximately 22 of these cabinets would need to be located around our community in order to complete the underground project. There is a

possibility that the City could give FP&L the right to use the City easements, but if a box would need to be moved in the future for any reason, FP&L would need to pay the cost of moving it.

These switch cabinets are very large and unsightly, so there was a lot of concern and discussion regarding whether or not we should move forward to the next step of the process. It is possible that FP&L would be able to locate these boxes in areas so they would not be obtrusive. The locations for the cabinets would be known only by completion of an engineering study which would be done by FP&L.

Keeping in mind that we should do what is best for the community, the Board decided to hold a meeting for all BSI property owners to inform everyone who has an investment in the community of all known details of the underground wiring project. The committee will send postcards to all BSI property owners who are now without underground wiring to advertise and promote the meeting with updated information and representation from FP&L. After that, a straw ballot vote will be taken to determine if there is a majority of property owners in favor of performing the wiring study, which would cost approximately \$75 per property.

The next meeting will be July 3 at 9:00 at Twin Isles Country Club if enough Board members are able to attend. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Drummond
Secretary