

**MINUTES  
FORT MYERS BEACH  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Town Hall - Council Chambers  
2523 Estero Boulevard  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

**Wednesday, September 10, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chair Butcher. Members present: Bruce Butcher, Al Durrett, John Kakatsch, Alice Mack, and Tony Scopel.

Excused: Tom Myers (?) and Jim Wray.

Town Liaison: Tildon Copeland.

Lee County DOT: Robert Phelan.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of August 13, 2014**

**MOTION:** Mr. Durrett moved to approve the minutes; second by Ms. Mack.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**V. LIGHTNING WARNING SYSTEM**

Chair Butcher noted the person who was scheduled to make a presentation was not in attendance. Mr. Durrett felt the cost of setting poles and electric to them was too expensive. Discussion was held concerning private investment, educational signage, noise ordinance, breakdown of pole costs, and recurring costs.

Mr. Kakatsch suggested that Council consider funding options including grants and involvement of the community.

**VI. EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN - Review**

Ms. Mack suggested adding aid to special needs people and the creation of a phone tree for specific needs.

**VII. LENELL RD. INTERSECTION - Seasonal Traffic Officer**

Mr. Copeland reported that Central Parking quoted an hourly charge of \$25.00 for an officer and the Town accepted. He stated Town Council was renegotiating a contract with Central Parking and Council would look into providing in-house security. Mr. Copeland stated coverage would be year-long and the officer would also patrol the beach.

#### **VIII. STAFF REPORT**

A. Trolley Pull Off and Crosswalk at Lahaina Inn Resort

No report.

B. Lighting at Crosswalks (Outrigger/Charley's Boathouse)

No report.

#### **IX. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVERTISEMENT**

A. Banner - Sample Mesh Banner

Mr. Kakatsch indicated he preferred the second banner on page 1. Mr. Phelan pointed out the crosswalk sign had been revised and the old one should not be used on the banner. Chair Butcher recommended eliminating the border on both signs.

**MOTION:** Mr. Kakatsch moved to approve three banners; **Stop for Pedestrians in Crosswalk Yield 3 Feet for Bicycles; Be Safe Be Smart Be Seen; and Be Seen on FMB**, and to eliminate the borders on both signs; second by Mr. Scopel.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Copeland provided a sample of the mesh banner. Consensus was reached to use the same material as the current banners.

B. Add Sign at Bridge - Stop for Pedestrians

Mr. Copeland reported that Mr. Baker was working on obtaining samples.

C. Cost of Brochures

Mr. Copeland reported the \$800.00 cost of brochures was for 15,000 brochures. Mr. Copeland suggested adding a lightning warning before the next printing.

#### **X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Pete Hyde described his wife's injuries and he relayed his conversations with traffic engineers about crosswalks, speed limits, traffic lights, and costs to the state.

Sherry Prather stated the mosquitoes are bad and she hasn't seen mosquito helicopters for three weeks.

**XI. MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Phelan reviewed the Estero Blvd. Improvements Project flyer that was inserted into resident's water bill.

Mr. Durrett questioned Mr. Phelan regarding the creation of a special taxing district for lighting. Mr. Phelan explained the steps to be taken and he indicated lighting opportunities were being investigated. Mr. Phelan suggested the LPA or PSC bring the taxing matter to Council. Consensus was reached to have LPA present the issue to Council.

Chair Butcher described his experience with the poor lighting at the Bonita Beach Road crosswalk. Mr. Phelan discussed pole set-backs, lighting options, and turtle challenges on Estero Blvd.

Mr. Phelan discussed the elimination of the left turn at Crescent.

Chair Butcher questioned the status of the right-of-way for the first section. Mr. Phelan replied that staking was in progress.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Mr. Kakatsch moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Scopel.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Adopted 10/8/2014 with/without changes. Motion by Tom Myers  
(DATE)

Vote: 4-0 Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

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