



WATERFRONT ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

City Hall Council Chamber
Tuesday, April 7, 2015
5:30 PM

Phillis Rosetti-Mercer – Chairman
Marcia Chesnicka, Co-Chairman
Allison Abernathy
Ray Oates
Joan Luebbe

Mary Morgan
Lora M. Klein
Constance Welch
Judith Simpson

Mayor Jim Farley, Liaison

1. Call to Order - Chairperson Rosetti-Mercer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call-Phillis Rosetti-Mercer; Joan Luebbe; Mary Morgan; Ray Oates; Allison Abernathy; Judith Simpson; Constance Welch. Marcia Chesnicka and Lora Klein were absent.

Staff: Jackie Gorman, Planning Director, Lisa Morris, deputy clerk.

Liaison: Mayor Farley.

3. Pledge of Allegiance- Recital of the pledge of allegiance.
4. Adoption of Agenda- Ms. Luebbe moved to adopt the amended agenda; Ms. Abernathy seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0. The agenda was amended to add Mr. Will Bryant as guest speaker.
5. Approval of Minutes - *February 3, 2015* and *March 3, 2015*
Ms. Luebbe motioned to approve minutes of the February 3, 2015 minutes; Ms. Abernathy seconded; motion carried 7-0. Ms. Morgan motioned to approve the minutes from March 3, 2015, Ms. Luebbe seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.
6. Unfinished Business –

* *Fertilizer Letter (next step) – Joan Luebbe & Allison Abernathy*- Discussion of tabling the letter about fertilizer to council until the board knows more about new model ordinance that is being proposed by the Florida DEP to the Florida legislature, until that the new ordinance comes out and until Ms. Luebbe knows more about how much nitrogen is allowed or should be. The board agreed that it was wise not to send a letter to council until they know what they confirm information. Ms. Luebbe contacted BJ Jarvis who is the Extension Services representative in Citrus County, to inquire if Ms. Jarvis could attend a meeting to present information. Ms. Luebbe stated that she had received a thank note from Debra Burden about water school. Further discussion ensued related to fertilizer, fertilize like a Floridian, swales, and other information the board wants to educate the public about.



Discussion ensued regarding impervious pavers, stormwater, zoning issues and requesting funds from council for various water related activities.

Discussion ensued related to slow release fertilizer being 50% less of the nitrogen than other fertilizer, the definition of fast release fertilizer as it pertains to the City of Crystal River, ordinance updates and the DEP website with the 2015 updates and guidance.

The board discussed putting an application in to be designated as a part of the national estuary program, of which Florida currently has four.

- **Guest Speaker - Will Bryant**, Florida Department of Health, Citrus County Health Department Environmental Health Director. Mr. Bryant stated that the Florida Department of Health has a mission to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida. He further stated that the Florida Department of Health has a vision of being the healthiest state in the Nation. Mr. Bryant gave a brief presentation to the board on strengthening relationships with community partners, unsanitary conditions, environmental nuisances, and animal wastes (sanitary nuisances). Mr. Bryant listed some of the 14 programs that they administer, Mr. Bryant also gave contact numbers for the Florida Department of Health, Environmental Health (527-5295) & (527-5283)(hotline) for people to call in public health concerns and issues, such as failing septic systems, sanitary nuisances, disease harboring nuisances and attractive nuisances to vermin. Mr. Bryant stated that there were about 65,000 septic tanks are left in the county. The Health Department has an idea of the septic system condition based on the condition of the home. (<http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/index.html>). Discussion ensued related to Citrus County and the website, working with the board to distribute material, “scoop the poop” and drinking water. Mr. Bryant’s direct line number is 527-0068 ext. 1245.

Discussion ensued related to Ms. Gorman suggesting that the board have an education and proclamation week to educate, putting out a positive statement pamphlet encouraging citizens to be mindful of the impact of fertilizers on the water.

- **USF&W Volunteer “Thank You” – Marcia Chesnicka, Phillis Rosetti-Mercer & Joan Luebbe-** Ms. Mercer gave a brief on the luncheon at the USF&W headquarters.

- **Follow Up on Liaison Assignments from last meeting (see Attachment 1).** No discussion related to this topic.

- **Follow Up with “The Scoop on Poop”** – The board members gave a brief on the discussion with various parties on the “scoop on poop” program. Discussion ensued relating to the implementing of Facebook to get the word out. Discussion ensued related to landfill liners, and flushing poop, and Meadowcrest treatment facility does treat for feces. Discussion and definition of the “first flush mechanism”. Mr. Bryant gave a brief on how “first flush mechanism” works. The board discussed the amount of stormwater that must be held on a property. The board discussed proper disposal of dog feces, the Meadowcrest Treatment plant treatment for feces, and fats, oils and greases in pet food can cause issues at the treatment plant.

- **META meeting – Discussion – Allison Abernathy & Marcia Chesnicka-** The board discussed various entities that want to put an end the swim with manatee programs. Ms. Morgan gave a brief



on the META meeting. META discussed how to limit the number of patrons into 3 sisters springs; Mike Byrnes commented that Andrew Gude that no one wanted to see the Swim with Manatee programs go away. Ms. Morgan stated that people are nervous that the swim with the manatee programs are on the chopping block. Ms. Rosetti-Mercer stated that the programs are endangered of being shut down. Ms. Rosetti-Mercer stated that she felt Mr. Rose wanted the swim with the manatee program to go away, along with PEER and probably the state of Florida. Ms. Rosetti-Mercer stated that the people who wanted the swim with the manatee programs to go away wanted to implement a "10 foot" rule. Ms. Morgan gave a brief on the springs, the swim with manatee program, and asked if PEER would actually sue, adding that the public wants to go to Three Sisters. Many of the captains support a time limit in the springs; the possibility of a special permit lottery for access to Three Sisters, and Dr. Bondi and Dr. Reep may submit another access plan. Further, discussion ensued related to all of the layers of government. Discussion ensued related to people yelling from the boardwalk to swimmers in the springs who are not behaving appropriately. Ms. Morgan stated that the banning of the water crafts into Three Sisters did not really affect her business. Ms. Morgan stated that during the summer the manatee need more protection, because in the summer there are fewer manatees, fewer USFWS officers and sheriff's deputies to ticket offenders. Discussion ensued related to the shops kicking in money to hire a law enforcement officer to patrol the water ways, enforcement powers, and the sheriff's office's ability to give tickets for harassment of manatees.

- Discussion ensued related to the different levels of law enforcement on the water in and around Crystal River, and the perceived levels of enforcement. Ms. Gorman is working with the state to determine who actually owns the canals, as the state does not claim any of the canals, who owns the bay and who has the authority to regulate what.

7. New Business-

- **Water Bill Information-** The Waterfronts advisory board planned a Workshop for April 24th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. to outline monthly topics for the waterfront board to educate on.

8. Implementation Plan-

- **Update-** Development and distribution of the scalloping shells pamphlets, Judith Simpson volunteered to take over for Ms. Rosetti-Mercer with the help of Ms. Welch. Ms. Rosetti-Mercer will give Ms. Simpson and Ms. Welch details and list of what needs to be done.

9. Citizen Input- **Joe Chrietzberg**, Crystal River, gave thanks to Mr. Bryant, and questioned the board about the effect of the poop that comes from places such as animal shelters, and wildlife animals, cows, and manatees in the water, and asked where the waste goes that comes from such places. Mr. Chrietzberg encouraged the board to think outside the box.

Ms. Mercer stated that cows, horses and manatees are herbivores and do not contribute bacteria such as omnivore and carnivores do.

Mr. Bryant gave a brief on his knowledge on the subject, responsible pet owning, reporting of animal bites, and irresponsible pet ownership.

10. Communications - No Communications.



11. Liaison Comments – *Mayor Farley*- No comments.

12. Staff Comments – No Staff comments.

13. Board Member Comments- No comments.

14. Chairman's Comments- Ms. Rosetti-Mercer gave a brief on an email about a class about forming a volunteer force (see Attachment 2). Ms. Gorman stated that was something that needed to go before council. Further discussion ensued related to forming a volunteer enforcement group and bringing the idea to council.

Bob Mercer, Crystal River, stated that you have to have a paid manager and good supervision of volunteers at the springs or in any setting that you utilize volunteers.

Information To Share – New methodology for Manatee Counts from FWC.

<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/biological-conservation>

Crystal River volunteer force (information only)

<http://favrm.wildapricot.org/event-1862499>

15. Adjournment- The chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER



PHILLIS ROSETTI-MERCER, CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



LISA MORRIS, DEPUTY CLERK





<u>GROUP</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>LEADERSHIP</u>	<u>WAB LIAISON</u>	<u>MEETING DATES</u>
META (Manatee Eco Tourism Association)	Local Businesses	Michael Birns	Marcia & Mary	2nd Tues. of ea mo
Florida Working Waterfronts Group	State/ Federal Coordination	Chris Anastasiou SWFWMD	Not active	Quarterly
Waterfronts Florida Program Managers Meeting	Florida Dept. of Economic opportunity	Julie Dennis Lisa Vogals	Jackie	Quarterly plus webinars
Homosassa River Alliance	Civic/ Environmental Organization	Jim Butler pres. 352-628-1563	Marcia	2nd Thurs of ea mo Civic Club
Kings Bay Springs Alliance	Civic/ Environmental	Tracy Colson pres.	Not active	
Kings Bay Phyto remediation Project (KBAM)	Florida Springs Institute	Dr. Bob Knight		Follow via news articles
Friends of the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve	Civic/ Environmental Organization	Ray		
Friends of Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	USFWS volunteer organization	Bonnie volunteer coord	Mary & Allison	2nd Mon 5:30 refuge conference room
Nature Coast Working Group (CWCI - Coastal Wildlife conservation Initiative)	Florida Fish and Wildlife	Blair Hayman	Not active here	Quarterly
Citrus 20/20 Save our Waters Week		Lace Blue	Judy & Connie	3rd Mon 10:00 Lecanto Govt Bldg

Attachment 1

Tourism Development Council	Citrus County	Adam Thomas	Phillis	
Crystal River Area Council	Chamber of Commerce	Gerry Mulligan	Dave Burnell & Phillis	1st Thurs mo 9:00 am CR Chamber Office
Citrus Hernando Working Group	State of Florida & other experts (Restoration Council)	Mike Czerwinski vice chair	Joan & Phillis	Quarterly
One Rake at-a-time	Kings Bay Rotary	Art Jones	Phillis	
Save Crystal River	Civic / activist group	Bob Mercer pres. Art Jones vice pres.	Phillis	
Springs Coast Steering Committee	SWFTMD	Chris Anastasiou	Phillis & Joam	quarterly
Springs Coast Management Committee	SWFTMD	Chris Anastasiou	Phillis & Joan	monthly
Manatee Forum	State of Florida	Carol Knox	Phillis	2X year St. Pete or Tallahassee
Boating Advisory Committee	State of Florida		Phillis	2X year St. Pete or Tallahassee
Withaloochee Regional Water Supply Authority	State of Florida		Joan	3rd. Wed. of ea. month Lecanto Government Bldg.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	C.R. Nat. Wildlife Refuge	Andrew Gude, Ivan Vincinte	Phillis & Allison	on going
SWFWMD Water use permits			Connie & Ray	e-notices
Tampa Bay Estuary Program			Allison	Web site
Sarasota Estuary Program			Allison	Web site

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Excellence in Volunteer Management Training - Lecanto

Start March 23, 2015
8:00 AM
End March 24, 2015
5:00 PM
Location Lecanto (Citrus
County)

Florida Association for Volunteer Resource Management

In partnership with
Volunteer Florida

Presents the Excellence in Volunteer Management Certificate Training

Registration

- Participant -- \$150.00 (USD)
Register 1 or more additional participants from your organization at 50% discount (\$75)
- Participant - FAVRM Member Discount -- \$100.00 (USD)
FAVRM Members Discounted Rate \$100 - Register 1 or more additional participants from member organization for \$75 each person



Registration is closed

Florida Excellence in Volunteer Management Certification focuses on building the capacity of volunteer administrators, managers and coordinators throughout Florida by providing accessible, high quality training. The training builds upon the attendee's experiences in volunteer management (government organization, nonprofit or faith-based organization) by providing relevant course materials and best practices.

Increase the Effectiveness of Your Volunteer Program

- § Would you like to maximize the effectiveness of your volunteers?
- § Do you want to achieve greater results with your volunteer program?
- § Do you want to learn the latest in volunteer management?
- § Do you struggle with recruiting or retaining volunteers?

If you answered yes, then this training course is for you!

Six Modules on Engaging Volunteers More Effectively

1. Evaluating a Volunteer Program
 - a. Deciding what to evaluate