



**“Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world.
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”
Margaret Mead**

Island of Key Largo Federation of Homeowners Association

April 13, 2016 General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dottie Moses at 7:00 PM at the Key Largo Library Community Room. The following Directors were in attendance: Burke Cannon, Ann Nickerson, Laura Heinrich, Dottie Moses, Lee Huenniger, Steve Gibbs, Pauline Klein, and Linda Perloff.

Dottie led Pledge of Allegiance

Burke called attention to error in both Keynoter and Press that IKLFHA requested the crosswalk at shopping center. We did not suggest this solution, but asked that FDOT review for safe pedestrian crossings without identifying location.

President Dottie Moses introduced guest speakers -
Kirk Zuelch, Executive Director and Tom Walker, Deputy Executive Director-
Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority

- FCAA is a 5 member board selected by the Governor every 4 years. The Board employs the Executive Director. This Board is charged to maintain a sustainable water supply for the Florida Keys.
- Water supply and treatment center is in Florida City drawing water from 2 aquifers. It is 600 fenced in acres with 9 wells that are continuously monitored with 3 more in process that will look at different levels
- Authority was started by the Navy in 1937 and built in 1941. The line is 30 years old, underground and runs for 130 miles. Total distribution is 690 miles.
- Considered one of top 10 engineering feats in the last 100 years and won an Outstanding Water Plant Award
- Wastewater:
 - 7 plants, 2 with reuse facilities
 - County is the funding agency – all revenues from customers, FCAA has no taxing authority.
 - Canals are improving due to wastewater program
- Water Safety:
 - Creating pipeline redundancy in some areas
 - 1 day supply is available in Key West
 - 40 old bridges cause vulnerability of bridge breaks

- Polymer addition to water to counter corrosion
- FPL
 - Saltwater intrusion issues – competing water interests – agriculture, homes, conservation
 - Cannot deny that high salinity coming from cooling pond

A motion was made and seconded for the Association to send a letter to the Authority requesting that the regulatory agencies take action. The agencies include SFWMD, FDEP, and NRC.

- Treasurers Report

Donation (\$600) from Skip Haub

Balance of \$3636.07 in regular fund.

Ann requested and received permission to move \$1000 to the special fund

- Presidents Report

- Open Permits – County has about 60,000 open permits. Some are decades old. It is newly required that all permits be resolved before one can close on a sale. They will be hiring additional employees as they try to resolve and close.
- SBA Communications Tower variance-Key Lime Product – PC April 27
Two years ago received a conditional use permit, insisting that this location was the only location that met their needs and requested NO variances. Communication towers are federally protected and immune from community planning and zoning laws.
- Candidate Forums – partner with TCA and LWV – We will be holding 2 primary forums and 1 general forum. One in July and one in August before the August 30 primary and a general forum in October for the Nov 8 election. All will be held at the Key Largo Government Center.
- Keep Key Largo Beautiful Campaign – Roger Grimes and the FKSCA are asking businesses and property owners to pick up the garbage around property daily as needed. A vote to make the Federation a supporter of the campaign was requested and carried.
- Mattress Firm – DRC – April 26-MCU. Has dropped variance request, not asking for conditional use permit, allowing for a smaller loading dock and less parking

- Updates

- Energy 3 and County signed contract and will begin the gasification plant
- Bayside Path Landscaping – County has plans, no movement
- KL Stone Crab Festival – Mr. Stoky claims a better plan for 2016 that includes a better barricade to the bayside path and FDOT ROW and parking options around town. Sylvia and MCSO will review plan before the event
- Canal Restoration Workshop – March 11 – Compliance with CWA and DEP, County must show progress with cleaning up impaired waters. County approved another \$2 million in infrastructure sales tax towards demonstration canals, some in Key Largo. More workshops will be scheduled to explore sources of funding and less expensive technologies. Final cost could be \$300-700 million. Failure could result in more drastic requirements by the Federal Government.
- GMO Mosquitoes. Public input still being accepted by the FDA at <http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/GeneticEngineering/GeneticallyEngineeredAnimals/ucm446529.htm>

- Flooding County Roads – BOCC Sounding Board. County is reviewing flooding problem county wide.
Comments Mr. Smail from Twin Lakes reported on a county meeting held about a pilot project to raise flooded roads in that neighborhood
- Florida Bay – The County requested an update on Florida Bay from SFWMD and sent a resolution requesting acceleration of the Everglades Restoration projects and acquiring more land to add more water storage.
- Announcements
 - Monroe County Sheriff's Office holding Upper Keys Crime Prevention Town Hall Meeting Thursday April 28, 6-7 p.m. at the KL Government Center
 - Friends of the Key Largo Cultural Center – FIU Lecture Series – FREE – Friday, April 15, 7p.m. The Effects of Climate Change on Marine Organisms – Dr. Jose Eirin-Lopez
 - Audubon Open House – Wednesday, April 20, 4-7 p.m. FREE – music, drinks, food www.RestoreFloridaBay.org
 - Next Meeting – May 11 – Mayor Heather Carruthers – State of the County

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Laura Heinrich