

Island of Key Largo Federation of Homeowners Association

May 13, 2015 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 Pledge of Allegiance was conducted by the attendees. The following Directors comprised a quorum: Burke Cannon, Ann Nickerson, Pauline Klein, Lee Huenninger, Dottie Moses, and Linda Perloff. Guests present: Robby Majeska.

- Guest Speaker

Dottie introduced Commissioner Phil Goodman from the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District. The purpose of the district is to protect public health. The district controls 20 different species of mosquitoes. The *Aedes aegypti* is the species of mosquito that carries the disease dengue fever. *Aedes aegypti* is not a native mosquito, it came from Africa and has spread throughout the world. Dengue Fever has killed 25,000 people in the nearby Caribbean. The Fever carrying *Aedes aegypti* mosquito finds its way to the Keys on cruise ships and other international ships. Mosquitoes have become resistant to some pesticides and new pesticides are rarely developed because of strict regulations. The district wants to try a new approach to controlling *Aedes aegypti* by introducing genetically modified *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes. They propose to run a trial by releasing GMO mosquitoes in the Key Haven subdivision. The expectations of the trial are that released male GMO mosquitoes will breed with wild female mosquitoes and produce an offspring that will not survive to adulthood. They anticipate this will reduce the mosquito population over time. The use of GMO mosquitoes has become controversial. The district wishes the public to become informed on this topic. For more information on GMO mosquitos please go to <http://www.oxitec.com/health/florida-keys-project/>

Treasurer's Report

Secretary Ann Nickerson reported the Treasury had \$3192.90. Pauline reports the Legal Fund has not changed.

Secretary's Report

As part of the Federation's efforts to reduce paper, minutes can be found on the Federation's website (www.iklfha.org).

President's Report

A The Monroe County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee will be starting back up again. Some of the things they will be looking at are height increases, density increases, allocation increases, and increasing highway capacity. The Federation has traditionally opposed these initiatives. We will be keeping an eye on this committee.

- B The Monroe County Budget hearing on April 8 did not include Rowell's Marina in the upcoming budget. The staff said there were no development plans available to determine a cost that could be included in the budget.
- C The KLWTD board approved the Inter Local Agreement (ILA) between the county and themselves. The ILA is on the May 20 BOCC agenda for BOCC approval. The agreement would allow KLWTD to transfer a lump sum of \$17 million of interest free Mayfield money to the county in exchange for \$17 million of infrastructure sales tax dollars paid out over many years. This would allow the Wastewater district to use the money to pay down debt. This should reduce the ratepayer's bill.
- Robbie Majeska, a wastewater board member, said he voted against this ILA. He says this agreement will not pay down debt and will not resolve the issue of how infrastructure sales tax dollars are being unequally distributed throughout the county.
- D The TDC has a new toll-free phone number and email address to report illegal and noncompliant vacation rentals, as well as vacation rental scams in the Florida Keys.
The phone number for reporting such occurrences to the Monroe County Tax Collector's Office is 1-855-422-4540, or the tax office can be contacted via email at mail@monroetaxcollector.com.
Callers can choose to identify themselves or remain anonymous
- E CUKL - The code compliance department continues to address non compliant signs along the highway.
- F Bayside Path – The bayside path is being installed along with FDOT landscaping along the highway. It is looking very good. It is already very popular. Pedestrians and bicyclists are already using the path even before it is finished. Concerns were expressed about how vehicles were driving and parking on the path. The Sheriff's Office will have a speaker at the next Federation meeting and this can be included in the Q & A.

Old Business

1. Adopt –A- Highway – Dottie encourages HOAs to consider adopting a section of the highway where it fronts their neighborhoods.
<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/statemaintenanceoffice/AAHBrochure%2002-10-09.pdf>

Next Meeting – June 10, 2015 – Capt Fanelli will give a talk on how the Sheriff's Office has helped to clean up Key Largo.

The meeting was adjourned