

**Captiva Community Panel**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 12, 2019**

**Attending:** David Mintz, presiding; Mike Boris, Jay Brown, Tom Rathbone, Mike Mullins, Dave Jensen, Mike Lanigan, Bob Walter, Mike Kelly, Rene Miville, Antje Baumgarten

**Via telephone:** Nobody

**Attendance:** 35

Meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. by David Mintz. Introductions and roll call.

**Approval of Feb. 12 minutes.** [*Unanimous.*]

**Captiva Fire District update – Chief Jeff Pawul.** Thanks for support for boot drive this past weekend. Record year for Captiva and Lee County. Last year raised \$3463; this year \$5600. County last year \$185,207; this year \$232,438. April 6<sup>th</sup> Open House at Fire Station.

**LCSO update – Lt. Mike Sawicki.** Not here yet.

**CEPD update – Carolyn Weaver.** Thank you for your support on bond referendum; thank you, voters, for approving bond referendum for beach nourishment by 86%. We'll send out notice when we know what tentative assessments will be. We are still working on the tentative apportionment. We will send out notifications about 20 days after the tentative apportionment is approved and we will hold a public hearing. There will be opening on our board. We have a handout regarding the roles of commissioners on the table in case anyone is interested. Our new deputy administrator, Joe Wagenti, was introduced. The public hearing that was scheduled for April 9 has been cancelled because the tentative apportionment hasn't yet been approved. The next CEPD board meeting is April 8.

- **Water quality update – Florida Economic Council Chairman Richard Johnson and Executive Director Jessica Pinsky**

**Richard Johnson:** FLEC is a relatively new group. This began with Rae Ann Wessel's Business Roundtable from SCCF, back in July and August 2018. We asked what we could do to bring about change. The challenge is to create change. We are being economically harmed by the decisions of the water management districts (WMDs). We formed a 501(c)4, instead of a 501(c)3. We *can* take political action and a (c)3 can't. Jessica Pinsky is our wonderful executive director; she is connecting us with like-minded groups, such as Everglades Coalition, Captains for Clean Water, SCCF, Everglades Trust, Everglades Fund, and Conservancy of SW Florida. We're working with Gov. DeSantis and Noah Valenstein, his new DEP secretary, and have had face to face meetings with both. Jessica has gone to Tallahassee several times. We have had tremendous success. Governor has allocated money for environmental projects. The projects that get funded are the ones that are farthest into the [application and approval] pipeline. There's still a lot of work to do.

**Jessica Pinsky:** I have a water quality background on the political, as opposed to the scientific, side, of water issues. Was Policy Director of Everglades Trust. Governor has committed \$2 1/2b

to water issues over next five years; Legislature hasn't approved yet. Both House and Senate have been signaling for smaller budgets. Governor wants to see EAA Reservoir south of Lake O completed within four years. His budget also committed \$150 M to septic to sewer, which is a big concern for Captiva. There are three outstanding bills—**SB 1758** (Mayfield), **HB 973**, and **HB 1395**, which would transfer oversight of septic from Florida Dept of Health to Dept of Environmental Protection (FDEP). You can read the summary of those bills.

Re SFWMD, Governor has appointed new members to replace Scott appointees. Next Thursday will be first meeting of the new board. Governor wants to see treatment components included in the C43 Reservoir contract, which is on Thursday's agenda. DEP injection wells are highly controversial. We are opposed to the deep injection of dirty water into the aquifer, it's much better to send the water south across the Everglades. We have been working very closely with Congressman [Brian] Mast, although his district is on the Atlantic coast; he has been very diligent in working with the Governor on water management issues. Rep. Mast was on Sanibel recently. We can have a broader conversation about septic in future.

**Jay Brown:** What is the rationale for not authorizing \$2 1/2b? Who would be opposed?

**JP:** Hurricane Michael is the most frequently cited justification. The recovery money need is exceeding estimates. There will always be something.

**Bob Walter:** Nothing is more important to Captiva's economic viability.

**RJ:** We're working with both state and federal lawmakers. Call your lawmakers, state and federal. We had a conversation with some of our winter guests. Some of them say they won't be coming back because of the water situation.

**Rene Miville:** Are you acquainted with Bill Galvano, the new senate president? He inadvertently told me that he's close to Manny and Pepe of Dixie Crystals.

**JP:** Hasn't shown his cards yet. His commitment to the health of the Everglades is not robust as Governor's.

**RM:** We want our legislators to push back.

**JP:** I worked two years for Everglades Trust. I know the players.

**RM:** He's close to Big Sugar. He's from Manatee County where red tide is a big issue.  
*[Extended conversation]* How can we publicize that Galvano is close to Big Sugar?

**JP:** Everglades Trust can do that. Our mailing list is updated every week.

**RJ:** We don't typically do calls for action.

- **Iguana control on Captiva proposal – Dave Jensen**

**DM:** We asked Alf last month what they could do about iguanas on Captiva. They said they would charge \$500 per month for one visit and a per-lizard bounty. They can do a pilot program for \$5K. Do we want to try a pilot project? After that, we can talk to County about funding.

**JB:** We will need individual agreements from the homeowners.

**Alf:** On Marco Island they have a list [of willing property owners] that's pre-authorized. We don't need special authorization to go on vacant lots that are not posted as private property. While 90% of what we capture are iguanas, we also capture monitor lizards. There's a new Marco list every week. Lizards aren't stationary; they travel, but they do stay close to sources of food and water.

**BW:** Marco goes through the government. We don't have a major problem at South Seas.

**Alf:** They hatch in June. You could do a trial run. We'd know within a month if it's worth [starting a program.]

**Dave Jensen:** Let's reach out and see what result we get. Contact Ken.

**BW:** Scott Johnson represents 70% of our HOAs — he can speak for them.

**Alf:** On Sanibel it is a big problem. We catch 30-60 lizards per week on Sanibel. Golf courses are a good place to find them. We use traps, snares, and pellet guns if they're in trees. Captiva might be different because you have less open space here to attract them.

**DM:** First stage, Ken can send out notices to property owners to see if they are interested in an animal control program like they have on Sanibel or Marco. First get community agreement. We could pay \$5K for pilot. If we find that we have a problem we can ask County for money.

**JB:** Ask the owners; make a list. How many do you need?

**Alf:** We need 20-plus properties to make this work.

**Sandy Stilwell:** I have a problem at my shopping center; you could work there.

**Nathalie Pyle:** I thank the Panel for their interest. I haven't seen them on my property, but I'd give my permission, because these iguanas can annihilate vegetation. Let's get in front of this. [*Consensus to proceed.*]

- **Charitable Foundation of the Islands grant – Mike Boris**

**MB:** Last year we looked into a \$5K grant for a new website. Antje and Mike are working on enhancing our website with third party help. Time of essence. This is our last bite of the apple

**DM:** We can get \$5K from community fund raising. [*Consensus to try a pilot project.*]

[9:50 AM]

- **Legal retainer for Panel (from February) – David Mintz**

**DM:** Tabled from last month. Ralf has given us a proposal, and Panel was very pleased. We have discussed a retainer with Ralf. We don't know when you'll be ready to start.

**JB:** Can you work on a case-by-case basis in meantime?

**Ralf Brookes, Esq.:** Whatever helps you. I'm here to update on MFL.

**DM:** Better to have Ralf on retainer; it's very cost effective. We did a lump sum on the MFL Ralf, can you update us about the case you've been working on?

**RB:** Yes, it's the MFL (minimum flow and level) case the Caloosahatchee, which had several intervenors and was heard by an administrative law judge (ALJ). The new minimum flow Final order has been issued. David Mintz gave testimony on the CCP standing and interests before the ALJ. Minimum equals low flow and the amount necessary to keep the tape grass growing requiring at least 10 salinity at Fort Myers Yacht Basin. There is a problem with Valasenaria if there is too little flow there is too much saltwater encroaching upriver in low flow periods. Unfortunately, Dr. Tomasko wasn't allowed to testify by the lawyers for Cape Coral who wanted to submit a report without live testimony. The Tomasko recommended flow of 650-700 cfs was left out of the hearing. The current rule is 400 cf and 10 salinity. We want "or," not "and." ALJ didn't overrule the SFWMD so the rule becomes a rule. There is some hope that the new SFWMD governing body and its new executive director will be more agreeable to better flow measures. I have been working with James Evans at Sanibel. 650 cfs yielded about 9.7 this year and we will need more than 650-700 to get 10. Sanibel will be taking new science to the governor. Lake Okeechobee Release / Regulation Schedule is in public comment period. This affects low flow and high flow when we see harmful algae blooms from Nitrogen and phosphorous in high flow periods including cyanobacteria. The public comment period on the LORS / LOSA is April 22. Push for better schedule of releases causing less harm, a reduction in summertime blooms and more water in the dry season.

**Rae Ann Wessel:** April 22 comments not just for high flow; they're for the whole schedule. Historically, there has been no modeling for the dry season. Full suite of water column. Need for timely equitable balance, especially during dry season, between permitted needs vs. natural seasonal flow. Problem of over-allocation of resources during dry season. The Corps has a new colonel. This could be helpful; the more comments the better. It will be in their hands for a 3½ year evaluation period—by the time it is over there will be another colonel. One year is all we need—a pilot project would be helpful.

**DJ:** Will there be action alert for public comment?

**RW:** Yes, there will be one.

**RB:** The governor appoints the Exec Dir of the Water Management Districts. Scott let a lot of the scientists go

[10:04]

**RJ:** They have magically found operational flexibility in the new schedule.

**RB:** More or less, as long as they aren't in violation of the regs.

**Mike Mullins:** The narrative upstream is that all the benefits are going to the coastal elites. Go to mysanibel.com.

**RB:** For decades agricultural interests have controlled the WMDs, but we have more economic impact. They are silent most of the time, but they work very effectively behind the scenes. It's tie for our policies to get implemented.

**MM:** Farm Bill subsidies pay for a lot of the lobbying. \$100 m annual allocation.

**RM:** It means that your taxes go to lobbyists.

- **Pesticides and rat poison options for code language – Max Forgey**

**Max Forgey, AICP:** At last month’s meeting, there was a question regarding the best way to manage rodents. I told you at that time that my old friend and part time Research Associate Carter Elbon would be filming today’s meeting and that he is a Certified Environmental Professional and I would ask him to consult with his resources to provide some advice for an island that must be a paradise for rodents.

**Carter Elbon:** Max has distributed to all of you the CDC [Centers for Disease Control] guide. Regarding the control of rodents, your local government has the authority to control, prohibit, or limit toxins. I checked with my old mentor and boss Dr. Al Siddiqui and here is what he advised. Trim and cut vegetation; keep it away from the house. Seal all openings. Throw out trash regularly. Restrict all water sources, including pool, ponds, and fountains. The Florida vernacular “Cracker” house is particularly inviting because it has so many openings.

**DM:** Do other islands have similar problems?

**CE:** Can’t say for sure, but I’ll look into it. This takes a lot of time and effort. Remember that the rat may die elsewhere.

**BW:** South Seas switched to a different chemical last year in order to protect the ospreys. Unfortunately, there was an increase in the rodent population and we had to go back to the original in some places.

**CE:** Start with rodent survey; find harboring criteria. Find the areas that need attention. Sanitation and exclusion; identify the areas that attract, including food and non-food establishments. As an ex-health inspector, I opened some of the restaurants on Captiva and Sanibel.

**DM:** Does Sanibel have different rodent control rules from Lee County?

**BW:** I think they do. South Seas uses both our own staff and Eco Labs.

**CE:** Good firm.

**“Linda”:** What about Rat Zappers? Do they work?

**BW:** Yes, they’re wonderful; there is a clean-up aspect.

**DM:** Are they stationary?

**BW:** It’s a box.

**CE:** You should check it every week.

**Lady:** What about owls and apex predators?

**BW:** We have a falconer who comes out here to take care of seagull problems. Mike Sawicki is a falconer. It’s also a recreational activity.

**RM:** Twice is as often as you can use the zapper. The rats urinate when they are electrocuted, and the unit shorts out.

**MM:** Great horned owls take over nests.

**BW:** Bob, can you think about making a recommendation re rats? *[Agreed.]*

**MM:** Raccoons used to be a problem, but their numbers were cut way back from a canine distemper virus a few years ago; they have been returning.

[10:19]

**DM:** Three-minute recess.

- **Code workshop: Buildings, Signs & Lights**

**DM:** Amend or not. I see that County staff is here; they've been here every month. When we're done, we'll sit with County staff and say this is what we want and they'll respond, as they did with the Comp Plan. Dark skies first. The Captiva Plan has dark skies language for the first time. We have [unincorporated] North Captiva and [City of] Sanibel as models for dark skies. Upper Captiva is already in the Lee Plan, which is in your agenda packet.

**JB:** Would the County object if we used the Sanibel language?

**BW:** The Sanibel rollout was a fiasco.

**DM:** Upper Captiva is lighter on permitting and enforcement. They set standards for lights—encased lighting focused downward. *[Gives examples]*. There are two differences: (1) time element in Sanibel; five years or at time of new permit. We don't have to make it five years. (2) UC: if you can see source, you're in violation; on Sanibel, no light trespass. Is the UC model implementable? Is it good for us? Statement of intent declares purpose to be to control glare, sky glow etc. UC aspires to reduce light pollution, trespass. Do we want to implement a dark skies ordinance? If so, which model? They have different statements of purpose which we can compare.

**BW:** Already have it on the coast.

**MM:** My concern is about security, specifically the people fishing off my dock.

**Mike Lanigan:** Pg. 4 of 5. Why is one on left bad for Captiva? *[Extended discussion about tree lighting and lighted signs.]*

**DM:** *Since we don't have an enforcement mechanism, we're recommending UC as model. Draft UC to lay out Captiva recommendations, but with no enforcement at first. Eventually incorporate. Evaluate in three years or so, and see if people are abiding.*

**JB:** The property owner could approach the offender even without enforcement mechanism. I like my landscape lighting; it gives me enjoyment.

**Antje B:** I'm a biker and I'm grateful for the lights.

**BW:** It *is* dark here at night.

**Tom Rathbone:** We don't have any implementation.

**NP:** Light in bedroom window, needs to go.

**Linda:** Stricter rules would be good.

**RM:** In 10 years every driveway will look like a runway.

**JB:** If hooded, it will still release light.

**Linda:** The term is “creep.”

**ML:** Casting light into Nathalie’s bedroom, you would still violate light trespass.

**DM:** I’ll produce a set of voluntary rules. Next meeting we’ll approve and cross out what we don’t like. I believe 80 to 90% will comply, but only if we give guidance. [*Consensus agreement—down shining, lights shielded, luminaire stays on property.*] We’ll look at dock lighting.

[10:58 AM]

- **Vacation rental signs**

**DM:** Captiva code has five pages of sign regulations that apply only to Captiva. Our sign ordinance isn’t working. Residents don’t know the rules; sign makers don’t know rules. ID signs—only one allowed; no permit required. Temporary signs--now you have for rent, number [numeral] sign, the ID sign itself, and the brochure boxes. Some places have four or five signs. For ID signs, the rule is less than 100 feet of frontage, two square foot maximum size; four square feet 100 and up.

**MM:** Distance to ROW is a problem.

**DM:** Most realtors know the rules; some don’t follow the rules. Chapin Lane. There’s a sign in violation there.

**SS:** You can give them a call.

**DM:** Some realtors don’t respond. 2 square foot surface sign is unreasonable. How about 4 sq. feet for all? [*Extended discussion.*]

**Mike Sawicki:** It’s a code enforcement thing more than a sheriff thing.

**DM:** Code Enforcement will enforce all sign rules if that’s what we want. Rules unclear re for rent signs.

[*MF aside: Not sure about that. Check.*]

**MM:** Looking for reasonable set of guidelines. Rental agencies should be useful.

**JB:** Housing too big for lots.

**DM:** Height regs. Bonus. It was good. They are building boxes. Not the intent. The one on Wrightman.

**Adam Mendez:** (Zoning Dept) introduced.

[*Agreement on signs*]

**ML:** La Jolla (La Hoya?)

**MS:** You need some enforcement mechanisms. Most people are of the same mind.

**JB:** One commercial sign is enough.

- **Single family corporate retreats**

**DM:** RSC2. Commercial rental, not family. Go to website and you will find lots of ads for commercial retreats in residential neighborhoods.

**RM:** What's the difference if I own the house and invite five people who work in my business to bring their families and sit out on the lanai?

**ML:** On page 12, the term "family" is defined in the existing code. Can you rent to friends and family?

**RM:** Key factor is whether it's an institutional group. Large properties are being advertised as corporate retreats. Sea Oats is the only one that I know of.

**BW:** Some were used repeatedly. This was advertised at trade shows and neighbors thought it was getting out of hand. It was crazy—loud amplified music, yoga retreats.

**DM:** Come back to Panel. County could enforce noise ordinance. A developer from Orlando approached a realtor and asked whether they could build a 20 room house as a retreat.

**Adam M:** §34-2 defines "single family residence" and "family."

**DM:** What can County do?

**AM:** Code Enforcement comes out and looks for a violation. A picture isn't acceptable; they have to witness it.

**DM:** What if they advertise DFR as corporate retreat?

**AM:** We had a case where a shed was advertised as an apartment; they added a kitchen; it was a violation.

**RM:** Once a year I host the Hermitage Quintet at my house. Is that a violation? You can't let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

**Lady (NP?):** These houses are residential? [*Yes.*]

**Unidentified (BW?):** But they are advertised as corporate retreats.

**DM:** There's a difference between a house being used occasionally for weddings and a house being identified as a corporate retreat, a building not related to a family.

**MM:** State Dept of Revenue reclassified SFRs as MF under 10. Prop Appraiser says they look at it as single family. Who wants the MF under 10 classification?

**DM:** On the RSC2 thing, we need to figure out how we want that.

**RM:** What about my quintet? Can we ask the County?

**JB:** If we can id the violators, County can shut them down?

**DM:** If permitted, realtors will rent retreat houses. It's an RSC 2 thing. Let's not change anything for the time being.

*[MF aside: get information on corporate retreats from Florida League of Cities.]*

- **Clear cutting**

**DM:** Clear cutting—is it a problem? As I understand the current rules, you can remove five trees?

**MM:** That’s right, but there should be a distinction between native and non-native.

**RM:** The 24/7 people are sometimes bamboozled into clear cutting. Their realtor tells them that it’s going to be a paradise and they can landscape it however they want. If they had waited a while they might have decided that those native trees are a good thing. We don’t want this to turn into Palm Beach.

**JB, MM:** It’s not a problem. *[Consensus]*.

- **Island architectural style and landscape guidelines**

**JB:** This issue was raised. Do we want to have regulations for this purpose?

**MM:** Lot coverage—Bali Hai has 15 to 20 foot setbacks. Do we have adequate setbacks.

**RM:** On Nantucket in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> c, townhouses were being lost. They were preserved because there was something historic to be preserved. Our historic island style housing was builders’ specials—small houses not designed by architects. Today, most new housing is architect designed. Max could tell you that his hometown Columbus, Indiana, has some of the most important architecture in the country. That’s because there’s a foundation which pays architects, many of them Pritzker award winners, to submit designs for new public buildings.

*[MF aside: The Irwin Sweeney Miller Foundation was disbanded during the great recession, following the deaths of Irwin and Xenia Miller. I don’t think city government in Columbus has stepped up to the plate to encourage a continuation of their work,]*

[11:50]

**JB:** A lot of people complain about the Roberts house. We don’t want monstrosities.

**MM:** When people ask, I tell them it’s City Hall. *[Laughter]*.

**JB:** But do we want that?

**MM:** Coverage and setback regulations protect against it.

**DJ:** Could there be Bert Harris applicability here? Could that be a taking?

*[MF aside: Almost certainly not. Only if the County were to change zoning (in the broad sense of the word) seriously limiting property owners’ use. Ask Ralf for more information.]*

*[Consensus—no change]*

**DM:** We do have a problem, but it’s how the building fits on the lot. It’s a big problem in the Village, and is becoming a problem on the Gold Coast. Maybe we can look at it next year. A few years ago, we rewrote building height regulations in response to FEMA’s mapping changes.

Basically, it came down to two floors, which was certainly reasonable at the time. We gave bonus for gabled and other sloped roofs to discourage flat-topped roofs.

**MM:** Which we measure at the medium of the slope.

**DM:** Intent was to incentivize interesting roofs. Builders have attempted to maximize the space under air conditioning and the result has been non-visible gable roofs. That wasn't the intent.

**RM:** Volume.

**MM:** What is the word for additional roof height allowed under the current regulations? [*MF aside: Articulation.*] Can't be air-conditioned spaces above the height limit; that would be violation.

**RM:** It's duly noted.

[*County people reintroduced.*]

**RM:** Thank you for having a mind and a voice.

**DM:** We'll have a two-minute break followed by committee reports.

**JB:** We have a sea level committee which I want to hear about.

[*Recess*]

- **Wastewater committee**

**JB:** We approved the Tomasko project. The outstanding question is what are the impacts to environment from reliance upon septic, now and 20 and 30 years out.? Is there hard evidence of quantifiable damage? There is a detailed contract approved by both parties. First hurdle—find 30 sites for soil sampling. Ask Tomasko to ID preferred sites for monitoring. Ken with Tomasko implementation beginning. Find 30 sites for soils samples. We will find the people; it can't be random sites. Must be based on stratification.

**MM:** 30 sites?

**JB:** Let's see what Tomasko needs first.

**RM:** On my property, water does the weirdest thing. It comes up, puddles, then goes back down.

**JB:** Maybe you'd like yours to be one of the sites. We'll look for sites in your area.

**DM:** Want to thank Jay for pushing this thing from the beginning. Great work! [*General agreement.*]

- **Development committee**

**DM:** Bob will update us on the golf tournament.

**BW:** Monday After the Masters event will be sponsored again by Matter Bros and Prominent Marketing from Boca Raton. We need volunteers and sponsors.

**JB:** I haven't gotten a request yet. Ken will be sending a flyer.

**DM:** Bob, we can't thank you enough for all the work that you and your crew have done. *[Applause.]* This year we have a lot of important projects and we need the money—the wastewater study, lizards, sidewalks and the sea level rise committee.

**TR:** In order not to be underwater, we need for the golf program to be successful. We also need a successful cruise in the fall and a fund raising letter in the spring. The letter needs to raise \$30K.

**JB:** How much has the letter raised historically?

**TR:** \$35K last year.

**BW:** We made \$13K from the boat ride.

**TR:** Need to meet with Ken about the letter.

**DM:** Costs—Tomasko project \$50K; sidewalks \$43K; sea level committee \$5K; lizards \$5K, Ralf \$10K.

**TR:** We have \$116K in bank. It's close; people who benefit need to chip in.

**AB:** Donors often get something in return. A sign [recognizing a sponsorship] can be a motivation.

**RM:** Robert Rauschenberg was always a major sponsor in the past and he always got banner recognition.

**MM:** On the website.

**ML:** Patrons of the Panel.

**DM:** We could have a Patrons of the Panel decal.

**AB:** Bricks in sidewalk?

**DM:** Great idea.

**ML:** Guests would buy.

**DM:** Development committee is working on letter.

**MM:** Send me the drafts.

**DM:** Don't do last year's letter.

**BW:** Volunteer to help with letter.

**DM:** I'm willing to help.

**MB:** Walkway is a great opportunity for fund raising.

**DM:** Sea level committee and other items are what people need to hear.

**MM:** Historically, communication hasn't always been our strength.

- **Communications committee**

**AB:** Agency to help us.

- **Captiva Drive Improvement**

**DM:** Design and engineering team. Only Depew and Johnson Engineering responded. Johnson was chosen.

**RM:** DeAngelis Diamond would be good.

**DM:** They didn't bid; the decision has been made. Their price is \$43k. I will (1) have suggestions about how to raise money from community and (2) meet with County. I will talk to Rene about this. I want authorization to proceed with Johnson.

**JB:** We'll be bare after this. Move to approve. [*Seconded; approved by consensus.*]

**RM:** Don't know how ten acre development with 500 feet of frontage costs \$43K.

- **County taxation**

**MM:** Working with Kevin Ruane. Will update in future.

- **Hurricane**

**ML:** No report.

**MM:** Isn't there a connection between sea level and storminess?

- **Sea Level Committee**

**DM:** Linda Land, present today, and Larry Baras agreed to co-chair. Three goals: (1) ID vulnerable assets; (2) Plan a response to vulnerabilities, both Gulf and Bay sides; and (3) how to implement resilience. Committee is very active.

**JB:** They have been gathering information faster than it can be processed. This will be a spectacular project.

**DM:** FGCU, headed by Prof. Michael Savarese, is working on a Sanibel/ Captiva vulnerability analysis. However, to keep it under control, we asked Kate Gooderham to staff it. She has great experience. The proposal is for \$150/ hour over next six months. She will be authorized to do a maximum six trips, literature review, problems and parameters, meeting notes and bullet points. We can put a cap on it. Need to get committee headed in right direction.

**JB:** That's great, but I want to know where the leadership is, who will be in charge.

**MM:** She will report to the co-chairs.

**JB:** I'm not objecting to the choice, but want the chairs to be accountable.

**DM:** Panel is in charge. In the end, the buck stops with us.

**JB:** Not sure I agree. I want to define what are the key projects. Where is accountability?

**MM:** You have designated two co-chairs.

**Linda L:** Larry and I haven't been able to meet with Kate yet.

**JB:** That's kind of the thing I've been talking about. Is she a resource to us?

**RM:** No way Kate is going to direct the committee; not her style.

**MM:** Larry sent us a note that he's busy. [*Observation concerning his business.*]

**DM:** Nothing will go really wrong here. Members are responsible to the Panel. Kate will be a resource.

**JB:** So she's a resource; committee is accountable.

**DM:** Kate will assist Linda.

**MM:** I'd be more satisfied if committee said this is what they want.

**JB:** Want Kate's expertise.

**DJ:** Should we consider Ralf Brookes for this assignment?

**DM:** He wouldn't do it.

**DJ:** He initiated our awareness of the subject.

**JB:** Good point.

**LL:** I'm accepting Panel's recommendation.

**DM:** Ralf's a lawyer. When committee decides they need a grant, they'll need Ralf to draft it. What we need now is to identify vulnerabilities.

**Max Forgey:** While we're on subject, there will be a sea level rise symposium on Boca Grande next Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00. Jason Evans of Stetson is the keynoter, with presentations by Erin Deady and James Evans. I can get you tickets if you're interested.

**DM:** Do we have a motion to engage Kate with a \$5K cap. That's about 30 hours.

**JB:** Will hours be at direction of chair?

**MM:** Move approval subject to direction of chair. [*Seconded and Agreed*]

**RM:** Where is Ken today?

Adjourned 12:40 PM.