

Captiva Community Panel

MINUTES

Sept. 10, 2019

Attending: In person: David Mintz, Dave Jensen, Jay Brown, Mike Mullins, Antje Baumgarten; on the phone: Mike Boris, Bob Walter, Mike Kelly, Rene Miville

Audience: 12

Meeting convened 9 a.m. Introductions and quorum check. Approval of Aug. 13 minutes as presented (Jensen/Mullins), unanimous.

CFD: *Sherrill Sims:* Nothing to report.

CEPD: *Carolyn Weaver:* Thanks all for response about parking lot 15295 Captiva Drive. Got all of your concerns, issue has been tabled. Summer newsletter out last week, mailed to home addresses. Meeting Thursday 5:01 p.m. budget hearing in these rooms. *Sims:* Beautifully written letter on parking lot.

SLR Committee: Linda Laird/Kate Gooderham: *Mintz:* Recap, of funding discussions. Tabled last month. Handout pointed out. *Laird:* Apologies for size of handout. Will get more targeted. Lots of slides, not going through all of those, save your questions for the end. At later date, spend time to bring panel up to date on SLR issues. Spent \$5,000, what did you get for that and should you spend any more money. A tremendous amount for the funding, ahead of other communities. *Brown:* Renewing Kate or report? *Laird:* Renewing Kate using slides prepared. Wide variety people from community, started March 1, five meetings face to face, five on phone. Accomplishments could not have happened without Kate's work. Identified assets and vulnerabilities in working document, picked inundation scenarios and Intermediate High level of rise as likely impact. We needed to understand existing regulations, did that. Found out more about planning methodology, went to state workshop in Tampa on resiliency. Experts across the field, DEP guidelines for adaptation planning. Contact with state and local organizations. Researched mitigation alternatives. Invited SCCF's Eric Milbrandt to look at options, mangroves and seawalls, not reach definitive conclusion on working with Sanibel. Two proposals from SLR experts to consider. *Brown:* At end of each meeting, each received a working document of things learned to date. Organization of everything learned to date. *Laird:* Go to very end, Kate's work. Wrote numerous sections of working documents, did regulations review much quicker due to her background. Found Cheryl Hapke, one of the SLR experts who proffered a proposal for a pro bono study. Not quite ready to bring it to the panel to consider. Research and reviewed Peter Sheng's proposal, also need to bring that to panel when ready. More sophisticated than what we need. Kate coordinated with me and committee, wrote other reports. Southeast Florida Climate Compact outreach. Gathered information on the Southwest Florida Resilience Compact now forming, helped get CEPD engaged. Other items. Crucial to committee work. *Brown:* Consultants as people being hired to work on specific tasks and deliverables. Have been using Kate to work in partnership with you to develop committee knowledge. *Laird:* As support staff, I did not know much about history of Captiva, Kate very familiar with that, pushing it forward. Crucial to progress, not typical to hired consultant model.

Gooderham: This is the most complicated thing the island has ever undertaken. Committee has been wrestling with initial research, finding out what is our situation. Critical component is to get our arms

around something people around the country are struggling with. Make some ideas that are completely unmanageable at least slightly manageable. *Jensen*: Moving in the right direction. Hapke very promising approach. *Laird*: Don't know enough if this is a home run. *Mintz*: SLR serious, Captiva in crosshairs. Took nine people who knew nothing, said you have to figure this out, define problem and look at how to solve problems. Understand problem and how to think about it Another six months to see how far we can get, understanding problem and what's here. Assets to protect --- roads, houses, library, what? Then determine level of rise in sea level, then what's vulnerable given that rise? Given each of those, what do you do to address that – seawalls, mangroves revetment, build higher, move, what? Who can help us do it? How do we raise funds to do all of that? None of those would happen without Kate's help.

Baumgarten: Thanks for effort. Why is this a matter for the panel and not CEPD. Given costs of studies, is it not CEPD responsibility? *Mintz*: Sunshine issues due to multiple commissioners attended, Mullins can comment. *Baumgarten*: Picked experts, they have public funding. *Gooderham*: It probably will be a combo project, some parts impact shoreline Gulf and bay, other aspects impact everyone. CEPD may not be able to deal with some of those issues. Part of panel's job to determine how to coordinate with various jurisdictions and funding, how to put the puzzle together. *Brown*: Good question. Certain parts may wind up under CEPD, joint task force. We don't understand enough about totality of effort to say where it belongs. CEPD has mandate to address shoreline, this will be more involved than that. CEPD also has beach project. *Baumgarten*: \$5,000 we can do, but following costs will be higher, how we will fund those efforts? *Gooderham*: Hapke study is pro bono. *Laird*: Don't know costs, what grants we can get. Something we need to work through.

Mintz: CEPD will play a large role. At beginning process, beginning to understand problems and solutions. CEPD has mandate to deal with bay and Gulf shorelines, they will move in a larger direction to address both sides. Our work will dovetail with CEPD, will need to figure out allocation of resources and work. We support CEPD in Captiva Plan, as much as we can break ground for CEPD it will be a good process. Tax dollars good, if we need to raise money for experts What CEPD cannot fund, we will need to deal with it. *Baumgarten*: Who is responsible? *Mintz*: Still trying to figure it out. Don't know where it's going to lead. to end of protecting this island. *Baumgarten*: Give committee goal to figure out our role, to support CEPD, to find out who is responsible. *Brown*: Need more work to figure out where it organizationally fits. Need to get further. Have foggy plan, no idea if my ideas have any validity. Need to keep going, get a better idea of what the process is going to be. *Mullins*: Legislation is clear: Any erosion control project in tidal waters of Captiva. Ability to raise taxes is clear. Anything we do will be paid for by property owners, grants, etc. Starting out with feasibility study, where we begin. Once we define what better, we start to talk about the how. Collaborative effort. ultimate funding from CEPD within limits. Lots of work on the plate with current project. Help is welcomed right now. Once it crystalizes, we can look at a bigger role. *Miville*: SLR role of CEPD not getting involved as quickly as possible, would be tragic for island. Look at taxing authority over citizens' committee. Kate a very valuable asset, but we have fiduciary issues... with contractors, pick a price and have them tell you what will they do. Pick a scope of work, pick a number, set a contract. Avoid time and materials. *Mullins*: Software company experiences. False starts a big mistake. CEPD jumping in too quickly when we have a lot on our plate. Better clearly understand scope and issues, let's get definition of what we need to do, see it continue and eventually look to CEPD to help. Budget includes significant money for SLR work. Making progress, hope to continue. *Mintz*: Motion that panel will support further funding of \$5,000 to SLR committee for retaining Kate. Ask Kate & committee provide panel with outline of timeline and deliverables. (*Jensen*

second.) *Mintz*: Looked at dollars, 59 hours, \$100 per hour, agreed to take \$5,000 so provided some pro bono work August hours should be included in this new funding. Provide committee with timeline and work plan for \$5,000, deliverables, responsible parties and timetables. *Baumgarten*: Integrate Miville's suggestions. *Mintz*: Lowest costs, provided. *Mullins*: Time and materials not to exceed \$5,000. Unanimous.

Iguanas: *Mintz*: At last meeting got report about Alfredo's work to date. Island inundated with iguanas, Alfredo has caught a lot of them. I was asked by panel to reach out to county to assist. Panel supported trapping for \$5,000 and then \$2,000. Spoke to Asst. County Manager Doug Meurer, county does not support eradication of exotic creatures. have not funded it directly. Boca Grande had to tax itself to address its lizards issue, Sanibel used same person as Captiva, pays from tax revenues. Called Commissioner Manning to intervene. He went to staff to come up with options. Discussion of BoCC meeting, last item on agenda. County manager said county does not deal with eradication, needed to set up Municipal Services Taxing/Benefit Unit (MSTBU) to fund problem. Go to all that trouble for \$25K annually to control iguanas. Complicated and expensive process. Discussion. *Mintz*: This is how they do that. Clear to me they would not fund out of the normal budget, would set a precedent they could not abide. Had discussion with Pete Winton, CFO and Asst. County Manager, explained stance, sympathetic to problem. Developed proposal to present now. County is willing to fund on an interim basis to hire trapper for up to a year so we don't lose ground. They would pay to draw up MSTU for Captiva for iguana control as long as we need it. Waive informal petition process and fund and administer formal petition process, mailings and documentation. Wait to allow panel to educate community to generate support for MSTU. Raise approx. \$25,000 annually, about \$25 per million taxable value. Other examples. *Baumgarten*: Plus additional expenses to set up MSTU. Pay high taxes already. More expensive than iguana control itself. Discussion. *Jensen*: Costs included in unit formation. *Mintz*: Only way we'll get iguana control I can see. Interim funding to keep trapper working, set up unit, if it passes you'll pay \$25 per million dollars in taxable value. *Mullins*: Not particularly aware of issue when it first came up. State considers this a serious problem. Iguanas cause erosion problem, eat vegetation and undermine seawalls. Have not asked CEPD attorney if it's feasible yet, panel has done hard work to contact trapper. Something to think about. I will ask attorney based on erosion is there a way to get this done under CEPD. May not be considered an erosion control responsibility. Like the idea of running a pilot to see if we can form an MSTBU. Could possibly do it for other services. Let's see if *Mintz* is successful in getting county to pay for it. If CEPD is funding, could we pursue TDC grant to support it?

Jensen: Can other projects be combined in taxing unit? *Mintz*: Yes, can go back to property owners to attach it to MSTU. *Jensen*: Who determines costs and if it continues? *Ralf Brookes*: Iguanas would go on forever as a continuing problem. *Brown*: But if Alfredo raises costs do we have to go back to community to request more money? *Brookes*: BoCC could increase fees. Discussion. *Brookes*: If you do this as a property-by-property effort, if the iguana moved to neighbors' property, trapper could not go there. With an islandwide effort and funding. he could go anywhere. *Amy Wainwright*: What about other invasive critters. Way to broadly paint this unit as various issues arise? *Mintz*: Depends on how we couch the petition to the community. If panel supports this, Winton will go to BoCC at October meeting to approve process, fund Alfredo for interim to continue trapping. Meet with panel reps and figure out timetable and process and language. If it fails, county wants to solve problem and they will go back to board to figure out next steps. *Mimi Schwartzel*: Learned that iguanas are being brought in on vegetation with landscapers. Controlling some of it, but problem is getting larger and larger. Can we talk to landscapers to

target eggs and animals that are coming in? *Mullins*: Iguana can lay thousands of eggs. *Jensen*: Iguanas are coming in, not their eggs. They lay eggs once a year. To have an effect need to pursue eradication. *Schwartzel*: How do we get it under control, spray plants being brought here? *Jensen*: Let me ask an expert. Discussion. *Jensen*: Thanks for your work. *Mintz*: Motion to approve offer to develop MSTU for eradication and interim funding, place on BoCC agenda, support budget as presented. *Mullins*: Up to a year. CEPD should investigate if it can act? *Kelly*: Could South Seas be excluded? Can some opt out? Look at SSIR management contracts. *Mintz*: Summary. Many on South Seas would support. *Lisa Riordan*: As president of largest HOA, I went to 11 presidents of 17 associations overall, asked them to take votes. They did that, Alfredo caught one of the largest iguanas at Bayside Villas. Discuss with presidents, they see damage being done there. Don't know why management does not support this. Entering in to annual meeting season, done in the fall. We need to include SSIR. *Brown*: Assume South Seas will participate. *Mullins*: Moot point, have county move forward, we will educate community in advance of formal petition. County can change requirements for units. *Jensen*: Iguana control is key word, still need to get permission to come on property. *Mintz*: Built into unit. *Jimi Batchelor*: Anyone can kill on their own properties. *Mullins*: Already pay unincorporated MSTU fee annually. Ought to go back to ask why county is not taking money from existing MSTU. *Mintz*: Doesn't fund exotic animal control. Vote called, unanimous approval. *Jensen*: Alfredo? *Mintz*: I will call you once it's in place. Let him know funding is coming. *Mullins*: Said I would raise funds if necessary.

Blind Pass: *Mintz*: Background. County aware of our discussions, extremely sensitive to closure of any bridge to fishing, Large lobby opposed to that. Explained our concerns -- safety, pedestrians, trash, boats, etc. County is concerned about backlash. Winton also in charge of bridges. Understands our problem, concerned about closing but aware of problem. Created team to investigate safety and other issues. See if there are nay alternatives to full closure, perhaps redirect traffic, one side only, etc. Any options to mitigate problem and get back to us on this. *Brown*: Rights of small groups have precedence over community? *Mullins*: Fear of lobby. Reach out to Bayous Pres Assn. and other people who support our position. *Mintz*: Aware of problem, look at issues and options, look at political groundwork to act. *Mullins*: DOT solutions pushes issue down the road. Fishing platform a better alternative, make the lobby wait. *Brown*: Not just inconvenience, a massive fish kill of undersized game fish. Discussion. *Mintz*: Will talk to Winton to make our position clear.

Andy Rosse: *Mintz*: Have proposal, preparing permit, need information. *Brown*: Panel funded? Include in MSTBU? *Mintz*: Figure out funding once we get the permits.

Code status: *Mintz*: Slated for November, sent copies of comments and changes to panel for review. Have available for community in November. *Brown*: Go through at panel meeting, allot certain amount of time and see how far we get? Will cause a rethinking of everything again. *Mintz*: Assuming November and December, can go to January if necessary. community has had a lot to say, tentatively agreed to certain aspects, now we need to review and decide. Once panel agrees. will send out to all property owners before we go to county. *Brown*: Public meeting? *Mintz*: See what happens in November. Part of package is parking changes around Chapel. Committed to go out to the community where changes will take place.

Break

Wastewater: *Brown*: Recap of Tomasko report. Draft completed, meeting with SCCF and James Evans

to review, got committee comments. Have Tomasko come to November meeting to present or just receive report? *Mullins*: Good idea to have him here. *Brown*: Wait until November to get more people back here, have draft in advance. *Mintz*: Public meeting at later date as well. *Brown*: Mid-January probably best. Hope to exceed TKW workshop attendance. I made comments on his findings last time, seeing it in writing now. Septics not major contributor to coastal water quality issue now. Many Village lots do not meet minimum permitting guidelines, less than 2 feet of separation from water table, or on lots too small for current permit requirements. Down the road, septics will become increasingly inoperable over time. No clear and present danger to water quality, but not a viable wastewater strategy for parts of the island for a long-term basis. *Mullins*: Village? *Brown*: Small lots and inadequate separation. May be the case on bayside outside the Village, but on large lots of options exist to rehab systems to work more effectively. Not an option in Village, may be compelled to central sewer at some point as systems fail long-term. Panel will need to deliberate on all the info we have learned to make the best recommendation to the community on wastewater management. Runoff is most damaging water quality problem. Will not take it up today, but a big future issue for us. *Jensen*: Runoff, vegetation not fertilizer. A lot we can do to control runoff. *Brown*: His company has capacity in that area. *Mintz*: Andy Rosse runoff could be a quick remedy to look at. *Mullins*: Blind Pass bridge runoff issues as well. *Mullins*: Work of committee members invaluable to community. No compensation, a lot of value. Ran through projects. So much more expensive once government has to provide it. *Boris*: Welcome Back cruise, last year on Dec. 1. do it again this year to communicate to community, invite people who don't know about panel. Dates Dec. 10 OK with Captiva Cruises. *Mullins*: 5 pm cruise? *Boris*: Sandy volunteered refreshments last year, will find someone to help with that this time. *Jensen*: Invited county staff and commissioners in the past? *Boris*: Yes, open to any suggestions. *Mullins*: Send letters to BoCC and Sanibel people... Kevin Ruane, Jason Vaughn, Chauncey Goss. *Boris*: Ken can confirm that date with Brad today. *Mullins*: Invite Pete Winton and others.

Communications: *Baumgarten*: Met with Lanigan and Mullins separately. Working on analysis on current communications by panel. Add missing addresses, Lanigan will help. Next meeting, we will provide an overview of options. Include iguana population and cruise, need to reach out to as many people as possible. *Mullins*: Who is our target audience? Visitors, property owners, businesses? *Mintz*: Property owners, many of whom are not here much of the time. *Mullins*: Not exclusive audiences. Property owners and businesses a given, what about other stakeholders? Reach beyond to others, visitors as well? *Baumgarten*: CCA events, how do they communicate them? *Riordan*: Invite members and invite entire community to participate, pick up names and addresses that way. Facebook page, post at library and post office. Have a program committee that reaches out into community. Expanding this season. Even with that don't reach all people on this island. Also look at long-term renters, strong participants in the community. Discussion of timeshare owners, long-term renters. *Baumgarten*: Recommendations? *Riordan*: Facebook got an unexpected response. Website, post events there. Word of mouth helps. Work with Tiffany at the Islander on media coverage. *Mullins*: Without outreach, can we share with you? With rental agencies and lists. Discussion. *Mullins*: CEPD public entity can request lists. *Riordan*: Timeshare newsletter might reach them. Hurricane Committee: *Riordan*: Spoke to Pawul, still works with Nathalie but he coordinates. Will work with anybody. Discussion. Software to facilitate postings. Lisa; CCA posted Sanibel and weather info on Facebook page. *Mullins*: We need help. Help us develop this. *Mintz*: SSIR HOAs, look into that. *Schwartzel*: Have sign in sheet at social events? Discussion on CEPD communications.

Captiva Drive: *Mintz:* Received engineering sketches for sidewalk yesterday, will review and make comments. Bring back to panel and on to the county. *Mullins:* Use for MSTU. *Ann Brady:* Timetable? *Mintz:* County lands, DOT review plans for comment. *Brady:* No construction during season? *Mintz:* Right, likely not. Discussion of county relationship.

County taxation: *Mullins:* Background. Unincorporated MSTU accumulations not being spent in our direction. Set up meeting with CFO Winton to explain expenditures. Calculate numbers, produce report, ask panel what it wants to do to move forward, move delicately since we're getting progress in some areas. Discussion.

Future issues: *Mintz:* Put here to consider in November. Attorney retainer. Impervious surface ratios explained. Issue with runoff. Gas vs. electric carts. *Brown:* Retainer vs. hourly rate. *Brookes:* Presentation in November, willing to work either way. *Brady:* Impervious surface includes public roads? *Mintz:* Everything. Discussion. *Wainwright:* Impervious surface allowed is based on eco zone of property. *Mintz:* Gas blowers, forgot to put on agenda. Discussion.

Financial: *Boris:* Summary. *Mintz:* Do two letters a year. *Boris:* Something at the end of the year? Summary of projects, include an ask there. *Mintz:* Do in combination with cruise invite.

New business: *Brown:* Have SLR committee make presentation to panel of findings to date? *Mintz:* Initial consensus, do presentation to panel. *Brown:* Panel wants to be informed about these things. *Mullins:* Schedule after regular meeting, workshop after lunch. *Mintz:* Long agendas coming up. *Miville:* Mike Lanigan agreed to another term as CPOA appointee. *Mintz:* For October, need update on Kelly for a second term. *Kelly:* Will continue. *Mintz:* Vacancy for panel appointment. Nominating Committee will make recommendation at October meeting? Anyone else who wants to serve can submit resume or willingness to serve to Mintz or Gooderham to distribute. Can submit after October Nominating Committee submission. at November meeting. *Miville:* Tony Lapi interested in participating. *Mullins:* Submit bio to Gooderham to forward to Nominating Committee and panel. *Miville:* Anyone submitted yet? *Mintz:* Expected SSIR person to be recommended. Reach out to Lapi to confirm interest. *Riordan:* CCA will need to make an appointment to replace Tom Rathbone, will bring back to panel by next meeting. *Mintz:* Nominating Committee process. Explaining Rathbone situation. Send note to Rathbone on behalf of panel. *Miville:* Rathbone quiet but effective. Encourage CCA to look at Linda Laird as appointee. *Jensen:* Today is my last meeting, Queenie and I are off on a big adventure. Might be away from island for an undetermined amount of time. Discussion. Captiva has got itself a great team here. *Mintz:* More than a person, an institution. *Mintz:* Vacancy in panel position, look at bylaws to see how its filled. Likely by the panel. *Batchelor:* For future agenda, look at more rip current signs and awareness. *Baumgarten:* Communications Committee had same issue, we will work on something with recommendations. *Mullins:* CEPD looking at options. *Mintz:* Reach out to county, DOT or parks and rec. *Jimi:* Park and ride still coming out here? *Jensen:* Many years ago. *Mullins:* Reach out to Sanibel as well. *Jimi:* Island Water Sports revenue going to Dorian Relief effort for one week. Accepting food in trade as well. Determining which agency to partner with, want all of it to get there. Boats in Fort Lauderdale heading over to help, not get caught in red tape. *Mullins:* Americares, matches dollar for dollar. Will share with community. Discussion.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

-- Ken Gooderham