

Coastal Hernando Initiatives Project (CHIP)

Meeting Minutes August 3, 2009

TIME: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Linda Pederson Park @ Jenkins Creek Community Center
6400 Shoal Line Boulevard (CR 595)
Spring Hill, Florida 34607

1. Call to order

Commissioner Rose Rocco called to order the regular meeting of the Hernando Coastal Initiatives Project (CHIP) meeting on August 3, 2009, at 9:00 a.m.

2. Attendees

Commissioner Rose Rocco; David Hamilton; Charles Mixson; Carlene Riecsc; Jeff Kirk; Roger Davidson; Connie Wonsik; Mike Nickerson; Fran Baird; Chuck Morton; and Mary Barnwell.

3. Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) Senior Land Management Specialist Mary Barnwell

Ms. Barnwell provided an overview of the proposed long term plan created by the CHIP members for the construction of a boardwalk through the Weeki Wachee Preserve.

Ms. Wonsik clarified that the Shoal Line Boulevard area would be the location to be considered for the boardwalk. Ms. Barnwell indicated that the location would be more feasible for SWFWMD, and that from their perspective the areas of concern would be the wetland impact, impression onto the preserve, and forestry equipment access in the event of a fire to protect the boardwalk. She indicated that prior to submitting a written proposal of the boardwalk plan for SWFWMD's consideration; County staff should discuss the plan with the Department of Environmental Protection and SWFWMD's Regulatory Department.

Mr. Hamilton reiterated direction by indicating that given the significant legal issues with the proposed boardwalk plan that Mr. Kirk from the County Attorney's Office would contact SWFWMD's legal department to discuss consideration of the proposed plans. He also stated that Mr. Mixson would research the proposed plan and true cost estimates.

Mr. Kirk indicated that the determination of the project would not be a legal issue, however, it would be a determination of what permit conditions and compensation SWFWMD would require. He noted that he would assist in anyway that he could.

Mr. Hamilton stated that Ms. Riecsc would contact SWFWMD's Land Use staff to discuss future of plans of proposed project.

Ms. Barnwell indicated that SWFWMD's Land Use, Land Management, and Regulatory staff would review the plans and submit a recommendation to County staff.

5. Department of Public Works Director/County Engineer Charles Mixson, P.E.

Mr. Mixson provided an overview of the Coastal Hernando Initiatives Project proposed revitalization and infrastructure needs. The plan includes a nature coast boardwalk, emergency lanes for Shoal Line Blvd., sidewalks and bike trails, water hydrants for all coastal areas, fire department for Hernando Beach, lighting, black top cofer road, Pine Island drainage, street light at Hernando Beach boat ramp and parking area, roadway widening and repaving of CR 550 from Shoal Line Blvd., to Bayport.

Discussion ensued concerning infrastructure and potential funding mechanisms for the proposed CHIP plan.

6. Hernando County Fire Rescue Chief Mike Nickerson

Chief Nickerson provided an overview of the Hernando County Sheriff's policy relating to the emergency fire response process for the Hernando Beach area and throughout the County. He stated that there is a mutual manual aid agreement in place with all fire emergency response departments in Hernando County. Emergency medical services response is provided for all Hernando County volunteer fire departments. He also stated that approximately 20% of emergency medical service calls have been handled by Spring Hill Fire Rescue. He indicated that Hernando County Fire Rescue does not own a ladder truck; however, the City of Brooksville ladder truck would be available for use through the mutual aid agreement. He advised that Hernando Beach Volunteer Fire Rescue would have to submit a request for the purchase of a ladder truck to the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners and the County Administrator.

Ms. Baird recommended County staff attend the next Home Owners Association meeting held on September 3rd at 7:00 p.m., at the Coast Guard Auxiliary to provide an overview of the Coastal Hernando Initiative Project proposed infrastructure and revitalization plan. Ms. Rocco agreed to attend.

7. Next Meeting Time and Location

Next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at the Linda Pederson Park @ Jenkins Creek Community Center, 6400 Shoal Line Boulevard (CR 595) Spring Hill, Florida 34607

8. Adjournment

Commissioner Rocco announced there was no further discussion to come before the CHIP members and adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Coastal Hernando Initiative Project (CHIP)

Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2009

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Rocco called to order the regular meeting of the Coastal Hernando Initiative Project on October 19, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at the Linda Pederson Park @ Jenkins Creek Community Center.

2. Attendees

Rose Rocco; David Hamilton; Lynn Smith; Jim Smith; Lisa Bambaur; Chuck Morton; Connie Wonsik; Jeff Kirk; Carlene Riecsc; and Charles Mixson.

3. Southwest Florida Water Management District – Boardwalk

Mr. Mixson provided an overview of a letter received from SWFWMD related to the boardwalk requirements indicating that they would need the following before considering the project: Comprehensive Plan consistency as it relates to the boardwalk; detail project scope; map illustrating foot print of boardwalk; design information; management approach; wetland mitigation; proposed offset of development impacts; project funding; design permitting construction loan term management. Mr. Mixson stated that he will be working on the Comprehensive Plan and a Master Recreation Plan with MPO Coordinator Dennis Dix. An update of the plans would be brought to a future CHIP meeting for review. Mr. Mixson also discussed several options of funding opportunities. Additional discussion ensued relating to funding opportunities and description of the boardwalk project.

4. Paving of Shoulders on CR 550

Mr. Mixson provided an overview of the progress of paving the shoulders off of Osowaw Boulevard and Shoal Line Boulevard. Mr. Mixson also noted that the MPO Board approved his request for enhancement stimulus funding to put in 4 foot paved shoulders from Osowaw Boulevard to Shoal Line Boulevard; and from Osowaw Boulevard to Jewfish Drive. The timeline of the project would depend on the FDOT project list/timelines which are changing on a regular basis. Mr. Mixson also stated that he has also proposed to put in sidewalks from Roger Park to the North of Richardson Boulevard, the project was moved up in the ranking from number 20 to number 6 on the enhancement funds, approved by the Bike Pedestrian Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee under enhancement funding. The project will take about a year under the Department of Transportation and several more years there after. Mr. Davidson inquired if paving of shoulders would also include from CR 550 to Richardson Boulevard.

In response Mr. Mixson stated that there may be a possibility of paving shoulders in that area when the road would be resurfaced. Mr. Mixson also indicated that the County Board approved paving of Coffey Road and the road was added to the Limerock road Resurfacing Treatment Program for the fifth year of the program.

Mr. Hamilton asked Mr. Mixson to create a chart, listing all of the projects and their timelines for the next CHIP meeting. He also stated that he would like to see the CHIP's project initiatives included in the up coming Comprehensive Plan Amendment, same as South Brooksville's Vision Plan; given the environmentally sensitive land projects. Mr. Hamilton also provided information he obtained on the Hernando County Pedestrian Plan from 1993 and noted the importance of possibly tying in that plan with any future plans in Hernando Beach.

Ms. Wonsik inquired on the timeline of the installation of lights on Shoal Line Blvd. Commissioner Rocco advised that she would contact the Budget Office to obtain status of the project.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2010, at 6340 Linda Pederson Park @ Jenkins Creek Community Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Coastal Hernando Initiative Project (CHIP)

Meeting Minutes January 11, 2010

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Rocco called to order the regular meeting of the Coastal Hernando Initiative Project on October 19, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at the Linda Pederson Park @ Jenkins Creek Community Center.

2. Attendees

Rose Rocco; David Hamilton; Lynn Smith; Jim Smith; Lisa Bambaur; Chuck Morton; Connie Wonsik; Jeff Kirk; Carlene Riecsc; and Charles Mixson.

3. Southwest Florida Water Management District – Boardwalk

Mr. Mixson provided an overview of a letter received from SWFWMD related to the boardwalk requirements indicating that they would need the following before considering the project: Comprehensive Plan consistency as it relates to the boardwalk; detail project scope; map illustrating foot print of boardwalk; design information; management approach; wetland mitigation; proposed offset of development impacts; project funding; design permitting construction loan term management. Mr. Mixson stated that he will be working on the Comprehensive Plan and a Master Recreation Plan with MPO Coordinator Dennis Dix. An update of the plans would be brought to a future CHIP meeting for review. Mr. Mixson also discussed several options of funding opportunities. Additional discussion ensued relating to funding opportunities and description of the boardwalk project.

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In response Mr. Mixson stated that there may be a possibility of paving shoulders in that area when the road would be resurfaced. Mr. Mixson indicated that the County Board approved paving of Coffey Road and the road was added to the Limerock road Resurfacing Treatment Program for the fifth year of the program.

Mr. Hamilton asked Mr. Mixson to create a chart, listing all of the projects and their timelines for the next CHIP meeting. He stated that he would like to see the CHIP's project initiatives included in the upcoming Comprehensive Plan Amendment, same as South Brooksville's Vision Plan; given the environmentally sensitive land projects. Mr. Hamilton provided information he obtained on the Hernando County Pedestrian Plan from 1993 and noted the importance of possibly tying in that plan with any future plans in Hernando Beach.

Ms. Wonsik inquired on the timeline of the installation of lights on Shoal Line Blvd. Commissioner Rocco advised that she would contact the Budget Office to obtain status of the project.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2010, at 6340 Linda Pederson Park @ Jenkins Creek Community Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Coastal Hernando Initiative Project (CHIP)

Meeting Minutes February 22, 2010

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Rocco called to order the regular meeting of the Coastal Hernando Initiative Project on February 22, 2010, at 9:00 am, at the Linda Pederson Park @ Jenkins Creek Community Center.

2. Attendees

Commissioner Rocco; David Hamilton; Chuck Morton; Carlene Riecsc; Fran Baird; Gloria Stelnicki; and Marie Persons.

3. Department of Public Works Pine Island Drainage Update

Ms. Riecsc provided an update of the Pine Island drainage indicating that she had spoken with Assistant Public Works Director Steve Whitaker and that he advised that there is a small Pine Island drainage project scheduled for April 2010. Ms. Riecsc conveyed Ms. Stelnicki's specific concerns and Mr. Whitaker advised that after the completion of the drainage project he would inspect the area to see if her concerns had been addressed. In response to a query from Ms. Baird as to the locations in the Pine Island area Ms. Riecsc indicated that the locations were between Pine Island, Tidewater, and Cyclone Dr. Ms. Stelnicki inquired on additional areas of concern and Commissioner Rocco recommended that she contact Ms. Riecsc to coordinate when she could meet with Mr. Whitaker to discuss her concerns.

4. Water and Sewer Update

Mr. Stapf stated that he had not received any information relating to petitions for fire hydrants in the Hernando Beach area, specifically on Gulfview Dr. Mr. Stapf advised Ms. Baird to obtain an MSBU application and information packet. Upon receiving the petition, the Utilities Office will follow through on the request. Ms. Baird noted that an acquaintance had obtained the information and related costs. Additional discussion ensued relating to MSBU process and procedures. Citizens that showed interest provided Mr. Stapf with their contact information and he will forward the applications.

5. Assignments & Timelines

Mr. Hamilton stated that the group had established enough information to begin a plan and proceed to the next stage. He also summarized the groups concerns and vision plan for the area, i.e. boardwalk; sidewalks; bike trails; fire hydrants; and sewer and water drainage. The group discussed a strategy plan involve more citizens from the community. Ms. Persons will coordinate to meeting with a member of each existing

organization within Hernando Beach, Weeki Wachee, and other areas. An informal visioning plan meeting will be scheduled at the Hernando Beach Club. Ms. Persons will contact Mr. Hamilton and Commissioner Rocco with the details of the meeting.

6. The next regular Coastal Hernando Initiative Project meeting will be in May 17, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

**COASTAL HERNANDO INITIATIVE PROJECT
COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOP
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 26, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.**

ATTENDEES

Commissioner Rocco; David Hamilton; Carlene Riecse; Brenda Frazier; Pat Fagan; Susan Goebel; Roy Link; Dennis Dix; Paul Weizorek; John Druzbeck; Rick Foti; Joe Stapf; John Burnett; Doris Cupeles; and Royce Decker (facilitator of meeting). Please note that a large amount of Hernando Beach residents attended the meeting. The sign-in sheet is available for review.

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Rocco called to order the Community Visioning Workshop of the Coastal Hernando Initiative Project on April 26, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Building.

2. Introduction

Commissioner Rocco thanked all of the Hernando Beach residents that were present. She asked that all Hernando County staff members present introduce themselves. Mr. Hamilton provided an overview of the workshop format and purpose. He thanked everyone for coming out to the workshop. Ms. Goebel provided an update of the Hernando Beach Dredge project and addressed several questions from residents in the audience.

3. County Administrator David Hamilton & CHIP Member Fran Baird

Mr. Hamilton and Ms. Baird provided an overview of the Coastal Hernando Initiative Project (CHIP) mission and proposed planned projects identified by the group and Hernando Beach Community residents in the past year. Mr. Hamilton stated that CHIP was created in June 22, 2009. Mr. Hamilton described the areas for proposed improvements identified by the CHIP group. Mr. Hamilton indicated that the County Board is hosting a Federal Funding Workshop to identify possible funding and grant opportunities.

4. Workshop Facilitator Royce Decker

Mr. Decker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He provided an overview and purpose of the meetings. He advised that the meeting would be open to community input. Citizen's present would identify their three most important issues that need attention in their community. Upon identifying their three issues they would be given the opportunity to come to the microphone and present their issues. The following citizen's relayed their top three issues: Valerie Shelter; Jerry Lawson; Joe Shurla; Harry Kaspick; Jim Rice; Erin Daly; Kathy Sullivan; Dr. Moss; George Kreol; Rod Anderson; Roger Davidson; Chuck Morton; Paul Levin; John Thomas; Wayne Dukes; Frank Santo; Dennis Allen; Donald Martin; Steve Lumb; John West; Kevin McCarthy; Bill Persons; and Larry Simpson. Mr. Decker advised citizens that didn't have the opportunity of speaking to drop off their index cards with a County staff member to ensure that their comments are considered.

Commissioner Rocco indicated that based on the citizens input a community plan will be developed. She also announced that the next regular CHIP meeting will be held May 17, 2010, at the Port Authority Building. She also announced that the next workshop meeting will be held on June 28, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. located at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Building. In addition, Commissioner Rocco advised that Patricia McNeese would be the new County Staff Planner assigned to the Community Initiative Projects.

5. Identified Issues

DREDGE/GULF ACCESS

Dredge (26)

Move the dredge equipment from in front of the Club

No chemicals in returned dredge water

State Road canal dredging

Dredge canals

Channel from central beach to Gulf

New boatlift

Repair boatlift (3)

Raise/re-build the bridge (14)

Do not raise the bridge (4)

Do not open canals to gulf in mid and south beach

PUBLIC SAFETY

Widen Shoal Line/sidewalks/bike path (28)

Trim trees on Shoal Line (canopy)

Make Shoal Line safer (2)

Lower speed limit on Shoal Line (2)

Do not widen Shoal Line or cut down trees

Enforce speed limits (3)

Widen Roads

Safety – Eagle Nest speeders

Safety – Calienta northbound traffic backup from boat ramp

Safety – Intoxicated people on Calienta late at night

Need speed bumps on Companero Entra

Sidewalks from Hernando Beach to shopping on U.S. 19 (9)

Sidewalks on Osowaw Blvd., Shoal Line from Tarpon to 50 (3)

Sidewalks/bike trails throughout coastal community (9)

Lighting on Shoal Line (6)

More lighting in area

Street lights from Hernando Beach to Walmart

When installing new lights – design them to accommodate “dark skies”

Fire hydrants – Weeki Wachee (2)

Fire hydrant for Gulf Coast Drive (4)

Fire hydrants (2)

Need more support for volunteer fire department

Crime watch at night

Leave community as is except for safety improvements (5)
Slow down traffic through Aripeka (2)
Drainage problem on road through Aripeka in front of store
Safety education and boating control

AESTHETICS/APPEARANCE

Odor from Treatment Plant (19)
Quaint fishing village (3)
Monthly trash pick-up teams (2)
Uniform code enforcement - burned out homes, degraded homes (4)
Clean up commercial properties on Calienta (5)
Clean up empty lots (3)
Hold landlords responsible for tenants and absent owners be responsible for maintaining their property
Use right kind of street lights to stop light pollution
Clean up and paint buildings (2)
Eyesores on Shoal Line (2)
Clean up, fix up and new business will follow
Annual brush pick-up
Repair docks
Require covers on trucks going into landfill
Enforce violations for littering along Shoal Line and Osowaw
Enforce no-wake zone
Loud music from cars/bar

CONSERVATION/DEVELOPMENT

Make development protect natural resources
Preserve nature – no boardwalks, etc
Preserve peaceful community/leave as it is (be careful what you ask for)
No new businesses on Shoal Line (3)
Conserve natural resources
Keep “chain” businesses out
Plant trees and vegetation
Stop development
No more needless development such as at corner of Shoal Line and Osowaw (2)
No street lights
No fire hydrants
No cell towers
Clean air, fresh water and controlled development
Limit street lights on Osowaw and none through Aripeka
Economic health/growth
Create a business district with more parking on Shoal Line
More parking for businesses
Need a good family restaurant
Master plan/community vision
Encourage Florida Friendly Yards

RECREATION

Walkway, trails, etc. through Preserve (not along roads)

Install wildlife walkway underpass from Preserve to facilitate wildlife movement

Boardwalk –Shoal Line to Pedersen Park (7)

Elevated boardwalk in “business district”

Reduce lighting in park when it is closed

Pine Island – fees – not a good idea

Parking and restrooms at Preserve

No fee for county residents to use Pine Island – only out of county residents should pay

Lifeguards at Rogers Park

A beach at Hernando Beach (6)

More parking for Pine Island

County swimming pool

Need a dog park

More parking at boat ramp

Allow dogs in Preserve and on boardwalk (if it is built) (2)

Make better use of Preserve for recreation

More artificial reefs

Create festive environment for Hernando Beach with parking

SERVICES

Change hours at Transfer Station (2)

Access to Transfer station – make left turn lane @ dump – right lane going

Into dump (3)

More responsiveness from county officials

Cell tower (11)

6. Adjournment

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

Coastal Hernando Initiative Project (CHIP) Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Coastal Hernando Initiative Project (CHIP) was held at the Linda Pedersen Park Community Building on Monday, July 19, 2010, and it was called to order by Commissioner Rocco.

ATTENDEES

Fran Baird; Commissioner Rose Rocco, Patricia McNeese, Joe Stapf, Mike Nickerson, Chuck Morton, David Hamilton, Kent Weissinger, Ms. Stelnicki, Don Bowers, Lynn Smith, Carlene Riecsc; and Mary Ann St. Arnaud.

JUNE 28TH ISSUE RANKING RESULTS: PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION – PATRICIA MCNEESE

Ms. McNeese provided an update of the April 28th Visioning Workshop, she compiled the meeting results advising that there were 251 comments, 94 concerns, 26 operational concerns, and 68 emerging planning issues. Ms. McNeese also provided a breakdown of each category. Ms. McNeese stated that she was very happy with the results of the workshop and the input from the citizens from the Hernando Beach community.

Mr. Bowers, President of Boat Lift Association stated concerns with the boat lift project. The contractor in charge of the project had identified structure issues. Mr. Bowers felt the structure had originally been built that way. He also noted that the columns are not positioned correctly, which indicates it was built that way and the workmanship was poor. The contractor will have a structural engineer look at the project before proceeding with any work. These issues will delay the project an additional two months. The contractor will contact Craig Becker regarding the matter. Mr. Bowers requested some assistance and would like to meet on site to resolve these issues. Commissioner Rocco noted that Interim Public Works Director Susan Goebel will be notified of the issues and request that a meeting is scheduled with Craig Becker.

Commissioner Rocco advised of issues with the cell tower, and as soon as she obtained more information, she would provide it at next Port Authority meeting. Ms. Stelnicki inquired if the cell tower is going to help in the Pine Island area. Commissioner Rocco indicated that the cell tower should help the entire area in Hernando Beach.

Commissioner Rocco advised the group that there is no further news related to the Hernando Beach Dredge. Any new information will be presented at the next Port Authority meeting. Mr. Hamilton advised of the permit process once received from FDEP. Mr. Hamilton will also meet with Mr. Bower's after the

CHIP meeting and will drive out to the boat lift area to discuss the issues with the project and its needed repairs.

ASSIGNMENTS AND TIMELINES

Mr. Hamilton provided an overview of Ms. McNeese's power point presentation relating to the April 28th CHIP Visioning Workshop. Mr. Hamilton stated that a game plan needs to be prepared to address the noted concerns. Commissioner Rocco added that a lot of the noted issues can be achieved. In the mean time, the county will continue the search for funding in an effort to achieve those goals.

Ms. Stelnicki noted issues with fire hydrants in her area. Mr. Stapf indicated that he is aware of the problem; this issue would probably be added to a conceptual list of projects that may be eligible for ARRA grant funding.

Commissioner Rocco advised the group to allow some time for staff to address all of the issues discussed. Mr. Hamilton stated that the small CHIP group should meet one more time prior to the next CHIP Visioning Workshop. It was determined that the small CHIP group would meet on August 30, 2010, and the next CHIP Visioning Workshop was scheduled for October 18, 2010. In the mean time, staff would have the opportunity to research on preliminary issues relating to the widening of Shoal Line Blvd., bike path, sidewalks, trails, and other issues. Mr. Hamilton agreed with Ms. Baird regarding pursuing different types of available grants and reiterated to SWFWMD staff comments on what we are not able to do due to environmental issues relating to the boardwalk. However, Mr. Hamilton sees those things as obstacles that need to be worked out. Commissioner Rocco indicated that Ms. Barnwell from SWFWMD should be invited to our next CHIP meeting and Mr. Hamilton agreed. Upon creating a draft proposal of achievable projects, then that proposal would be brought before the community through the next visioning workshop. Additionally, staff would have updates to the Hernando Beach Dredge project, possible solutions of wastewater treatment plant odors, construction of cell tower, and a pedestrian and public transportation plan. The noted items would be presented in a draft format demonstrating the public how the community would look with all proposed items implemented and advising them of the constraints that we would have to go through to achieve them. Mr. Hamilton indicated that if staff would pull all of this information together to bring back to the regular CHIP meeting for review, thereafter, provide the final information to the large group at the next CHIP Visioning Workshop. Mr. Hamilton felt that the large group is interested in seeing a product of what has been previously discussed at the visioning workshops.

The Group discussed next visioning workshop dates, location, and time. Commissioner Rocco indicated that she would provide the details of the next CHIP Visioning Workshop at the next Port Authority meeting.

Ms. St. Arnaud stated that she had not been present at other visioning workshops or CHIP meetings and inquired as to the goals and objectives of the CHIP group.

Commissioner Rocco provided her with an overview of the groups efforts and realistic goals. Ms. St. Arnaud noted issues on Calienta Street, and indicated that she would like to see more of seaside look for the Hernando Beach Community and also noted other areas of concern. She would like the community to portray more of a seaside atmosphere to co-inside with Pine Island Beach Park, which at times can be misleading because it is not a beach. Fran Baird provided an update of a program to collect funding for the planting of palm trees.

Rose explained the purpose of the visioning workshop, goals, accomplishments, and safety issues.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting date was scheduled for Monday, August 30, 2010, at the Linda Pedersen Park Community Building at 9:00 am.