WATERFRONT ADVISORY BOARD

Agenda
City Hall Council Chamber
Tuesday, February 5, 2019 5:30 PM

Rocky Rich, Jr., Chair
Michael Engiles
Phillis Rosetti-Mercer

Lora Klein, Vice-Chair
Jim Baumstark
Lynn Marcum

1. Call to Order –
2. Roll Call –
   Present –
   Absent –
3. Pledge of Allegiance –
4. Adoption of Agenda –
5. Approval of Minutes –
6. Presentations –
   a. Joyce Palmer USFWS - update on 3SS
   b. Makenna Lenior – Seahorse presentation
7. Citizen Input – (three (3) minutes) –
8. Unfinished Business –
   a. Rebate program- Board
   b. Maintenance in canals around Three Sisters Springs
9. New Business –
   a. Recommendation of items that can be place in the 25-foot waterfronts setback – Board
   b. 
10. Citizen Input – (three (3) minutes) –
11. Board Member Reports/Comments –
    Jim Baumstark-
    Mike Engiles-
    Lora Klein -
    Lynn Marcum-
    Rocky Rich, Jr. –
    Phillis Rosetti-Mercer-
12. City Council Liaison Comments – Ken Brown
13. Staff Comments –
14. Announcement of Next Meeting – March 4, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
15. Adjournment –
Makenna is a lifelong resident of Citrus County and has grown up experiencing the beauty and uniqueness of this small waterfront community. She was inspired to make an impact on the environment and her community by one of her teachers, who, along with local businesses and community members, helped launch the project. She initially implemented the project as an elementary student and has continued the project through middle and high school.

The Seahorse Project itself consists of research on the diminishing seahorse populations of local waterways and the subsequent fundraising for the creation and posting of educational informational DOT grade signs at Citrus County boat ramps, marinas and waterfront businesses.

In an effort to preserve seahorses and their habitat, the sea grass beds, signs were created to educate the boat going public on proper treatment of seahorses when encountered in the water. The goal of her latest endeavor is to more widely distribute her message by educating people as they visit this community and experience it’s beautiful natural resources.

Project By: Makenna Lenoir
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

NOTICE

DO NOT HANDLE SEAHORSES OR REMOVE THEM FROM THE WATER

PROTECT THEIR HABITAT THE SEAGRASS BEDS

ATTENTION WHILE SCALLOPING YOU MAY ENCOUNTER SEAHORSES. IN OUR AREA THE MOST COMMON SPECIES IS THE LINED SEAHORSE. THEIR POPULATIONS ARE DECLINING!

- Removal of seahorses from the water will cause them to gulp air; these trapped air bubbles will lead to buoyancy problems, resulting in death.
- Handling of seahorses in any way is very stressful to them. Removal from sea grass by net or hand will damage their bony structures, resulting in injury or death.
- While scalloping, stay in a horizontal position, avoid stopping on sea grass. Do not pull on or tear sea grass while scalloping.
- Boat motors can damage sea grass beds. Be aware of motors’ position.
- Seahorses are monogamous (mating for a season or for life). Separating two seahorses will result in decreased breeding and population.
- Seahorses have no teeth or stomachs and must eat constantly to survive.

HELP PRESERVE SEAHORSES!
INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION WAS PROVIDED TO SEAHORSES IN 2004
1. Call to Order – Chair Rich called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. Roll Call –
   Absent – Mike Engiles and Lora Klein.

3. Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Rich led in the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Adoption of Agenda – Board member Baumstark move to adopt the agenda; Board member Rosetti-Mercer seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

5. Approval of Minutes – Board member Rosetti-Mercer moved to approve the Minutes of the November 7, 2018 Waterfronts Board meeting; Chair Rich seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

6. Presentations – Ms. Palmer of the USFWS was unable to provide an update on 3SS due to the federal government shutdown.

7. Citizen Input – (three (3) minutes) – None.

8. Unfinished Business –
   a. Rebate program- Board member Rosetti-Mercer provide the Board with an update on the efforts to implement the toilet rebate and on contact with Chris Saliba of US Water. The communication with Mr. Saliba is ongoing. Board member Rosetti-Mercer suggested that the Board members look at what other counties and cities are doing, and each member bring back a list of what they see they like.

   b. Exotic plants growing in the creek/ditch that boarders Three Sisters Springs Trail and the property- The board discussed the process for removal and to determine the recommended course of action. Board member Rosetti-Mercer reported that the Public Works Director took care of it by sending someone out to the area. Board member Rosetti-Mercer questioned whether the weeds should be pulled by hand or not. Co-liaison Perez provided the board with information as to how the weeds
work and suggested the board members get water test kits to test the area prior to suggesting that public works pull the weeds by hand. Board suggested asking the USFWS volunteers to do a clean-up day with the Waterfronts Board to clean up the canals along Three Sisters. Co-liaison Perez provided the Board with information as the maintenance of the canals in that area. Chair Rich to follow up with SWFWMD.

9. New Business –

a. Consideration and motion to request City Council set a new monthly meeting date for Waterfronts Advisory Board meetings to the first Monday of each month – The Board discussed moving the Board meetings to the 1st Monday of each month permanently for upcoming meetings. The Board discussed 3rd Monday of each month as well. Board member Marcum moved to change the Board meetings to the first Monday of each month; Board member Rosetti-Mercer seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

10. Citizen Input – (three (3) minutes) – Jack Dumas, relayed information that came up at a recent Planning Commission meeting regarding setbacks at waterfront properties. The current setback requirement is 25 feet from the water edge. Mr. Dumas requested that the Waterfronts Board bring ideas for things that could be allowed in the setbacks that would not affect the water. Mr. Dumas stated the Board members could provide input on January 17th Planning Commission workshop/meeting. Board members suggested that Mr. Dumas look at the Florida Outstanding Waterways information.

11. Board Member Reports/Comments –

Jim Baumstark – None.
Mike Engiles – None.
Lora Klein – None.
Lynn Marcum – (Audio of the beginning of Board member Marcum’s comments are inaudible) Board member Marcum relayed information about protecting seahorses and their habitat. Board member Marcum would like to invite Makenna Lenoir to present to the Waterfronts Board. It was suggested the seahorse information should be added to the Scallop brochure.
Rocky Rich, Jr. – Chair Rich asked about county project. Mr. Dumas provided information to Chair Rich.

Phillis Rosetti-Mercer – Board member Rosetti-Mercer provided an update on SWFWMD permits issued in the last 2 months (about 3-5).

12. City Council Liaison Comments – Council member Brown was unable to attend the meeting however Council member Brown communicated to staff his support of Item 9a. Council member Brown also expressed his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting.

13. Staff Comments – None.

14. Announcement of Next Meeting – February 5, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

15. Adjournment – Board member Marcum moved to adjourn; motion was seconded by Board member Baumstark. Motion carried 4-0.

Attest:

______________________________
Rocky Rich, Chair

______________________________
Lisa Morris, Deputy Clerk