

Bonnet Shores Fire District

Bonnet Shores Fire District Special Council Monthly Meeting
Friday, November 29, 2024
8:30 am

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Council Vice Chair Leslie McKnight called the meeting to order at 8:35 am with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were council members Jane Duran, Faith LaSalle, Steve Danuszar, John Chereskin and Tony Girardi. Also in attendance were District Manager Mark Gillooly and Treasurer Laurie McCarthy. Council member Carol O'Donnell and Tax Collector Helen Patience were absent.

Urgent Business

None.

New and Ongoing Business

Appointment of Plaintiff Representative to the new Charter Revision Committee

- J. Duran addressed the need to, at a minimum, address the two vacancies on the committee that resulted from the resignation of Bob Patterson (whose resignation letter is attached to these minutes) and Carolyn DiLeo's loss in the council election, prompting the need for a new chair. J. Chereskin asked if the council was looking at a wholesale change to the committee/commission. F. LaSalle indicated that the old commission should have been disbanded months ago due to its inactivity and addressed the litigation resulting in the consent judgment and the issue of a plaintiff representative. L. McKnight and A. Girardi spoke to the division that resulted from the old commission and the need to resolve that division. S. Danuszar stated that the community needs a diverse charter committee. F. LaSalle **moved**, seconded by J. Duran, to send a letter to the plaintiffs from the lawsuit that resulted in the consent judgment asking each of those plaintiffs of their interest in serving, in the following order, from top to bottom, as their names appear on the letterhead of the Consent Judgment – Mary Burke Patterson, Melissa Jenkins, Valerie Henry, Paula Childs and Carol Stenmark – if she would be interested in serving on the new Charter Revision Committee as the plaintiff representative. The motion was **approved**, 5-1, with J. Chereskin dissenting. The appointment would be made of the first person on the list who accepted by December 13, 2024.

Consideration of other appointments to the Charter Revision Committee

- F. LaSalle **moved**, seconded by L. McKnight, to send the Bonnet Shores Beach Club's president a letter (certified, regular and email) seeking the proposed designation of a member of the Bonnet Shores Beach Club by December 13, 2024, who would be willing to serve on the new Charter Revision Committee if appointed. The motion was **approved** unanimously.

Website RFP

- J. Duran indicated that she had taken on the role of maintaining the website on a temporary basis. She shared the following vendor responses to the RFP: (1) \$31,500.00 to build a new website with a \$7,260.00 yearly maintenance fee, (2) \$25,000.00 to build a new website with a \$6,000.00 yearly maintenance fee and (3) \$13,500.00 to build a new website with a \$2,340.00 yearly maintenance fee. She indicated that the respondents want to rebuild the website with more modern technology, rather than work with the existing one. She volunteered to continue maintaining the website temporarily.

Public Comment

- F. LaSalle indicated that she received a friendly card from a new neighbor.

The following individuals made comments during the business portion of the meeting, but not during the Public Comment portion of the agenda:

- Bob Patterson addressed the creation of the new Charter Revision Committee and stated that the old commission was formed by court order.
- Neal Colman stated that our state representative shared that the prior commission put together a proposal that she described as an embarrassment and stated the Beach Club performs a lot of tasks for the Fire District.
- Christopher Mannix stated that the judge, in August 2024, said who was eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting. He stated that she was not willing to subtract voters from that voter eligibility list.

Adjournment:

J. Chereskin **moved**, seconded by S. Danuszar, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was **approved** unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:52 am.

Respectfully submitted,



/s/Matthew M. Mannix
Bonnet Shores Fire District Clerk

Ratified on December 18, 2024

From: **Robert Patterson** <Mbsec@verizon.net>

Date: Tue, Aug 27, 2024 at 7:29 AM

Subject: Resignation

To: Carolyn DiLeo <carolyn.dileo@gmail.com>, Lloyd Albert <lloydalbert25@gmail.com>

Cc: <council@bonnetshores.org>, Anita Langer <alanger2017@gmail.com>

Carolyn and Lloyd - effective immediately, I resign my membership on the Bonnet Shores Fire District Charter Revision Committee. As I was the required "plaintiff's representative", another plaintiff in the original lawsuit will need to be chosen to replace me.

Thank you very much for your hard work and diligence. As chair and vice-chair you acquitted yourselves well and worked with integrity and dignity, qualities that unfortunately were not universally shared.

Respectfully,

Bob Patterson

Sent from my iPhone