

# INDIAN SHORES

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## GULF BLVD. BEAUTIFICATION PLANTING AD HOC COMMITTEE MINUTES – TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2017

The Gulf Boulevard Beautification Planting Ad Hoc Committee convened at 10:00 A.M. Those present were: Mayor Soranno, Councilor Hackerson, Susan Daddono, Art Newsome, Mark Housman, Tom King, Katrena Hale, Claudia Riva, Nick Menchise, Larry Schear, Jim Ryan, Karl Olander.

Also Present: Bill Jones, Bob Brotherton, Gene Thompson, Jonathan Toner, Rachel Shields, Elaine Jackson, Bonnie Dhonau and Greg Gieseck of Aspect Aerial of Florida,

### ITEM # AGENDA ITEM

#### 1.0 Approval of the Agenda for January 24, 2017.

**Mayor Soranno** requested amending the Agenda to add Items 2.1, Consideration of approving Councilor Mike Hackerson to assume duties of Chairperson and 2.2, Consideration of approving Aspect Aerial of Florida, to provide photos of landscape easement.

**Motion** was made and seconded to approve the Agenda for January 24, 2017, as amended. **Motion carried 12-0.**

#### 2.0 Approval of the Committee Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2016.

**Motion** was made and seconded to approve the Committee Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2016. **Motion carried 12-0.**

#### 2.1 Consideration of approving Councilor Mike Hackerson to assume the duties of Chairperson of the Gulf Blvd. Beautification Committee.

James J. Lawrence  
Mayor

Patrick C. Soranno  
Vice Mayor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli  
Councilor

Diantha Schear  
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith  
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau  
Town Administrator

Terry E. Hughes  
Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam  
Director of Finance  
and Personnel

Elaine N. Jackson, MMC  
Town Clerk

Gregory Yantorno  
Building Official

Regina Kardash, Esq.  
Town Attorney

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**Mayor Soranno** stated he would still be involved, but Councilor Hackerson would take over the day-to-day control.

**Motion** was made and seconded to approve Councilor Mike Hackerson to assume the duties of Chairperson of the Gulf Blvd. Beautification Committee. **Motion carried 12-0.**

**2.2 Consideration of approving Aspect Aerial of Florida, to provide photos of landscape easements.**

**Bob Brotherton** stated he took photos of the easement areas prior to beginning the project, to have a record of the area before the contractor started planting. He stated documentation was very important to protect the Town's liability. He did some research relative to drone photography and contacted Mr. Gieseck to ascertain if we could apply a low-level drone to photograph and certify what exists before plantings are placed and what exists after plantings are completed.

**Jonathan Toner** stated he has completed several other municipal projects, and video or photography was mandatory before starting the projects, for safe keeping and record keeping. This cost can be wrapped into the bidding process.

**Greg Gieseck** explained, while demonstrating with a visual presentation, that his company uses the drone under FAA guidelines, and it can maneuver into difficult positions. It can provide fly-by video inspections, surveys, before and after shots, 360 degree views and 3D mapping, which can be uploaded as an image. It produces high definition, 3D virtual tours, can be shared on other electronic devices, and hosting will be provided for a year. He recommended before and after maps of the project, which will be taken 50 feet above the ground and can create a grid system.

**Councilor Hackerson** stated we could use this for Phase I and then consider it for Phase II, when ready to begin that phase.

Committee members discussed the different ways this could be used as a tool to create interest and promote the project.

**Motion** was made and seconded to approve Aspect Aerial of Florida, to provide before and after photos of landscape easement areas with overlays, for Phase I, at a cost of \$1,500. **Motion carried 12-0.**

**3.0 Review of 1<sup>st</sup> Wave of easements for approval.**

Each team took a great deal of time to review copies of the easements already obtained, to confirm any changes or adjustments that were requested, and check for accuracy.

**4.0 Update on the signs project schedule and planting schedule.**

**Council Hackerson** gave an overview of the progress of the sign project, stating they were being set in, and the Nature Park sign has been framed in.

**Jonathan Toner** reported he expected to receive comments back from FDOT that will be incorporated into the plans.

**5.0 Volunteers for St. Patrick's Day booth.**

**Councilor Hackerson** stated he would like a booth set up for the St. Patrick's Day Festival on March 18<sup>th</sup>, which will be shared with the Arts Council, where questions about both projects could be answered. If anyone is interested in manning the booth, please see him after the meeting.

**6.0 Discussion of 1<sup>st</sup> wave timeline and implementation duties.**

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**Councilor Hackerson** reviewed the expected timeline for plan approvals, bid documents submitted, bid opening and Council approval of contract. He expected a contractor to be chosen in April and the project to start in May or June.

**Councilor Hackerson** asked if any of the team members will be gone at that time to please let him know, as he will be looking for their help as each planting is done, and looking for issues to be resolved. He stated he expected some complaints, thus the Master plan must be as accurate as possible. As things come up, the teams are now equipped with the timeline for Phase I and able to answer inquiries.

**Mayor Soranno** stated FDOT has significant hoops to jump through, due to the \$390,000 grant for the project, and this has put us slightly behind schedule.

Committee members reported seeing highway workers drilling holes in Gulf Blvd, and discussed the drainage problem and whether it would interfere with the planting.

**Mayor Soranno** reported FDOT is in the final stages of design, recommending 80% storm drains and 20% French drains, only in the pervious asphalt in the bike paths and walkways. The contract is scheduled to be let out January 2018 and will be running concurrently with the planting project. Gulf Blvd. will not be repaved.

**Bonnie Dhonau** stated originally only 150 holes were to be drilled, but now it is up to 400. It is a \$3 million project.

**Bob Brotherton** reported they have still not addressed painting the sidewalks red, to help protect the public, and it is a safety issue.

**Jonathan Toner** stated FDOT approved the installation of two new crosswalks: one at the Civitan Club at 186<sup>th</sup> beach access and one at Waterside at 199<sup>th</sup> beach access, without requiring a pedestrian count.

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However, the Town will have to pay for the engineering study and the construction of the flashing walkways, which could run \$75-100,000. Both will require medians, curb cuts and pedestrian safety zones.

**Councilor Hackerson** stated there are 53 beach renourishment easements needed and a certain percentage of them need to be obtained before the funding will be approved for renourishment in Indian Shores. Teams will be working from south to north to obtain them.

**7.0 Adjourn**

The Committee meeting adjourned at 11:25 A.M.



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Elaine Jackson, MMC  
Town Clerk