



Minutes of Council Meeting May 7, 2010

Call to Order

On, May 7, 2010, the meeting of the Lehigh Acres Community Council was called to order at Living Waters Christian Fellowship Church, 500 N. Sunshine Blvd. Lehigh Acres, Florida 33971, at 6:45 PM by President Damon Shelor, presiding. , Second VP, Larry Gutridge gave the invocation. Barbara Kirby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

President Shelor announced that a quorum was present. Members present included Ahmed El-Gendy, Damon Shelor, Diane Champion, Edd Weiner, George Szymanski, Mohamed Yasin, William Nottling, Jere Carrick, Tami Baker, Karen Makowski, Dendle Miller, Bill Martin, Mike Anderson, Colleen for Parks and Rec, Larry Gutridge, Barb Kirby, Ron Gogoi, Beth Love, Donald Poidevin, Alston Dias, Carlo Lane, Robert Saul, and Ron Gogoi. Rick Anglickis joined the meeting in progress.

Members excused included Willard Baker, Orville Hall, Gary Warchol, Patrick Dawson, Linda Carter, Pamela Kaye, Blair Stitt, Keith Freeman, and Mike Bonacolta.

Members absent were Michael Cook, Ralph Hemmingway, Jose Morillo, Carl Moore, Jeff Spiro, Keith Butler, Rose Oliverio, and Stanley Stine.

Guests included Frank Mann, Dist 5 County Commissioner.

The proposed agenda was approved on a motion by Edd Weiner, seconded by Mike Anderson. The motion passed.

Citizen Comments

President Shelor asked for any Citizen comments on the agenda items. There were none.

Guest Speaker

Tonight's scheduled speaker, Paul O'Conner, Director of Planning for Lee County is ill and will be rescheduled.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 19 meeting were reviewed. Edd Weiner made a motion to accept the minutes. Tami Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Makowski reviewed the April 30 report. Our account has a balance of \$932.95 on 4/30/2010. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Edd Weiner, seconded by Ahmed El-Gendy. The motion passed.

Each council member was asked to become a Friend of the Council and find 4 other 2010 Friends of the

Council sponsors by next month. The Treasurer will keep track and a prize will be presented for the Council Member who raises the most in sponsorships.

Presidents Comments

President Shelor's comments included

- Willard Baker's condition continues to be critical. He has been transferred to Tampa Hospital which specializes in Pancreatic medicine. He is still in ICU and will be for some time. Prayers for the family were requested.
- Damon has resigned from the Weed and Seed steering committee and the LCAPC due to other personal commitments. He still supports both community efforts.
- At the Executive Board meeting, Politics in the Park was discussed. We are set for October 16 at Veteran's Park (with shade over the patio and the community room). A possible event before the primary was discussed but venue is an issue as the park is busy with summer camp until August 13. A venue is being sought for August 7 or 14th.

Committee Comments

LACPC- Wiener reported that the legal notice for the Lehigh Comp Plan has been published. LACPA has 14 members working on ideas to include in Chapter 32 and 33 of the Lee County Code. Kathy Ebaugh, Lee County Planner is working with the LACPA.

Code Enforcement- Mike Anderson reported for the period 4/1-4/30/2010:
1105 total cases opened (89 in zone 9 Weed and Seed, 124 in Westminster)
858 self initiated cases (78%)
388 cases closed
2752 total inspections
541 signs removed from the right of way
11 Graffiti cases (10 abated)

Beautification Committee- George Syzmanski reported on the April 24 clean up which was the largest to date. 192 people participated in collecting 4.23 tons of trash. Damon and Debra Sebastian were instrumental in getting 168 additional volunteers under the Disney Day of Service program. Thanks were expressed. Year to date, 534 volunteers have collected 14.47 tons of trash. George is speaking at the Chamber luncheon on this effort in June, then to the Westminster Community. Other venues are sought. Contact George if you have a group interested.

Roads and Transportation- No report per Ron Digogi. The work on Sunshine Blvd. was discussed as it has blocked off the church we are in.

Council Sponsored Events- Tami Baker is working on Politics in the Park. Each event costs us about \$1200 hence the need to recruit Friends of the Council or sponsors.

Election and Bylaws- Beth Love reported no activity.

Publicity- Makowski reminded members that she needs three weeks lead time to get anything in the papers. TV coverage will be sought for Politics in the Park. Speakers scheduled for June will be on Amendment 4. If a bio is available in time, a press release will be done. Ditto for Paul O'Connor and Kathy Ebaugh when they are scheduled.

Unfinished Business

1. Committee assignments – committee chairs are getting their own members
2. Council Roster: resignations were accepted from Pamela Kaye and Jose Morillo with our thanks.

3. Larry Gutridge reported that the new version of Weed and Seed will encompass all of Lehigh. There are 21 new neighborhood watches that have been formed as a result of this effort plus 3 business watches. The Sheriff's Office has been busy as crime has risen in the district:
 - a. 124 crimes in February
 - b. 174 crimes in March
 - c. 199 crimes in April (119 were residential burglaries, mostly in isolated areas.)

Weed and Seed Program funding has been moved to HUD and expanded the funds available (almost double) from the Feds.

4. Dendle Miller reported that over \$1000 was raised for Relay for Life.

1. **New Business** Beth Stacy HUD Housing was discussed.
2. Hardee's property was sold to a Chinese buffet.
3. Beall's is closing the main store and expanding the outlet. Save-a-Lot will open a supermarket in the old Bealls Outlet space.
4. July 4th Fireworks were discussed. Jere Carrick is trying to raise the \$5000 to have fireworks in Lehigh on July 3. See him if you have candidates who could help sponsor this community service. American Legion, VFW, and Rotary are possible supporters.
5. There will be a Memorial Day celebration at Lee Memorial Park starting at 10 am. All invited.

Citizen Comments

Commissioner Mann – spoke on Gov. Christ making a temp appointment to serve for 6 months till the November election. The vacancy is not affecting the work of the County Commissioners.

Board Comments

Bill Martin mentioned the Guardian Angels are coming to Lehigh.

Barbara Kirby noted that Mike Herbert, a Boy Scout was in attendance tonight and provided our flag. He is working on his Eagle Scout badges.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at Respectfully submitted:

Karen Makowski, Treasurer for Linda Carter, Secretary.