

**Laffites Cove at Pirates Beach Nature Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 13, 2012**

The Laffites Cove at Pirates Beach Nature Society (LCNS) held a Board of Directors meeting on October 13, 2012 at the Galveston Country Club. Jim Murphy, Vice President called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. Directors present were Jim Murphy, Jim Walters, Bonnie White, Brenda Dawson, Scott Weaver, Phil Glass, and Mort Voller.

Jim Murphy welcomed new Board members Bonnie White and Brenda Dawson.

The Board reviewed the minutes. Upon motion duly made by Jim Murphy and seconded by Bonnie White, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approved the September 22, 2012 minutes as amended.

Susan Gonzales gave the financial and collection report. . Upon motion duly made by Jim Murphy and seconded by Bonnie White, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board accepted the financial report.

Discussion was held on the election of the slate of officers. Upon motion duly made by Bonnie White and seconded by Brenda Dawson, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approved the Jim Murphy to hold the office of President.

Discussion was held on the election of the slate of officers. Upon motion duly made by Scott Weaver and seconded by Jim Walters, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approved the Mort Voller to hold the office of Vice President.

Discussion was held on the election of the slate of officers. Upon motion duly made by Brenda Dawson and seconded by Jim Murphy, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approved the Bonnie White to hold the office of Treasurer.

Jim Walters will continue as Secretary. Since the Board approved the Slate of Officers, the bank signatures will be Jim Murphy as President, Bonnie White as Treasurer and Susan Gonzales as Managing Agent.

Mort Voller gave a Preserve Maintenance Management report. The drip is working, and we are trying to do the year-end work. The Chinaberry's were removed, this fall we will do more with the Student Conservation Team. Mort is working one on one with the contractors. We will continue to work on the Chinaberry's and the Chinese Tallow's and other invasive plants. This has been a good birding year as we have been getting a lot of different species.

We still are having a problem with youngsters going through the nature preserve on bikes, which is not allowed. We have no dumping signs, but landscape companies are using the nature preserve as a dumping ground for their plant/grass debris. Mort stated the rotted or broken ropes have been repaired.

Scott Weaver gave the Canal related Maintenance/Management report – There are five (5) buoys that need to be replaced. We need to find a contractor. Susan Gonzales stated that the Pirates POA is doing the dredge project and will be replacing buoys and channel markers. Susan stated that at the meeting this morning the Pirates POA confirmed that Laffites Cove would be included in the replacement of the buoys and channel markers for Eckert Bayou.

New business: Bonnie White stated that the Board discussed the marsh project. The Board will not proceed with the Marsh Project as previously proposed. The Board will research marsh grass and what we might do to enhance water quality and to comply with the Corp. permit. The Board will also research whether marsh grass can be maintained on the canal system.

On the Laffites Cove Nature Society authority issues the Board will approach the Pirates POA Board and the Pirates POA ARC to resume communication and to come up with a reasonable compromise to limit lawsuits. The goal is for a workable compromise.

A property owner raised the question of mediation. The board felt that rather than expend money for an outside mediator or attorney that the issues can be resolved internally.

The Board recognized the importance of communication and the use of emailing property owners. It is important that property owners register on the shared website of Pirates POA ([www.piratespoa.com](http://www.piratespoa.com)), since owners can be emailed from that website. Owners who own property in either or both Laffites Cove, Pirates Cove and Pirates Beach should have family split the registration so that they receive email news from all.

The Board asked that when the statements are mailed that an additional form be sent requesting permission to send out email information and updates. Susan will prepare a form to be used.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m. Susan Gonzales, Recording Secretary