

**Laffites Cove at Pirates Beach Nature Society
Board of Directors Meeting
December 2, 2012**

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

The Board reviewed the minutes. 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 October 13, 2012 minutes as amended. The July 27, 2012 minutes have not been posted, and Jim Walters will resend to Susan Gonzales and Mort Voller for posting on website.

Bonnie White gave the financial report which included the 2013 budget. Brenda Dawson clarified the funding for the Marsh Shelf budgeted amount as a “placeholder”, and Bonnie reviewed changes from the 2012 budget with the board and the attendees (members of the community). Minor changes were noted, discussed and acknowledged by board members. Concerns were expressed about the size of the reserve fund in the event of a major storm and limitation of legal expenses for 2013. Upon motion duly made by Jim Walters and seconded by Mort Voller, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

RESOLVED THAT, the Board accepted the financial report and 2013 budget.

Mort Voller gave a Preserve Maintenance Management report. Volunteer teams worked on November 17th and 18th on general clearing up and the removal of the Chinaberry’s, Chinese Tallow’s and other invasive plants. This will continue as a problem due to lack of shading from the oak trees destroyed during the Ike storm surge, and maintenance on a “hired labor basis” will be required on a regular basis.

Mort reported on the condition of the Wern Family cemetery on Windlass. Work party redid cornerstones, gravestones and graveyard. It has been accepted as an historical cemetery, and work is proceeding on an official marker.

New plantings in the preserve, particularly indigenous trees, will require an irrigation system.

Scott Weaver gave the Canal related Maintenance/Management report – There are several buoys at the entrance to the canals that need to be replaced. We still need to find a contractor.

Old business:

Discussion of meeting notification procedure was led by Bonnie White. Input from the assembled homeowners indicated that numerous individuals had not received the meeting announcement. Frustration over the inefficiency of the email/ mailing system and the linking of the PPOA and LCNS sites was expressed, and why current email addresses weren’t available.

Bonnie White, with Brenda Dawson assisting, will review the current email listing system, communication systems, website management and consolidation of PPOA and LCNS websites with Susan and report their findings at the January meeting.

New business:

Discussion was held on requirement for notification of meeting notices to homeowners and need to meet every month. Upon motion duly made by Bonnie White and seconded by Brenda Dawson, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

RESOLVED THAT, the standing date for LCNS board meetings going forward will be the 2nd Saturday of each odd month starting on January 12, 2013.

Discussion without motions: Jim Murphy asked Mort his views of the path forward with the MGP as Mort is our best source as to the history and development of the marsh grass shelf. Mort discussed several ideas and practical scenarios, relating back to the ACOE permitting process, marsh grass shelf and the 20 ft. setback. Input was solicited from the attendees (members of the community), and several contributed their opinions and insight. Phil Glass and Scott Weaver as Scientific Directors expressed their long held opinions on the rehab/redevelopment of the marsh grass shelf. Particular attention was focused on the original design of the shelf and subsequent “slumping” that has occurred since its inception, making it impractical to grow “intertidal” grass in that environment. Objections were raised by attendees as to the appearance, cost and long term practicality of artificial retaining walls, where backfill and new grass plantings would temporarily restore the marsh grass shelf. Numerous points were raised, almost all against going forward with any aspect of the MGP in the immediate future. Discussion followed in detail with the board acknowledging it will not proceed with the MGP as previously proposed but will reconsider all issues surrounding before proceeding. Consensus of the community will be reached in determining direction on this issue. Opinions were expressed from the board to put off further decisions relating to the MGP until the Annual Meeting in March, at which time several new board members may be elected.

Bonnie White discussed the recent action by PPOA to appoint Doug Little and Ron Perrow as point contacts for discussion with LCNS on issues that have been troublesome to both sides in the past, such as preapproval to boat docks modifications, jet ski lift locations/etc. and LCNS participation in the ARC process. Bonnie White and Jim Murphy agreed to represent LCNS in the informal discussions to fully understand perceived differences and strive for a reasonable compromise/agreement to limit lawsuits.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Jim Walters, Secretary