



PKA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

FEB 25, 2017 – 10:00 AM to Noon – Eden Condominium

The Perdido Key Association (PKA) held its 2017 Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, February 25, 2017, beginning at 10 AM at the Eden Condominium on Perdido Key, Florida. Approximately 35 people were in attendance; 76 proxies had been received prior to the meeting.

President Charles Krupnick welcomed PKA members and introduced special guests Escambia County District 2 Commissioner Douglas Underhill and Escambia County Sea Grant Extension Agent Rick O'Connor. Mr. O'Connor said a few words about Sea Grant and introduced CIG, a sea turtle model displayed in the meeting room and made from discarded cigarette butts collected on Casino Beach, Pensacola Beach.

Alan Dennis gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Charles Krupnick covered the selection of PKA Directors for 2017. There were five vacancies and four candidates, so an election was not required. The 2017 Board of Directors will have eight members: Mae Dean, Alan Dennis, Charles Krupnick, Kelly Robertson, Joe Stone, Fran Thompson, Lee Walthall, and Marsha Young; Sarah De Lazzer is the PKA Administrator. He also gave the membership report, noting that membership had grown from 402 to 480 in 2016, in part from a dedicated membership campaign that included a mail-out and more assertive membership appeal in the PKA website.

Marsh Young gave the Secretary's report: a motion was made and seconded to accept the PKA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes from March 5, 2016 as distributed; motion carried. Marsha also reported on the PKA website and Key Notes initiatives.

Lee Walthall gave the Treasurer's report, discussing the 2016 Financial Report and 2017 Budget; a motion was made and seconded to accept the 2016 Financial Report as distributed; motion carried.

Alan Dennis followed with a short reflection on the 2015 Property Owners Survey, a PKA endeavor that seemed useful in influencing decisions on Perdido Key's future, such as the Master Plan and Multi-Use Path.

Featured speaker Superintendent Daniel Brown of the Gulf Islands National Seashore spoke about the challenges facing the Park Service and the National Seashore. A current hiring freeze and the likelihood of budget cuts, for example, may put a further strain on services. He also discussed recent issues at the Perdido Key Area of the National Seashore,

such as banning back-county camping because of trash left behind, inappropriate behavior, and other violations of Park rules and regulations. In addition, he discussed changes coming to the current practice of parking along Johnson Beach Road which, because of sand migration, can become a safety hazard. Roadside parking will be replaced in the coming years with dedicated parking lots and higher dune crossovers. Regarding beach erosion, Superintendent Brown discussed the Army Corps of Engineers practice of dumping sand dredged from Pensacola Harbor into areas of the Gulf beyond where the sand could assist in beach renourishment for Perdido Key. While placing it closer to the Perdido Key Area of the Gulf Islands National Seashore was tried at one time, it was more expensive to accomplish than dumping the sand at sea and the Corps of Engineers have been under congressional mandate to minimize expenses.

Commissioner Underhill and members of the audience engaged in further discussions on this topic since dumping sand from dredging has been offered as one the alternatives to beach renourishment for Perdido Key's critically eroded beaches – the other being dune renourishment. Commissioner Underhill indicated that he was working to ensure the sand from dredging will be dumped where it would do the most good.

Superintendent Brown's presentation provided an excellent and alternative perspective on the issues facing beach communities like Perdido Key and was much appreciated.

Commissioner Underhill addressed additional topics regarding Perdido Key, such as the status of the Perdido Key helipad upgrade and Perdido Key Drive resurfacing project.

PKA Board members went on to discuss additional issues. Mae Dean noted the substantial amount of construction taking place on Perdido Key and covered the current status of the Perdido Key Master Plan and Multi-Use Path. Charles Krupnick went over issues such as the dune renourishment project and sea turtle friendly lighting. He also discussed PKA-sponsored activities in 2016 such as the membership drive, participation in International Beach Cleanup Day, Adopt-A-Highway cleanups of Rt. 98, PKA charitable contribution to Camp Happy Sands on Johnson Beach, PKA phone wallets and vehicle decals, and plans for a World Oceans Day event in June 2017. In addition, he covered undergrounding utilities on Perdido Key, including asking those in the audience to complete a short survey to sample property owner willingness to fund undergrounding utilities in whole or in part through a Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU).

Following closing comments by Charles Krupnick, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting; motion carried and the meeting ended at Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Young, PKA Association Secretary