

MINUTES NBCA Annual Meeting

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Las Brisas condos

Call to order - President Ron Graban calls meeting to order at 6:06 PM - pledge of allegiance

Board members present - Ron Graban President, Dolores Vela Vice President, Carrie Meyer Secretary, Michael Kennedy Treasurer, Bob Catalano Director

Membership - Ron explains that the five North Beach HOAs each buy Annual Group Membership at \$250/year and individuals (not in those HOAs) can buy \$20 memberships

Treasurer's Report - Michael: \$9,200 (\$1726 Dolphin Park, \$2078 general, ~\$500 fund) - approved

Minutes - Patricia Gattis makes motion, Barbara Johnson 2nds – approved

Board Elections – All members present write 2 names on piece of paper; Dolores tallies up results:

1. **Manny Portillo (Board Member)** – Former California police officer, retired here, lives at The Breakers condo, loves living here, been involved in a lot of organizations
2. **Tracy Jackson (Board Member)** – from New York, lives at Villa del Sol, works at Good Time Rentals near Fajitaville, which rents jet skis on the beach.
3. **Denise Scott (Alternate Board Member)** – Lives at Las Brisas, is a landscaper, flips homes, likes to make things pretty, if you have 2 willing people, she will serve on the new Advisory Committee.

2023 Priorities for Improvements

Members look over the new Priorities draft that the Board has prepared and is printed on the back of the agenda.

Joseph Horn suggests moving #4 “the Committee” to the #1 spot since having the committee would help us achieve all the other goals.

Gordon makes motion, Bob seconds – Priorities approved with that change.

TIRZ Board - Carrie applying for opening

Eco Park - Carrie met with city staff on Zoom call today. City is putting out an RFQ for a design contractor. Hope to have a shovel ready project. No funding yet for construction.

Tracy suggests forming a **Fundraising Committee** – so we can have some money and hold Events.

Events - Michele Spinelli suggests holding a flea market at the North Beach History Plaza.

Future Meetings: Bob says: Invite your neighbors. We need help and support.

SPECIAL GUEST: Newly elected District 1 City Councilman Everett Roy arrives 6:50 PM

Councilman Everett Roy says he served on Council 2018-2020 but didn't run in Nov 2020 because he was busy with giving loans at the bank, plus he had Covid concerns due to respiratory issues from being a military vet in Iraq. But over the past 2 years he kept getting calls from people who weren't getting a response from their current District 1 member [Billy Lerma]. Everett beat Billy by 50 votes in the December Runoff election.

DRAINAGE - He has briefly looked over the North Beach drainage plan and is reviewing it.

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ #4) - He initiated the TIRZ in 2018. He also got police involved on North Beach and got Parks to lock the bathhouses at night.

The city can sometimes move bond money around but can't use the North Beach TIRZ money in other parts of the city. As it builds, there are certain things we can do. He has talked to the Mayor. North Beach has the Mayor's full backing to ensure North Beach will grow. It's nice to have the Mayor's support. Very important.

Lynn Frazier asks why doesn't the city insist that people who own property over here keep it looking good?

Everett's Response: We have to fix **Code Enforcement** and Animal Control. We need to hold property owners accountable.

Gordon Awsumb mentioned that our #1 Priority is to form an **Official Committee**.

Everett's Response: "We have to do it at the right time. And there are steps to that. It takes some time. I think we can do that with time. I sat down with the City Attorney and City Manager about it. But it will take some time. If that's your first priority, we can start working on it. I'll get the direction to see what we need to do. We have to do a resolution, have public comment, make sure we've covered everything legally, then come to council twice. Doesn't mean we don't want to do it. And it was my suggestion in the first place. I started working on the groundwork when I was in office before. I'm glad to pick that ball up again and make it roll."

Michael Kennedy brings up **Desal plant concerns** 1) brine/waste where it goes 2) effect on wildlife – you need to pipe that brine 10 miles out into the Gulf. What's the status on that?

Everett's Response: First of all, there's already a desal plant in the inner harbor. CC Polymers [although that plant is not in operation and never has been]. City wants to put a 30 mgd (million gallons per day) desal plant in the Inner Harbor. TCEQ gives permits for intake and discharge. "The last thing we want to do is harm the environment." We're also looking at the La Quinta Channel. The Port is looking at Harbor Island near Port A. "I won't vote on something that will harm the environment." They talk about how they disperse that [brine]. I believe we need a sustainable water source. I've looked at the Angelina Aquifer and the cost is not affordable. Mary Rhodes Pipeline is operating at 50% because we would have breaks in the pipes because they can't withstand the pressure.

Dan Blessing (VDS resident): there may be a positive use for the brine (waste product from desal). Lithium is extracted from brine.

Patrick Halms (The Harbors HOA) – How can we get sidewalks?

Everett's Response - "I understand your concern. We need sidewalks throughout the city. And we need to do a better job of telling TxDOT what we need."

Bob Catalano – We want to make the city understand that they *should* have priorities for North Beach. This beach should have priority because this is where all the people are coming.

Everett's Response: As we get to that sophisticated reality, that collective body has to set priorities and not let up off the gas. You have the 2 biggest attractions. We gotta work on it. And you can hold me accountable.