

## Minutes from February 17, 2022 NBCA Meeting

**Board members present:** Pres Barbara Welder,, Treas Michael Kennedy, Sec Carrie Meyer, Dolores Vela, Debra Pope (Absent: VP Ron Graban, Bob Catalano)

**Members:** About 35 people present

**Location:** The Breakers Lanai Room

**Meeting Called To Order** - 5:30 PM - Barbara leads pledge, introduces board and officers

**Minutes Nov 2021** - Carrie presents copies of printed minutes; Linda Reinhart makes motion to approve; Sami Cameron seconds

**Treasurer's Report** - Michael reports balance of \$8.601 (\$5,022 for benches for History Plaza, \$2,000 for Dolphin Park, with \$1,379 balance)

### New Business

**Fundraiser** - Barbara explains that its purpose is to raise money for North Beach efforts. One Reason for raising money is to install more benches on the Beachwalk. Timeframe is October or early next spring.

### Past Fundraisers:

Sami Cameron recalled the "Bring Back the Boardwalk" fundraiser event held by our association in the 1990s where they asked businesses and the board to donate things to sell. Historically, there was a wooden boardwalk on the beach here during the "Hey Days" of North Beach (1920s-1950s). That boardwalk was removed sometime after the 1950s. In the 1980s and 1990s, many people started to retire here and wanted to walk for exercise, but it was difficult to walk on the sandy beach. So our association (called CCBA at that time) held the "Bring Back the Boardwalk" event to raise money and interest. As a result of CCBA's efforts, the "Corpus Christi Beachwalk," was built in three phases between 2004 and 2012 (paid for through municipal bonds).

Carrie recalls that NBCA held a "Beach Sale" in 2010 where people set up tables where they could sell new or used items in the parking lot near Blackbeard's. Each vendor paid a fee and that money went to NBCA. It was a lot of effort with little financial return.

### Future Fundraiser Ideas:

Rummage Sale recommended by George Gonzales who owns Electric Cobra Tattoo shop.

Raffle at each meeting recommended by Lel Abella-Arandela. NBCA treasurer would sell raffle tickets for \$5 at the start of the meeting. We do a drawing at the end of the meeting; the winner gets half of the proceeds and NBCA gets the other half.

Go Fund Me crowdfunding online campaign - idea suggested by Dennis Patel

Ballroom Dance idea suggested by Britt Murray. Hold a dance off "Corpus Has Talent" partnering with the Lex, TSA or Radisson.

**Mayor Paulette Guajardo** arrives

She reports that the city has spent about \$12 million on North Beach since 2012 (\$2 million for Surfside Park Bond 2020, \$3 million in gas line replacements, Bond 2012 \$800,000 in street improvements, etc).

**Bond 2018 Street Funding** - In Nov 2018, CC voters approved 3 street projects for North Beach: rebuild Beach Avenue, rebuild Gulfstream Ave, and build a Primary Access Road coming off the new bridge. When the City Manager Peter Zanoni recently told City Council that the city was going to reallocate that bond funding for other uses, that raised concerns for NBCA members who had worked to get those projects on the ballot and approved. When asked about those, the Mayor said: "We'll continue on with the plans that have been decided on."

**North Beach Drainage RFI** (Request for Information) - Mayor: "The RFI went out and had only one respondent. What we're looking at is: How do we make this move forward now?"

Gulfstream Ave potholes (question) - We have a 6-month backlog on pothole repair. The city has spent \$1.4 million on private contractors to catch up citywide. Now the wait is down to 24 days.

Barbara Welder asks the Mayor: **Which drainage plan are you in favor of?**

Paulette - "The amount that Council approved (in Dec 2019) was \$41.2 million. We want something that will add to North Beach and address the drainage."

**Billy Lerma, City Councilman District 1** - "We've already made the decision to use \$5 million (in federal CARES Act) funding for more design and engineering for the canal. We still have to work out some serious details. We are hoping for an answer (to the RFI from Frazier/Blackard) within 3 or 4 months.

**Dolores Vela** (to the Mayor) - Of the three drainage options (from the LAN Phase II plan), which one was voted on?

**Jeff Edmonds** (Director of Engineering Services) - "When Council voted to undertake this \$41 million project, they never identified the funding. We were given LAN option 1, 2 and 3, but not where the money is coming from."

**Carrie** - but in any drainage plan, elevating land would be a part of it, right?

**Jeff** - "You could target certain areas to raise."

**Billy** - "When we do build a canal, let's build it into the Ship Channel and get the Port to do it."

**Billy** - "Gulfstream (Ave) - we need to address that."

Mayor has to go to another meeting, so President Barbara Welder adjourns the meeting at 6:30.

Before she leaves, the Mayor is interviewed by Kiii TV Reporter and is shown in the video saying this: "We've made some very important decisions in the past few years regarding the drainage on North Beach and we need to really continue to move those forward."

**SOCIAL HOUR** - 6:30 PM - NBCA provides tamales and beans; members bring side dish.