

NBCA Annual Meeting
Jan 16, 2025
Las Brisas condos

Ron calls meeting to order at 6:07 PM

Board Members Present: Ron Graban, Carrie Meyer, Michael Kennedy, Tracy Jackson, Bob Catalano, Lynn Frazier, Barb Johnson, Ariana Jones.

Not Present: Dolores Vela (out of town) and Manny Portillo (in hospital).

Ron: North Beach is on the move. Things are happening. The pioneers before me have taken a sadistic beating at times, but they're still here and we're moving forward.

Treasure's Report – Michael Kennedy reads it. Motion to approve made by Barb Johnson, second by Lel. Motion passes

TIRZ Community Rep – Ron: I am humbled and honored by everyone's support who came to Council on 1/14 (when he was appointed to the Comm Rep position). He mentions the KRIS TV story about it. There's no way to speak on behalf of the community when you don't know the community. I have a house here and have boots on the ground. When you have a horse in the race, that gives you a big incentive to make things better. We will take NBCA's Priorities to City Council and to the TIRZ Board.

Board of Directors - Ron asks the membership to reappoint the 2024 Board (all the names are listed in the agenda packet) to continue to serve in 2025. Tracy Jackson requests to be Vice President. Ron explains that the Board chooses its officers so we'll elect officers at the next Board meeting. Shelly Krumkow makes the motion to reappoint all Board members, Ben Grande seconds. Motion passes.

President's Report – Ron talks about NB history and the time he has spent working as NBCA President. We now have a voice in city government. The linear canal construction will begin this year to help resolve flooding and 2 major access roads will be elevated and rebuilt (Beach Ave and Gulf Spray). At the north end the city will create a well-groomed Eco Park, connecting the Harbors/Lighthouse with Dolphin Park and the Beachwalk. Ariana Jones is a new board member and represents The Harbors on NBCA's Board. She's also helping with refreshments and events. Councilman Everett Roy has been working with Code Enforcement to improve the look of the neighborhood. The beach looks better than it ever has, because of relationships we have been able to cultivate. Let's enjoy the progress.

Priorities for 2025 – The board has come up with a draft plan of NBCA's 2025 Priorities (included in the agenda packet). Ron goes over each of the 6 priorities on the list.

Shelley Krumkow asks: Can we fix the broken section of Beachwalk near Surfside Park? Ron: We will remind Parks about that. Barb Johnson said she fell on the Beachwalk. Anne Mahaffey: We need an offshore Breakwater to help prevent the Beachwalk from getting damaged like that when the tide gets high. Shelley: We can't wait for a Breakwater. Lynn Frazier: The Ed Rachel Foundation wants to see the Breakwater built and has done some engineering. Bob Catalano: We live right by the broken part of the Beachwalk and we see people having a hard time walking where the concrete is crooked, esp when it gets dark. There is also still rebar sticking up near the water's edge and lots of riprap near there. Rick Racinskaskas suggests planting palm trees along the beach. Carrie said the city planted them in 2011 but when the tide got high the standing saltwater killed them. So palms do well on higher ground, just not on the beach. Marian Elder said we need benches on the Beachwalk. Carrie will add all those ideas to the Priorities list. Michael Kennedy makes a motion to approve, Pete Meyer seconds it. Motion passes.

Rick Racinskaskas (The Breakers) asks if NBCA can post City Council meetings that we should go to on NBCA's website. Carrie sends out email notifications, but she can do that too. Also follow NBCA's Facebook page.

Pat Frederick (VDS) suggests that Del Mar Architecture Dept students might want to help design the History Plaza sign. Carrie said she'd like to look into that.

Speaker: District 1 City Councilman Everett Roy.

Everett Roy – talks about how he was instrumental in getting the TIRZ established. The TIRZ allows you to have funds that you can use for your community. Downtown has a TIRZ too. They have someone who manages the Downtown Management District and they have a Board. North Beach is just as unique as downtown in its need to grow. You don't want to grow the wrong way, so it needs to be planned according to what the community wants. It's so important to have those groups and put them together. I can feel good saying that we can finish the History Plaza – something we should do right away. The TIRZ can fund improved security and beautification. Downtown is using its TIRZ to revamp hotels and hire a Clean Team. If you ever have a NB Management District ...

As a community you are ahead of a lot of neighbors. Nobody wants to take the time to organize and meet. I'm glad we have Ron as a TIRZ rep. We'll get the broken Beachwalk fixed. The breakwater will require a collective group, but it's also necessary. We now have a Grading Plan for NB that LAN created, so property owners can see how high their land is now and how much it should be raised with dirt to drain well. For those who want to add dirt to their lots, the city is paying for the soil testing. We have work to do, keep our foot on the gas pedal. I was glad to be part of the Lighthouse project.

Lynn Frazier (The Harbors) talks about the recurring flooding under the TxDOT underpass on the north end. Occupancy at Lighthouse Pointe was 92%. Now it's down to 72%. We need TxDOT to change the frontage road to make it 2-way all the time.

Everett: When the bridge is done, the city will control some of the streets again. Once that new bridge is complete, we'll get an accurate count on response times to NB which will help us know if we need a fire substation here.

Assistant City Manager Sony Peronel and his assistant Ross are here.

Sony: City Manager Peter Zanoni is in Austin talking to the state reps about the drought and city water situation, so he couldn't make it to this meeting but wanted to be here.

Meeting Adjourned

Social Hour follows with a sandwich tray provided by NBCA (thanks to Ariana Jones).