



The Sanibel Island Fishing Club announced in its February 11th meeting a call to action to SAVE THE SANIBEL FISHING PIER and engaged several speakers to lead a discussion on ensuring that everything will be done to save the Pier.

The fishing Pier near Sanibel Lighthouse is tucked around on the north facing tip of Point Ybel. The Pier has been a huge tourist attraction and is the only easy place for a person who has difficulty walking to get out over the water to enjoy the spectacular views and to fish. We were thrilled and humbled by the sheer number of anglers and residents of Lee county and Sanibel who attended to discuss plans for the restoration of this historic Sanibel landmark and to ensure that it remains a wonderful destination for all visitors in Lee County and Sanibel in the future.

The City of Sanibel is looking at all of their options with respect to the fishing Pier, whether it is to tear it down, repair, or to completely rebuild it. The City feels they can eventually get a FEMA grant to repair the Pier, but right now they feel that it's a potential liability and that they only have the funds to tear it down. HOWEVER, they are open to a public/City initiative to fund the Pier's rebuilding and that is what we will be working on for the next few months, together with the City, to develop a grassroots initiative to save the Pier!

Currently our Pier is fenced off and has been unusable since hurricane Ian. Its structure appears to be sound, but its railings and some of its decking and an ADA compliant ramp need to be rebuilt in order to be fully usable.

Our discussion in February related to the Pier and what we will need to help raise from a capital perspective to restore the Pier for everyone's use and enjoyment. Sadly, we believe that if it is torn down that it will never be rebuilt.

As everyone who has been dealing with rebuilding after the hurricanes knows, despite best efforts nothing happens quickly here! So please bear with us while we work tirelessly in the background and we promise to provide you with updates as soon as we are able!

In the meantime, here is where you can donate to the fundraising to rebuild and repair the fishing Pier. All of the donations go to the fund. Thank you for your support, let's make it happen!

<https://charitablefoundationoftheislands-bloom.kindful.com/?campaign=1349384>