

**BURNT STORE ISLES ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**April 3, 2009**

**Officers Present**

**President** – Joe Sabatino  
**Secretary** –Theresa Murtha

**Directors Present**

**Membership** - Genny Ramachandran  
**Legal Liaison** – Terry Miller  
**Planning** – Howard Elkin  
**Community Security** – Charlie Council  
**Community Standards** – Phil Zeitz  
**Special Projects** –Anne Teichmiller

**Officers Absent**

**Vice President** – John Kruth  
**Treasurer** –Ben Crosby

**Directors Absent**

Immediate Past President – Frank  
“Chick” Petrosino  
**Social Committee Chair** – Kathy  
Kruth

The BSIA April 3, 2009 Board meeting was called to order by President Joe Sabatino at 9:05 am.

The minutes of the March 6, 2009 Board meeting were approved and accepted. *The minutes will be posted on the BSI Association website.*

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Reports were reviewed and placed on file. The following were noted regarding or in addition to written reports:

**President’s Report** Joe reminded officers and directors to get reports in on time, and to just send an email indicating no report if there had no report for the month. (Secretary requested that summation of issues be done after discussions.)

**SCCC** Joe summarized B. Starr comments at this meeting. Commissioner Starr expressed frustration that other commissioners were not being aggressive enough to close the budget gap. He encouraged people to email their commissioners if they want to see more aggressive action take to eliminate the \$48M budget shortfall. Joe also noted that it was brought up at this meeting that there are 800+

dirt mines in Charlotte County. Some of these present serious environmental considerations. While owners of these mines do have a timeframe within which to complete remediation, Bob Starr is trying to get the county more focused on having more upfront work done (berms etc.)

**Social Committee** Kathy has requested to have a member of Social Committee attend Board Meeting in her stead when she is away since she will miss a number of meetings. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed that for critical roles, (e.g. social director, secretary) the Board would allow substitutes without voting privileges.

It was noted that the Newcomers Wine and Cheese was a success. Genny to send Theresa list of a new member attendees. (See discussion of Barbeque and Spring Membership Meeting under New Business)

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS**

### **Membership 2009/Directory Update**

Genny reported that as of the last update 521 members have renewed or signed up. She also noted that the 2009 Directory has gone to press.

Joe requested that Genny go ahead with letter to BSIA property owners not currently members, highlighting Association accomplishments. The letter would be sent to residents and vacant lot owners as well, who are not BSIA members, encouraging membership. Joe suggested Genny contact Tom Murphy regarding the BSI mailing list done in 2006, which needs some updating.

### **Nametags**

Joe requested that Genny get information to Howard regarding nametags that were requested by new members at the Wine and Cheese Party. Howard will then send an email requesting payment in advance of the Association's ordering of new nametags.

### **BSIA General Membership Meeting Review**

Cynthia noted that Twin Isles was a good place to have one of the general membership meetings, the food is good, and it is located within the community. Joe noted that the last feedback we received was that members wanted at least one formal get-together.

One other observation was that while the mayor's presentation was excellent, the length of his talk and question period resulted in the business part of the meeting being somewhat rushed. Suggestion was offered to reverse order of meeting, business part coming first.

## **Community Outreach (CO) Update**

Joe noted that the number of homes that have now furnished forms went from 707 to 739 this month out of 1173 residences.

Theresa suggested that it might be worthwhile to send the street representatives, who have been soliciting neighbors regarding completion of forms, an update on their respective blocks, i.e. forms now received and entered. Joe will ask the Filkins to furnish these reports. Howard suggested that he could include street representatives on the BSIA website. Joe also said he planned to write a letter encouraging sign-up using recent fires south of BSIA as an example of necessary evacuations.

## **FPL Power Outages**

Joe noted that he had sent a report to Bill Albers, who has forwarded it to FPL, concerning recent outages (at last count, there were 6 incidences in a 13-day period). FPL, he noted, is positioning themselves to blame trees in the right-of-ways for the main source of the problem. FPL contends based on their study and the fact that they have already done their scheduled trimming that it is either going to be the resident's or the City of Punta Gorda's responsibility for the trimming or removal of trees.

Theresa noted that there was a Policy and Procedure Addendum on file, No. 2000-0002, that related to City-Right-of-Ways and implied that the City had some responsibility for tree location and removal. Theresa will forward this policy to Board Members with minutes. Nonetheless, there will probably be incidences where the homeowner planted the tree, and it will be that residence's responsibility. Code Compliance will therefore have to be involved in any discussions of this issue with the City.

Charlie raised issue of degree of BSIA involvement in issue, i.e. should this be turned over to the City at this point. Joe recommended that BSIA at minimum start some discussion with the city.

Joe identified the next steps as meeting with the City and having a physical inspection done and report prepared collectively agreeing where the problems are and determining order of magnitude. Howard and Phil volunteered to be part of an oversight task force working with John Kruth, as available, to initially meet with the city, arrange a site visit, and report back on this at May meeting.

## **Website Update**

Howard thanked Susan Anderson for agreeing to be the photographer for the website. So far, he noted, that the feedback regarding the site was very good, i.e., members are enjoying ease of use and content. Howard noted that there were now fill-in forms for

new membership and CERT on the website, and that new things were in the works including a BSIA chatter feature.

Charlie asked about counts of hits for website. Howard to check further on this. Joe noted this was key for advertisers. Joe asked Howard to make the rotation of advertisers on the front page of the website a priority.

### **Membership Card**

Joe requested that discount card be set from April to April. Howard will set up the website so that members can click on advertisers to get discount offers.

### **Go-Daddy E-mail Boxes**

After much discussion regarding boxes and number of emails, it was decided to leave the set-up of the boxes as is for the next 90 days and revisit this item in 3 months. However, three more mail boxes will be added for membership, legal and the treasurer. This may require a small payment.

Discussion about the communications role also took place, and decisions as to what emails get sent out. It was noted that the President was the final arbitrator on any questionable email communications going to the BSIA membership.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Pedestrian Identification Road Striping**

Joe asked Howard to in next discussions with the City ask about marking crosswalks particularly with respect to major streets Monaco, Tripoli etc. (issue raised by resident)

### **Non-Functioning 41 Lights**

No further action – turned over to the City.

### **Contractor's List**

It was agreed that Howard and Phil would review the current list and also obtain input for updating the list from the membership.

## **BSI Entranceways**

Regarding lighting at the entranceway at Madrid, Anne has been meeting with the City to determine if they will take over maintenance of the lighting of the BSI Anchor on the corner of Madrid and 41 on land dedicated to the City by the Bank of America. Note that anchors on Madrid and Monaco have been scheduled for painting on April 6.

Regarding getting more lighting similar to that on Monaco, Anne is to check with Claire Phelan on history of Monaco lights. More discussion on street lighting for Madrid tabled to May meeting. While we may have to wait because of budgetary considerations, Joe's position is that right-of-way lighting is the City's responsibility.

## **Webmaster Replacement**

Howard pointed out that he was still seeking a replacement for the webmaster position. He pointed out that if person has basic computer knowledge, Tom and Dottie will show whomever how to do the updating, which should only require 3-4 hours a month. Joe asked the Board to contact Howard with recommendations.

## **D&O Liability Insurance**

Ben confirmed to Theresa that D&O insurance had been renewed for the March 2009 - March 2010 period. Ben will give Theresa a copy of the policy for the secretary file.

## **Spring Barbeque**

Joe noted that we would require 50 people signing up for the Barbeque, taking place April 26. With less than 50 people, BSIA will be responsible for set-up and clean-up. The event will feature Big John's Barbeque, croquet, bocce, and more. It was noted after a question that the barbeque is not limited to members.

## **Muscle Car Museum**

Joe met with Rick Treworgy who is amenable to hosting a membership event at the Muscle Car Museum on Tuesday, June 16 (tentatively starting at 6 PM) with Smugglers as caterer, pricing less than \$20 a person, possibly to include self-tour of the museum.

Joe will invite Bill Albers to talk for about 20 minutes on the FPL issue and give an update on the budget and other matters. However, this will be primarily a social event.

## **Use of Village Club House**

Ben (according to Howard) had discussed with Charlie the use of Village Club House as

BSIA home base. **(New Business Item for May meeting)**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM. The next Board meeting will be on Friday, May 1, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa H. Murtha  
Secretary