

City of Treasure Island, Florida
Special Commission Workshop Minutes
August 5, 2009

The workshop was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Minning.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE: Led by Mayor Minning.

Mayor Minning gave an explanation of the format for the workshop. The workshop is being held for the purpose of discussing possible solutions for the problems occurring at Sunset Beach. He asked that remarks be focused on solutions. Everyone in the room have a good understanding on the issues going on, so we need to focus on solutions. He thanked the residents of Sunset Beach for meeting on their own and coming up with some solutions. He pointed out an outline on the screen and stated that they would be using it as the format for the meeting. He encouraged people to offer solutions. After that they will discuss the suggestions and decide which are viable.

Mr. Silverboard will be acting as the scribe. Suggestions will be put up on the screen. Mayor Minning asked all to be courteous and positive.

Commissioner Bildz stated that by having this meeting it was evidence that the Commission is taking this issue seriously, and he thanked the Commission for their willingness to address the issues.

Commissioner Coward stated that she has read all the information and wants to hear what people have to say.

Dennis Velasco stated that his suggestion was probably going to be very unpopular. There have been a lot of suggestions. The more he thought about them, all we would be doing would be driving a wider wedge between the business community and the residents. The beaches up and down the Gulf Coast all restrict or prohibit the consumption of alcohol. He, like most people, enjoys drinking alcohol on the beach while watching the sunset. He read a prepared statement suggesting that alcohol be banned on the beaches of Treasure Island. Alcohol is consumed on other beaches, but it is done responsibly and respectfully. He doesn't feel that it would impair the beach businesses. Most of the problems are not from the patrons of the local businesses. They would have to have a referendum, and he is willing to start the process.

Larry Yost stated that he was in possession of the report from the Sunset Beach Resident Workshop. He sees a suggestion in it that he suggested to each of them after the last meeting. He suggested that people be allowed to drink on the beach after 5:00 until a curfew. That would allow people to enjoy the sunset with a drink. Parking is restricted during certain times. This could be too. He stated that he agrees with Dennis, and wondered if there is a positive impact on our community from all the people that come out here and drink on our beaches. He doesn't think so. He thanked the Commission for listening.

Kevin Johnson stated that he is for banning alcohol on the beach because the problems that we are having will probably be solved by that. Regarding the businesses, there are some bars that would probably like to have a ban on drinking because it would bring them more business. A man who was a Commissioner in the early 90's apologized to him for not banning this in the early 90's when it came up before. He feels that by banning alcohol on the beach property values will slowly go up, and the town will benefit by the increase in property taxes.

Eric Corson stated that he is a Sunset Beach resident, voter, and active participant in community clean up. The only solution that he has heard so far is the banning of alcohol. He feels that it cannot be enforced. Banning alcohol but allowing discreet consumption is asking for officials to break the law. He feels that beach clean up should be done by everyone – residents, employees, and visitors. You can go to any beach around and you will find trash. The only reason there is so much publicity is because there are so many people enjoying our beach. That's why we all moved here in the first place. On Sunday afternoon at 6:00 we did a beach cleanup. We got three bags of cans, () They are buying beverages and taking them out to the beach. If a bar owner is responsible for a person getting into an accident, why aren't they responsible for the trash that their businesses generate. He suggested that they stop using straws in their drinks. He then suggested regularly scheduled beach clean ups. He is scheduling a family scavenger hunt and clean up this Sunday. Instead of complaining, come out and clean up their beach. Every time they complain they are giving Tony Amico free publicity. If people see you picking up their trash they will become more aware. If anyone is interested, he would like to start a Sunset Beach Clean Up Association. If the businesses want to save some money, stop giving away straws, and have some biodegradable ones for people that ask for them. See him if you want to join in the clean up.

Margot Klein asked how hard it would be to open Delilah's for public restrooms. It would require no building as it is already there.

John Madrill stated that he went to a restaurant in Dunedin that states on their menu that they don't use plastic straws to protect the environment. He feels that it is a good idea. He also suggested that someone ask the 7-Eleven to stop stocking glass bottles. He would rather see a can than a broken bottle. He thanked the Commission for listening.

Dan Beauchesne stated that he sent the Commission a video of something that happened in front of their club. It is posted on U-Tube. It is a perfect example of what happens on the beach. He proposed that they ban all alcoholic beverage containers on the beach. He asked that they show the video tonight so that the residents can see what happened that evening in front of their property during a wedding. He feels bad and embarrassed, and is asking his board to write a letter of apology to the couple. He goes to the beach often, and the other day he noticed kids throwing a football on the beach. The ball kept going into the sea oats. He asked the kids to move elsewhere. One of the kids got in his face, pulled up a sea oat plant, and threw it at him. This is the type of behavior that we see out there. There is too much drinking going on out there, and one of these days something is going to happen.

Craig Glazer, Manager of the Lions Club, thanked the Commission for listening. There are serious issues faced by the club. This jeopardizes the club economically. They have opened up their parking lot due to pressure from the community to alleviate some

of the stress of parking in the neighborhood. The parking revenue doesn't mitigate the losses that they are seeing. They are not seeing public urination since the porta-johns went in. He sees things moving in two directions. People are asking how to get the crowds away, and also how to deal with them. We have to find a solution that will not hurt the businesses that are out there. He has seen some positive things, but he also has some concerns. It is pretty busy on the weekends, and he is already thinking about spring break. We have to be ready.

Steve Yost stated that he owns a home next to his dad's at Sunset Beach. He has been coming here for () years. He suggested that the Commission start a pilot project for twelve months. It could then be changed or thrown away. Many enjoy alcohol, and a few people are ruining it. Kegs on the beach are outrageous. It is one thing to carry a cooler or keg 25 yards, but another to have to carry it ¼ mile. If you make parking difficult then it won't be so easy to carry it. He suggested strong enforcement of parking regulations. He suggested that they try a pilot and if it doesn't work then try something new.

Wesley Klein stated that there are laws already on the books that cover everything on the list presented by the residents. They are not being enforced. He thinks that it is the police Department and Commission in charge of enforcement and he thinks that the laws on the books should be enforced.

Steve Miller stated that he and his family moved to Sunset Beach twelve years ago. They were aware that there were businesses on the beach when they moved there. He has noticed a clear decline in the quality of his life in Sunset Beach in the past couple of years. He tried to figure out what the changes were, and what he comes up with is the popularity of the area. They are proud of their beach and want to share it, but the decline in the quality of life is obvious. It doesn't start when they park their car, it starts when they come back to their cars and are abusive and use foul language. The alcohol ban during certain hours may be an answer. This is a contentious issue. He missed the meeting in July. Restricting parking is a positive move. If the majority of the neighborhood is residential and don't have people acting abusively then we wouldn't have these difficulties. He urged them to reconsider the parking ban.

Atul Shah stated that he has lived here 20 years. The main concern is the congestion at Sunset Beach on the weekends. He suggested that when Tony's lots are full they should have someone at the entrance to the neighborhood telling people that parking is full and they should go elsewhere. If they want to park and drag their coolers they can. He then suggested that they move one port-o-let to each parking lot.

Discussion of the outline provided by the residents was held at this point.

1. LITTER

Mr. Amico stated that he put another 20 cans on the beach in the last two weeks. They empty them and haul the trash away on their own. They are putting them down to the Lion's Club. They also put another 3 or 4 porta-potties near the Lion's Club and built a wall to shield them.

Dan Corson suggested that a recycle station be set up on the south side of Caddy's. Most of the trash is aluminum and plastic bottles. Half the trash is

cans, plastic bottles, and illegal glass bottles. He thinks it is atrocious to put those things in the landfill.

Mayor Minning stated that they would discuss additional cans and recycling containers with the Department of Public Works. Commissioner Coward asked about the recycling centers that we have around the City. Mr. Silverboard explained that those are some that we have agreements for with Waste Management. If there are recycling containers out at the beach we can bring them back to the city's recycling center, or consider modifying the contract with Waste Management and putting a recycling center at Weckesser Park. Commissioner Bildz stated that Tony doesn't have recycling containers, and he feels that people will use them. Mr. Silverboard suggested that they ask Mr. Amico if he would allow recycling containers on his property. Members of the audience suggested that they put in dumpsters. Mayor Minning stated that the first priority is to get the trash out of there. The second priority would be to recycle what we can. He feels that asking visitors to recycle might be asking too much. There is a group playing a game where they try to see how far they can scatter trash that is in receptacles. Mr. Silverboard stated that the police should be addressing that. Commissioner Bildz stated that there are only so many officers to go around. They have their hands full with all the issues out there. Commissioner Bildz stated that for a crowd of 3,000, how many officers will we need to have.

Mr. Amico stated that he pays for four officers and a dispatcher. One of the officers is a parking enforcement officer. Commissioner Bildz clarified that Mr. Amico pays the money to the city, who then pays the police officers.

Commissioner Collins stated that the beach clean up at Sunset Beach isn't a new idea. There are beach clean ups held once a month on the north side of the beach. The trash cans are over full on the Saturdays that they go out to pick up trash. People are trying to use them, but the city should get more trash receptacles out there. Regarding police enforcement, he has ridden with the police on weekend evenings to see what they go through. The police force on Treasure Island are diplomats with the way that they handle things. He has received e-mails from people on Sunset Beach. The police can get there in 2 or 3 minutes, so he urges people to call the police when they see these incidents.

A resident suggested that Caddy's empty the trash every two hours rather than in the morning and at night so that kids that want to "be green" can do so.

Mr. Yost stated that he went to a football game where there was tailgating. One of the fraternities had people bring their trash to them. He suggested that they get volunteers to pick up trash all day on holidays. Whomever did so could collect the money for the aluminum or the glass. It could be very popular.

Mr. Corson stated that regarding the police, it is great that they are there. There are probably City workers that are being paid also. He keeps hearing about how much enforcement there is, but where are the tickets for littering?

If he can see it when the beach is empty, how can the police not see it when the beach is crowded. Is there something in the laws that he doesn't know about that they can't issue a ticket for littering?

An audience member stated that she doesn't understand why people are being given warnings and not tickets.

Kim Driscoll commented that she thinks that the police are doing a good job with the crowds that they have. There were intoxicated kids that showed up at one of their civic association meetings. They called the police for assistance. 30 minutes later the kids left. An hour later the police came. Commissioner Bildz stated that he has called the police.

Mayor Minning stated that we can all recall instances, but it will do no good to rehash all that. We are here tonight to go through a list and make constructive input on how to solve these. Please focus your remarks on constructive ways to solve the issues, not just complain.

Mr. Corson stated that asking people to do their jobs was not an insult. Everyone is remiss in this.

An audience member explained that at the Rainbow River there is a rule that you cannot bring disposable containers like plastic cups. You can bring your things from home, and must remove them. He suggested that the businesses be asked to limit their use of disposable items.

Bob Driscoll stated that he agrees with the Mayor regarding going over the issues. They were given a list of positive input. He came here to hear what they can do for them.

An audience member stated that he lives on Capri, so doesn't experience the dramatic things that happen at Sunset Beach. The first thing that he sees is the full garbage cans. He feels that is sending the wrong message to visitors to our city. If we have more cans, or empty them more frequently, people will use them. He stated that he is not big on enforcement, but it is necessary. He suggested that no matter what they do, make it a temporary trial and not do anything that affects all of us. Regulation with moderation, and something temporary that doesn't become an issues that prevents all of us from enjoying the beach is the way to go.

Marie Barba stated she was told by a police officer that you can't walk on the sidewalk with a drink. She suggested that they look at that. She is not for banning drinking on the beach. If you ban drinking on the beach and don't do anything about parking, then the impact to the bars is going to double. If you do something about parking you are going down the right path. The extra parking spaces wouldn't be available to people.

A resident suggested providing trash bags near the trash cans. Commissioner Bildz suggested providing ash trays. Commissioner Coward suggested putting the words "If you take it in, take it out" on the signs.

A business owner commented that he has always had a problem with cigarette butts. Two weeks ago he bought an inexpensive can and some sand and it has almost eliminated the problem for him. He will sponsor a beach clean up, and suggested that they do it when people are there on the beach. Shame them, or set the example.

There was a brief discussion regarding emptying cans more frequently. It is a matter of money and staffing to do so. Commissioner Collins suggested that they place two cans in each location that has one now. Mr. Silverboard stated that we have cut back on weekend staffing due to the budget. He suggested that they put money into the budget to have a crew on during major beach holidays. We may need to look into doing some type of additional funding for a Sunday morning pickup. Commissioner Coward suggested asking staff to rotate and maybe take a day off during the week to work on the weekend.

Mr. Amico stated that he empties all the cans, including the city's on Saturday and on Sunday. He was asked how often he does so. He stated that he does it once a day. It is impossible to get to them during the day because there are too many people and it requires a truck and trailer to pick them all up.

Mayor Minning stated that we will look into the trash situation and review the budget. We will also take a look at the police enforcement. He will speak up in support of them. They are here for public safety. When they are on the beach they are looking out for public safety, and that must be their priority. They should not ignore littering, but we must be practical as to what they are doing. Commissioner Bildz stated that they would be serving the people by ticketing the litterers.

Gwenda Barnitz suggested that they put up signs that state the amount of the fines for each infringement. That might make people more wary of doing things that they shouldn't be.

An audience member suggested that they put up a sign that says "Under Video Surveillance".

Mr. Beauchesne from the Lion's Club asked if they could require the property owner next to the Lion's Club to fence the property so that people can't use it to bring their kegs, cases of beer, and large coolers onto the beach.

Mr. () asked if law enforcement was the only person that could issue a citation for littering. Mayor Minning answered in the affirmative and explained that they have to witness it.

Mr. () talked about a sign that he saw at St. Pete Beach. It was colorful and humorous. All of our signs are generic, and people ignore them. He suggested that we change the signs to appeal to the younger generation. We want them to have fun, but we need to make them think.

Larry Yost said that we are talking this thing to death. We are talking about littering, drunken behavior. All this comes to one thing. The Commission has to have some courage to do something about it. Why is this the only community in Pinellas County that still allows it. Mayor Minning stated that it was because the voters voted to allow it. He asked Ms. Kiefer to explain how a referendum could be held. Several questions were asked about the procedure, and if it could be passed for only Sunset Beach.

Commissioner Gayton stated that in 1986 the Commission passed an ordinance banning alcohol on the beach. There was a referendum by citizen initiative. He read the question, and stated that the residents passed an ordinance to allow alcohol on the beach. It is his understanding that because of how the referendum was passed, it must be done by citizen initiated referendum to overturn it. Ms. Kiefer confirmed that because it was by citizen initiative then it can only be changed by citizen initiative. Commissioner Gayton stated that the commission can not put this on the ballot. They don't have the authority to do so.

A resident asked if they could pass an ordinance to temporarily ban alcohol on Sunset Beach. Ms. Kiefer stated that she would need to seek an Attorney General's opinion on this. Commissioner Gayton stated again that the commission can not ban alcohol on the beach. It needs to be a referendum by the residents of this city. The resident expressed his displeasure and asked why they considered it several months ago. Commissioner Bildz stated that that was an emergency ordinance.

Mayor Minning stated again that we were not here to rehash the issues. We are here to try to solve the problems.

Commissioner Collins asked if the residents brought a referendum forward, would it apply to only Sunset Beach, or would it apply to all. Ms. Kiefer stated that they can word their referendum any way that they want to. It takes five registered voters to start the initiative, and then they need 20% of the registered voters to sign the petition.

Commissioner Bildz asked if they could pass a ban only during certain hours. Ms. Kiefer stated that the only way they could do it would be on an emergency basis to protect the public safety, health and welfare. There is some question as to whether the situation at Sunset Beach would be considered an emergency. She said they can ban containers, but not alcohol.

Dennis Velasco suggested that on a trial basis they ban kegs and large coolers. He is still for banning alcohol. He is willing to suggest anything that will curb the abuse of alcohol on the beach. In the long term they should ban alcohol altogether.

Fred Stern, owner of KaTiki, stated that he has been following this from the beginning. He knows a few things about drinking, and about alcohol. This isn't about drinking or alcohol. Everybody will agree to one thing. Acting rash isn't the solution to anything. Whether you decide to ban alcohol or not, that

remains to be seen through referendum. They call out the ATF on a regular basis, and receive training from them. They have signs up regarding all kinds of things. People still try to do it. The police here are responsive. If people see something they should call the police and report it. There is a drinking problem, a parking problem, a garbage problem, and an indigent problem. Laws are on the books and they need to be enforced. We don't need to make any knee jerk reaction if we give the police the chance to enforce the laws that are on the books. He does not permit alcohol to leave their establishment unless it is closed and packaged. He suggested that they not be rash and pass something that they have read and understand.

2. PARKING

Mayor Minning read the list that was provided by the residents, and discussed some of what they had considered regarding ticket prices. The police now have the authority to tow vehicles.

Heidi Horak suggested that the fines for blocking driveways and parking in the wrong place should be higher than the meter fines.

A resident stated that he isn't seeing families on the beach anymore. It is all young kids. The fines don't mean anything to the kids. He feels that they should be raised to around \$150. A fire truck could not get down his street when people are parked on it.

Sandy Romano stated that she read an article that stated that if they eliminate parking we would lose government funding. She suggested that they reconsider the resident parking permits again, and meter the remainder of the parking.

A resident asked about the parking at Suntasia. Mayor Minning asked Ms. Kiefer to explain the law. Ms. Kiefer stated that free standing parking lots are only allowed in certain areas, and accessory lots are only allowed to be used for parking incidental to the business. She will not express a legal opinion on a particular property as this is not a code enforcement hearing.

Mr. Becker asked how long it would take to get Code Enforcement to look at this. Mayor Minning stated that there are procedures to follow and they will be kicked off. Commissioner Bildz asked what the procedure was to do this. Ms. Kiefer stated that a Code Enforcement officer would have to observe the violation, then send out a notice of violation.

Gwenda Barnitz stated that they should have certain times where there is one side of the street parking.

A resident stated that he wanted to speak to what he considers an emergency situation. There are streets that you could not get an emergency vehicle down. This is something that you ask the city manager and fire chief to do. You do whatever you need to do to ensure the safety of those residents.

Mayor Minning stated that as a commission they can reconsider the ordinance. A resident stated that the FEMA regulations also stated that they could not interfere with local regulations. Mr. Silverboard explained that the beach renourishment issue had nothing to do with FEMA. Mayor Minning stated that it would be resolved. He explained that the last time they considered the one side parking the residents did not favor it. Commissioner Bildz stated that it wasn't the residents, but it was the police that asked them to give them a chance to enforce what was currently in place. If that's what people want then that is what we should do. Commissioner Gayton stated that he remembers it as Commissioner Bildz does. There were objections from residents and a request by the Police Chief. If it is not working, and it looks like it isn't, he is in favor of looking at it again. Commissioner Collins stated that there were also issues as to what side of the street it would be. Commissioner Gayton stated that it is time for the Commission to make that decision for the residents and live with it. A resident suggested that they reopen permit parking.

Commissioner Coward reminded them that there were a number of required parking spaces that were designated for public parking. Mr. Silverboard explained that it was rolled in with trying to address the issue of getting emergency vehicles in there. Without selling parking permits to the public in general we will have to address the public spaces and emergency vehicles, and where you can park with the permits to one side of the street. It would solve the emergency vehicle issue as well as the renourishment issue. This issue will come before the commission again.

Mr. Beauchesne asked if there was an ordinance requiring a certain number of restrooms for every parking space. Mr. Silverboard explained that it was based on the number of seats or capacity of the building. Commissioner Bildz stated that the plumbing code was based on capacity.

Ms. Barnitz asked why they would need parking permits if they were going to have one side of the street parking.

3. Trespassing

Mayor Minning read the list of suggestions. He explained that part of the NOAA grant money would be used for additional beach access signs. He asked if they had anything in particular in mind when they made that suggestion. Commissioner Bildz explained that they signs should be more eye-catching and state that there are laws that will be enforced. Commissioner Coward stated that if we make them more noticeable they will be more effective. A resident commented that some of the signs are covered by trees and can't be seen. The signs are not visible enough.

The residents want more police on bikes. Mayor Minning stated that we will discuss it with the police department. Commissioner Gayton commented that he thinks it is a good idea, and since the Police Chief is here we should ask him about it now.

Chief Casey stated that they are training more officers for it now. Officers must be certified to do enforcement on bikes. The schools are limited, and less essential training has been cut back. They are effective when they are out. He thinks they are a great idea, and they are trying now to rebuild the staff to use them. Commissioner

Collins asked how many bikes we have. Chief Casey stated that we have five. Commissioner Collins asked if we were adding police on bikes were we taking an officer out of a car. Chief Casey stated that they would be a supplement to the regular on duty officers. We could not replace an officer in a car with one on a bike. Commissioner Collins stated that it would raise the cost for police. Commissioner Gayton asked how many officers were on duty at one time. Chief Casey stated that it could be anywhere from 3 to 5. Commissioner Gayton stated that so long as we left 3 officers in cars we wouldn't need to add additional staff or overtime. He feels it is a good idea and they should consider it.

Mayor Minning asked about the Neighborhood Watch signs. Mr. Silverboard explained that there are no neighborhood watches in effect now. Commissioner Coward stated that that would be an easy fix. Commissioner Collins stated that it would be up to the Civic Associations. Commissioner Gayton stated that the Isle of Palms has one, and they get trained by the Police Department. He encouraged residents to participate. Mayor Minning asked Commissioner Bildz to take that suggestion back to the civic association.

Commissioner Bildz encouraged residents to call the police and report any incidents that they see. Mayor Minning stated that the police department numbers are readily available. Commissioner Coward suggested that we provide magnets to the residents with the phone numbers. Mr. Silverboard stated that we could do that. Commissioner Collins stated that it is faster to dial 911 than the police department number. It was explained that 911 was for an emergency. We don't want anyone calling 911 for a barking dog.

Residents asked that all calls be published. Chief Casey stated that they used to provide reports but people didn't come in to get them. They are in the process of changing their website to report them there. If they call the police department and someone doesn't come he wants to know about it. There are times that an officer has to prioritize because they are already on a call. Commissioner Gayton asked if the reports in the newspaper were all the incidents. Chief Casey stated that those are selected by the newspapers. It is not the entire list. Commissioner Gayton stated that the complete information is available in the police department. Chief Casey was asked if someone called in a license plate of an intoxicated person, would they handle it from there. Chief Casey stated that the officer has to observe the violation.

Dawn Fadar suggested that they upload the report that she gets onto the website, as she feels that that information is what people are looking for.

A resident stated that she reported that someone threatened her. She was told that unless she filled out a lengthy report it would not be recorded. Chief Casey stated that if they call they will send an officer. There will always be a record of every call.

A resident suggested that they start a cadet program or something like that to take the burden off the police officers. What if they had trained individuals that volunteered? Chief Casey stated that a police cadet is no different than someone that isn't a police officer. Until they become certified and sworn by the state they don't have any authority. With regard to a civilian or volunteer, you will encounter legal obstacles in enforcing laws.

4. Public Intoxication

Mayor Minning read the list of suggestions. He stated that Pinellas County is probably in worse shape than we are in terms of staffing, so may not be a viable alternative. Chief Casey explained that when all of this started, we considered all of the law enforcement agencies, including the Sheriff. They don't have the staff to supplement other agencies. Except for an emergency when an abundance of officers are needed, they can't bring them in. You can hire off duty deputies then someone has to pay them, and the city can't do that. The Fish and Wildlife officers assist on the weekends. State police are hard to contract with.

Commissioner Bildz asked Chief Casey to address the intoxication issues. Chief Casey stated that public intoxication really doesn't exist in terms of the law. There is disorderly intoxication. We do use the "March Man" program where they escort them to a facility to dry out and then they are released. Regarding breathalyzers, they must be under arrest in order to perform the test. You can ask someone to take a test in a parking lot, but they can refuse. The officers interrupt a number of people before they get in their cars each weekend. They have studied the times that people leave Sunset Beach. The most common time is between 4:30 and 8:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. This past weekend they had six officers on duty who made 23 traffic stops. Four people were screened in a field sobriety test. All four passed, so did not meet the criteria to be arrested. In addition to that time frame, part of the research we did was to look at traffic accidents. Since January 1st to date there have been no accidents during that high volume time. A DUI checkpoint is a huge undertaking which takes about 25 officers to staff.

Chief Casey was asked to address zero tolerance. Chief Casey stated that for DUI there is always zero tolerance. If you are on the beach the officer will always use discretion. The chief was asked about glass bottles and littering. Chief Casey stated that there are very few warnings given, and they are typically someone from out of state and they didn't know. It is enforced. There have been arrests for under aged drinking. Since July 11th 800 people were carded, and only 9 were under age. Mr. Corson asked about zero tolerance for glass bottles and littering again. Chief Casey stated that the crowds are very dense in that area and the officers are looking for everything. If they see someone they will ticket. They issue what they see. They will look into the littering. When he has been there he sees beach blankets. When people leave at the end of the day maybe they leave behind their trash. It is his understanding that Mr. Amico cleans the beach every day. Tonight is the first time he's heard a lot about littering. Mr. Corson explained that straws and cigarette butts are not being picked up. He suggested that someone be there early to inform people that cigarette butts are littering. Chief Casey stated that the officers have a lot of interaction with the people. He feels that this is the most compliant crowd of that many people that he's ever seen. Sunset Beach is pretty much a noon to six pm event. After 6:00 there's not a lot going on there. They will address the issues that have come up. Last year there was a total of 4,000 tickets written city-wide. Since March we have written 2,000 tickets just in Sunset Beach. They are seeing the traffic moving

better. They are not seeing people stopping in the road for 5 or 10 minutes anymore.

Tony Amico stated that under aged drinking is not a problem at Caddy's, and arm bands are not necessary. They card anyone that appears to be under 30 years old.

Mayor Minning discussed the suggestion regarding requiring cleaning the beach as part of a ticket fine. We do not have the authority to do so. It would have to be court ordered.

Mayor Minning gave a brief run through of what was covered by Chief Casey.

Commissioner Coward suggested that they move forward with banning kegs. Commissioners Collins, Gayton, and Bildz agreed. Commissioner Bildz explained that it was suggested to ban alcohol containers and require people to pour their alcohol into a cup and either dispose of the container or put it back into their cooler. Commissioner Coward suggested that the best solution is to put out more trash containers.

Mr. Silverboard read the list of items that staff will be looking at and addressing. Mr. Silverboard asked if there was interest by the Commission to address the permanent rest rooms. Commissioner Bildz stated that Mr. Amico had offered to install them and has not done so. He has done the temporary restrooms and that is appreciated. People are paying Caddy's to park, therefore they are Caddy's customers and Caddy's should address the restroom issue. Commissioner Bildz then asked Mr. Silverboard to have a code enforcement officer available on the weekend to look for illegal parking lots. Mr. Silverboard stated that he will have the police report to code enforcement regarding the lots being used commercially on the weekends. He was then asked about raising fines. He will draft an ordinance for this. Mayor Minning asked about the phone number magnets. He will get a price and report back to the Commission.

Marie Barba asked if they would still be discussing the required parking spaces at a separate meeting. She asked if it would cost too much to have it rotated every few years. It would involve painting the spots and signage. Mr. Silverboard explained that it was only two or three spaces per street. Ms. Barba stated that we will be chasing tourists away if we don't give and take. She was told that there will be a separate workshop.

Mr. Amico stated that he objects to Commissioner Bildz insinuating that the problem is always Caddy's. Caddy's may have been the draw, but there are a lot of people that do not use his facility. They are not all his customers, but he does a lot to try and accommodate everyone. Mayor Minning stated that they do appreciate everything that he does to keep the beach clean.

Commissioner Gayton stated that it is always said that we are the only beach that allows alcohol. Madeira Beach also allows alcohol. It is a false statement that we are the only city that allows alcohol. Commissioner Bildz stated that it is also a false statement that Sunset Beach is the only place that allows alcohol.

Mayor Minning thanked everyone for coming and for their input.

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Minning at 9:03 p.m.

