

City Commission and Beach Stewardship Committee Joint Workshop

July 11, 2023

4:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Adrian Petrila, Mayor

Mark Grill, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, District 2

Ward Friszolowski, Commissioner, District 3

Chris Marone, Commissioner, District 4

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:

Chris Graus, Commissioner, District 1

BEACH STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dan Rothenberger, Chair

John Kurzman, Vice Chair – present via ZOOM

Karen Marriott

Betty Rzewnicki

Michael Welch

STAFF PRESENT:

Alex Rey, City Manager

Matthew McConnell, Assistant City Attorney

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk

Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operating Officer

Mayor Petrila called the workshop to order at 4:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. DISCUSSION:

a. Minutes

b. Beach Regulation and Management Draft Ordinance

City Manager Alex Rey opened the discussion by suggesting that the City Commission and Beach Stewardship Committee focus on policy decisions as opposed to verbiage and repeated phrases in the current proposed Ordinance versus other sections in the Code.

Commissioner Friszolowski mentioned the ownership of the beach and opined a majority is owned by residents and is private.

Commissioner Marone would like to see something that distinguishes resident-owned versus hotel owned versus Pass-A-Grille Beach versus Upham Beach for the sake of rentals. City Manager Rey stated rentals and cabanas on City-owned beaches are regulated via a contract; the current vendor's contract expires this year.

Commissioner Friszolowski suggested that 95-7(b) of the attached Ordinance say “cabanas, umbrellas, and chairs”.

The issue of cabanas at hotels was the first point of today's discussion. The discussion included:

- Leave chairs overnight at hotels
 - Establish a buffer/density – staff to prepare a visual
- 30-50 percent of cabanas can be left out permanently with the remaining having to be picked up and put away at the end of the night
- Hoteliers are opposed to bringing in and out each day – determine an appropriate compromise

Section 95-8 vehicle permits were discussed:

- Time restrictions
- Will overregulation breed other issues
- Limit of number of vehicles per business
- Permits for bicycles on the beach
 - No permits for bicycles on the beach
 - No electric bicycles

The consensus was to leave this section for staff to create a permit application for other vehicles on the beach.

Sections 95-9 through 95-15 keep as is.

Section 95-16 will have the second sentence removed.

Tent size was discussed. Attorney McConnell suggested removing the tent size and putting a square foot size in the Ordinance instead.

Section 95-17 vending on the beaches was discussed. Commissioner Friszolowski requested something be included in this section about food vending.

Section 95-18 had no changes.

In Section 95-19, Chief Operating Officer McMahon mentioned tightening the language and adding some information from the County and Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 95-20 permit required was discussed:

- Recreational activities
 - A better definition

Section 95-21 special events on the beach were discussed; the language will be reviewed.

Mayor Petrila discussed the consumption of alcohol on the beach.

Due to the time, no further discussion was had. City Clerk LaRowe was directed to schedule a joint workshop in the next 30 days to conclude the discussion of this proposed Ordinance.

Mayor Petrila adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: JULY 25, 2023

AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK

ADRIAN PETRILA
MAYOR