

7. **COMMITTEE, BOARDS COMMISSION**

- a. Annual Advisory Committee Reports (not to exceed 5 minutes Committee)
 - 1. Historical Preservation Committee
 - 2. Marine Advisory Committee
 - 3. Parks and Recreation Committee
 - 4. Vegetation Committee
 - 5. Wildlife Committee

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2006

Introduction

Sanibel has been widely recognized for its preservation ethic- respect for the natural environment, the plants and animals. It is the mission of the Historical Preservation Committee to include in that preservation ethic respect for the build environment of of the past, the sites, and structures and people who shaped our history. The City, through the efforts of this committee, has embraced Sanibel Island history with the Historical Museum and village and its collection, with site markers along streets and Shared Use Paths, and with a program to recognize and protect historic structures.

Issues:

- At issues is the future of the Historical Museum and Village as a part of the City or as a tax-exempt corporation, a 501c3 with greater independence. A study of the possibilities and pitfalls is underway.
- Funding for the Museum and village care, plans and programs will always be an important issue whether as a 501c3 or as a City dependant.
- Further, the Historical Preservation Committee must be part of the rewrite of the Sanibel Plan dealing with historic sites and structures.
- A stronger, more vocal public education program teaching appreciation of island history as a way of assisting more recent and part-time residents to become true islanders. In a nutshell, to create a connection to the island's past and a sense that THIS is home.

Achievements and Goals

Achievements

- Applications for grants to improve exhibits have been made.
- The Schoolhouse restoration has been completed.
- A website has been created and added to, promoting Museum and Village events.
- The rehab for several historic structures has been reviewed and approved. Grant funds from the Historical Preservation Committee were used in two cases.
- The Museum and Village has hosted tour groups including elder hostel and island realtors and intends to continue.
- The Museum and Village continues to hold special events and shows to attract the public.
- The Museum and Village has had successful and on-going relationships with the library, the Barrier Island Group (B.I.G. Arts), and this year with the Florida Lighthouse Association

- Through the website and other publications, the Historical Preservation Committee and Museum should increase the public's knowledge and appreciation of island history and historic sites.
- More study should be conducted regarding the designation of a historic district at the Old Town area of the island.
- A rewrite of the Sanibel Plan section on historic structures should be accomplished to avoid a repeat of the Shorehaven debacle.

Recommendations to City Council

- For a historic district, consider allowances in the code for such things as outside events, music, and easing parking restrictions for events, etc.
- Continue (some) funding for the Museum and Village as an indication of support for the preservation ethic.
- Encourage the rewrite of the Sanibel Plan section on historic sites and structures and allow special treatment of historic buildings in the building code.
- Allow one of then Lighthouse Keeper's Quarters to become a museum and study center.
- Visit the Historical Village and Museum.

Conclusion:

- The Historic Preservation Committee is disappointed in the failure to find an appropriate location for Shorehaven, a historic home. This disappointment is matched by that regarding the owner's decision and the City Council's failure to follow the recommendations of the Planning Commission and the Historic Preservation Committee.
- The Preservation Committee appears to have failed in its mission to raise awareness and appreciation of island history.
- The Historical Preservation Committee can point with pride to the success of the Village, its supporters, and its programs.

THE SANIBEL HISTORICAL PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE

SIX MONTH REPORT ON FORMING
A 501-c-3 CORPORATION

The City of Sanibel's City Council asked in September, 2006 that the HPC report back to them in March, 2007 on progress/investigation in forming a 501-c-3 Corporation for the Sanibel Historical Museum and Village. A Sub-Committee of the HPC was formed. The History of the City's relationship with the HPC and the Museum/Village follows:

The City of Sanibel formed the Historical Preservation Committee (HPC) in 1975 for Island wide Historical preservation/protection of Historic sites and structures.

The City of Sanibel bought land in 1981 for a potential Historical Museum and Village.

The Rutland home was moved in 1983 and became the Sanibel Museum in 1984. Staffed by a handful of volunteers, the Museum was placed under the Recreation Department for supervision of operations, and the HPC was given overall responsibility of supervising the Museums' activities and function.

The Bailey Store/Island Post Office/Miss Charlottas' Tea Room was moved to the Museum site in 1992. Shortly thereafter, they were opened for public viewing. This necessitated an increase in volunteers.

The Burnap Cottage was moved to the site in 1996 and shortly thereafter opened to the public.

With the increase of buildings and the need for more volunteers to handle displays, acquisitions, archives, membership, fundraising activities, docent training, schedules, special tours, publicity, and general good will, the Docent Council was formed under the supervision of the HPC in 1996/97.

In 2000 a city staff member was assigned to the Recreation Department for Administrative support. This person was assigned up to 8 hours per week to assist with Museum supervision of operations.

In 2001 Morning Glories was added to the site.

In 2004 the School House for White Children was added to the site.

More City staff time was now given to write grants for the restoration of the School House. With the volunteer staff declining with age, health, moving off Island, and competition with other Island Organizations needing volunteers, the HPC with Docent Council support asked City Council to approve a full time city staff member to be

assigned solely to the Museum. After 2 years , in 2006, a part-time temporary Adm. Asst. was added by the City to the Recreation Dept. to be assigned to the Museum for support. However, a Caveat was added...that the HPC investigate and research the possibility of forming a 501-c-3 Corporation to assist the City with stabilizing or reducing Museum expenses.

Please refer to the attached copies of the work done so far. With City Councils' approval, the HPC is prepared to go forward. The next step would be to have City staff review our Business Plan and Income/Revenue flow sheet for the first 5 years of the Corporation.

**MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2006**

Issues:

Numerous issues were discussed by the Marine Advisory Committee during the past year. The following is a list of the prominent issues discussed or brought before the Committee:

- Participation/Sponsoring of Sanibel Island Safe Boating Week and Safe Boating Day.
- Storage facilities for the Sanibel Police Marine Patrol units.
- Red Start Program.
- Dredging of Blind Pass and canal systems.
- Representation on the Regional Harbor Board.
- Distribution of Marine Brochures.
- Providing Marine related information to the public.
- Development of Sanibel-Captiva Sail & Power Squadron's Sanibel Emergency Response Assistance Team (SERAT).
- Communication with Sanibel Marine Patrol Unit
- Water Quality issues.
- Lake Okeechobee releases.
- Review and updating of City Marine Ordinances.
- Review of County and State Marine Laws.
- Permanent Mooring Fields.
- Compiling of Marine Resources.

Accomplishments:

The following actions have been taken on the issues brought before the Marine Advisory Committee:

- Sanibel Island Safe Boating Week and Safe Boating Day be handled by the Sanibel-Captiva Sail & Power Squadron and not the City of Sanibel.
- Received updated reports on the storage of the Police marine Patrol Units.
- Monthly updates on Red Start program.
- Monthly updates on Blind Pass and dredging projects.

- Updating of the Marine Brochures.
- Providing marine related issues to local papers.
- Regular reports on the Regional Harbor Board Meetings.
- Monthly reports on the Sanibel Emergency Assistance Team (SERAT).
- Monthly reports from Marine Patrol Unit.
- The continuous monitoring of the status of Gulf Drilling.
- Monthly reports on water releases from Lake Okeechobee.
- Started compiling of marine resources.

Goals & Recommendations for 2007:

- Continue to monitor progress of storage for Marine Patrol Unit.
- Reprinting of the Marine Brochure.
- Continue monthly reports on the following:
 - Red Start Program.
 - Blind Pass and canal dredging.
 - Regional Harbor Board
 - Sanibel Emergency Response Assistance Team (SERAT).
 - Lake Okeechobee releases.
 - Water Quality Issues.
 - Marine Patrol Unit
- Continue to compile Sanibel marine resources.
- Establishment of Public Mooring Fields.
- Work with Recreation Department on development of Bay View Park.

Conclusions:

The year 2006 was considered to be very productive for the Marine Advisory Committee. We feel that many major marine related issues have been discussed with action resulting in successful conclusion or progress. The Committee wishes to thank the Council Members and City Staff for their support and assistance.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2006

The Parks and Recreation Committee has had a busy year, continuing to refine and implement the City's Master Plan for Parks and Recreation Facilities. The committee met 12 times during the past year. The Committee has received valuable assistance from the Recreation Director, as well as other members of the City staff.

On the policy front, the Committee made the following recommendations:

- Recommended the City Council move ahead with a contract for the new Recreation Center based on the results of the April referendum.
- Recommended acceptance of the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Grant for Sanibel Community Park and rejection the grant for Roadside Park
- Reviewed the portions of the Sanibel Plan applicable to Parks and Recreation and made recommendations for changes to the Planning Commission.
- Reviewed the potential of East and West locations at Bayview Park for the historic structure, Shorehaven, and made recommendations to the Historical Preservation Committee and City Council.

Sanibel Community Park

- Reviewed the cost of various elements for Sanibel Community Park and recommended priorities for use of existing funds based on conditions of the FRDAP Grant.
- Continued the work of the Scholarship Board which awarded gifts for recreation fees to twenty-two youth during the year.

Roadside Park

- Recommended rejection of the FRDAP Grant for the development of the park and that the proposed elements of the Park be developed as possible.

Other Parks

- Reviewed and approved the recommended additions and improvements to Bowman's Beach Park under a FRDAP Grant.
- Sanibel Gardens Preserve was opened to the public again.

Sanibel Recreation Center and Ball Fields

- A skate park was developed with funds from County park impact fees and opened on January 21, 2007. Efforts are underway to secure gifts from the public for additional equipment.
- Studied recreation center user fees in various municipalities and made a recommendation to the City Council for membership rates for the new Recreation Center when it opens.
- A ribbon-cutting was held for the beginning of construction of the New Recreation Center in September, 2006 and a Topping Out Ceremony held on March 8, 2007.

The Committee has spent much of its time this year working toward the construction of the new Recreation Center and Pool Complex. We are proud of the great work done by the Construction Company, Henry –will insert and City staff in moving this project along on schedule and budget.

2006 Program Statistics

Program	Participants
45+ Adult Softball (pickup games)	40
L. League (league)	125
Football (league)	115
Soccer (league)	135
Basketball (league)	90
After School	130
Teens	55
Swim Lessons	114
Cheerleading	28
Water Aerobics	37
Masters Swim Program	10
Swim Team	12
Summer Program	150
Holiday Programs	100
Senior Membership	668
Adult Softball Co-ed League	70
Youth Volleyball	30

The Committee's completed these goals for the past year:

- Recommended steps toward the development of Community Park
- Recommended the acceptance of a contract for the new Recreation Center
- Recommended the overall approach to user fees for the Recreation Center

The Committee will work on the following goals during the coming year:

- Present a picture of the details of the Master Plan with the estimated cost of improvements to parks and recreation, along with estimated operating costs
- Recommend next steps on Bayview Park
- Complete the development of Community Park
- Open the new Recreation Complex and encourage its use by the entire community
- Recommend the next steps on the Revision of the Master Plan for Shared Use Paths.

In closing, the Committee wishes to express its appreciation for the tremendous support of City Staff, and for the City Council's recognition of the importance of open space and recreation in the lives and health of its citizens and visitors.

Armand Ball, Chair
Dick Muench, Vice-Chair
Christine Bradley
Scott Conway
Marty Harrity
Richard McCurry
Mitch Moore
Donna Ruhe
Alan Silberman
Mark Tesoro
Marcel Ventura

Jim Jennings, Council Liaison
Helene Phillips, Recreation Director

**VEGETATION COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2006**

Subject: Accomplishments and Goals of the Vegetation Committee

Mission Statement: The Vegetation Committee shall advise the Planning Commission, the City Council and the City Manager about sound ecological management of vegetative resources in the City and make available expert technical assistance for any person on the Island who desires advice concerning the clearing or landscaping for development activity.

History: Founded July 19, 1976

Accomplishments from January 1, 2006-December 31, 2006

- There were 11 meetings held during the period on the first Thursday of each month except August, at 1:30 PM.
- Conducted quarterly classes and examinations for landscape and other contractors a total of 54 persons, including 5 City employees took the course and exam, either for the first time or for renewal.
- Conducted 47 vegetation inspections, completed reports and submitted them to the Planning Department. The number included 6 re-inspections and 15 final inspections. The draft change, adopted by the Planning Department, requiring homeowners to be offered the chance to be present onsite when the inspection takes place was instituted in April 2006. The environmental handbook and a list of available native plants is also offered.
- The report and recommendations of the Vegetation committee on Australian Pines were sent to City Council who tabled the discussion until November 2006. Council action continued into December 2006.
- At the request of City Council, the Committee formed a sub-committee to research reducing the amount of fertilizer run-off from Sanibel. The resulting recommendation requested the City of Sanibel to design an ordinance to address the reduction of fertilizer run-off into the waters on and around Sanibel. At the December 2006 City Council meeting, the recommendation was accepted.
- Coordinated and conducted Arbor Day activities at the Sanibel School. A Mahogany tree was planted on the grounds.
- Proposed that teaching materials and subsequently the exam for the Landscapers course be revised by Natural Resources assisted by the Vegetation Committee where appropriate.
- Arranged for students attending the Sanibel Recreation Center summer program to plant sea oats. 3000 were planted at Bowman's Beach.

- Conducted surveys and inspections for Brazilian Pepper as directed by Natural Resources on a continuing basis

A number of speakers presented pertinent material to the Committee, as follows:

- Tom Becker, Florida Yards and Neighborhoods, spoke regarding fertilizers and best management practices as outlined by the program.
- Jason Hanley, "Ding Darling" staff member for exotic plant control, spoke about GPS locating of exotics and answered many questions.
- Jennifer Evans, Manager of the SCCF Native Plant Nursery, spoke about the use, care and propagation of native plants and her goals for the nursery.
- Dee Serage, SCCF environmentalist, gave a power point on native plants and the committee discussed the use of this program in the community as part of the plan to control fertilizer use and conserve water.

Two new members were added to the Committee.

GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2007

- Approval of revision of materials for the Landscapers Course by the City Council
- Consideration of a vegetation plan for the new Recreation Center that might be an example for the community in the use of native plants.
- City Council action on the recommendation proposed by the Vegetation Committee reducing the run-off of fertilizer from Sanibel.
- The Vegetation Committee requests it be kept informed of actions of the Lower West Coast Watersheds Subcommittee as it relates to the educational component of the proposed Fertilizer Ordinance.

Members of the Committee: Paul Duval, Phyllis Gresham, Edwin Herms, Robin C. Krivanek, Susie Marks, Ann Talcott, Hal Theiss, Berdenna Thompson, William Wollschlager.

Adjunct members: Gloria Hannan, Tom Hansen

WILDLIFE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2006

Introduction:

Our mission is to protect and preserve the wildlife on Sanibel Island through advisory recommendations to the City Council of Sanibel.

Issues:

The following is a list of the prominent issues discussed or brought before the Committee:

- Alligator population
- Green Iguanas on Sanibel.
- Raccoons and dumpsters.
- Australian Pines.
- Road Fatalities.
- Red Drift Algae.
- Water Quality.
- Sanibel Pier Security

(See achievements and recommendations)

Accomplishments:

The following actions have been taken on the issues by the Wildlife Committee:

- **Green Iguanas on Sanibel:** Green Iguanas are the most common at Gumbo Limbo and Beachview, and represent a potential long-term problem. Their history, habits, and possible methods of control are covered in the Committee's Iguana Report.
- **Raccoons:** Ordinance 06-006, Section 10-8; The Wildlife Committee was instrumental in getting the penalty for the feeding of wild raccoons increased from fifty dollars to five hundred. The first fine for a dumpster violation has been issued and other citations given to restaurant owners. See January 16, 2007 news release.)
- **Sanibel Fishing Pier:** Concerns about the conditions and the overall functioning of the Pier were submitted to the Public Works Department in August 2006. The abusive conduct and vandalizing mostly by night fisherman was accurately recorded. The Committee's recommendation that night parking fees at this facility be initiated to halt the problems was approved by City Council. Maintenance and trash removal is positive and our present pier conditions can best be described as excellent.

- Over fifteen thousand pamphlets covering birds, alligators, shelling, and fishing regulations have been distributed to resorts, rental agencies, the Sanibel School, Fishing Pier and others by all of our members. This year the Committee added the Snowy Plover brochure. Translations of the Angler pamphlet into both Spanish and German are also offered.
- Wildlife Educators: Committee member have regular beach coverage assignments at Blind Pass, West Gulf Drive Accesses, Bowman's Beach, Tarpon Bay, Fulger, Donax, Nerita, Bay Drive and Bailey Road, Lighthouse Beach and the Fishing Pier. The Wildlife Committee is the ambassadors from Sanibel to the beach goers, and as necessary we pass on the messages included in our pamphlets and on our signs, to the public.
- Wildlife Surveys-Sanibel Gardens: A monthly walk-thru is conducted to record and tally sightings of birds and other wildlife to the Committee. Any concerns about conditions are reported to the Natural Resources Department.
- Road Fatalities: Fatalities involving raccoons, opossums, armadillos, and others, provided by the Public Works Department are compiled by the Committee and published on a monthly basis in our local newspapers. There were two hundred-eight fatalities for 2006 versus one hundred-ninety for 2005. Raccoons on Sanibel-Captiva Road topped the list. Opossums on Periwinkle Way were a far second.
- Australian Pines: We reviewed Professor Payne's correspondence on the pines, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Report. The Committee is concerned about the detrimental effects of large concentrations of Australian Pines on our island environment.
- Water Quality: Committee members have attended hearings, conferences and other forums involving state and Sanibel negative water conditions and their impact on our wildlife. Disseminations of our concerns and recommendations have included articles to both local and off island publications.

Goals & Recommendations for 2007:

- Alligators: Statistics and recommendations from the Committee are that the present alligator policy be maintained but that non-nuisance alligators up to six feet can be relocated to conservations areas. Failure to do this will wipe out the sustainable size necessary to breed and propagate. Statistics are included. Council follow-up is necessary for this to happen.
- The availability of Wildlife pamphlets from the City continues to be critical to our program's success.
- Keep public informed of monthly road fatalities on Sanibel.
- Wildlife and Fishing Habits Seminar: The Committee will be planning in 2007 to hold this special project in conjunction with our elementary school students. It will include proper use of fishing equipment on the fishing pier and on the beach, net casting and a Questions & Answer period with students regarding fish catching regulations, bird feeding, and concern for the environment. Members of the City Council will be invited to attend.

- **Raccoon Ordinance:** It is everybody's responsibility to comply with Sanibel laws. Island restaurant managers and owners must know that they are included. Now this \$500 applies to those who choose not to obey.
- **Red Drift Algae:** Concerns about algae removal practices have been emailed to the City Council by Committee members. Any use of heavy machinery for beach cleanup must be prohibited.

Conclusions:

This has been another positive year for the Wildlife Committee. We the City Council, the City Manager, and her staff, the Natural Resources Department, Public Works Department, the Police Department and other for making it happen. The Wildlife Committee plans to continue to maintain its present projects and include other as they present themselves.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vernon Frankwich
Chairman, Wildlife Committee

