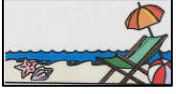


JANUARY 2016 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS
NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN

Page 1 of 6 pages

OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.



P.O. Box 4323
FT WALTON BEACH,
FL 32549

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Next Meeting: LOCATION: Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2nd Floor
Meeting Room TIME: 7:00 p.m. **DATE:** Monday, **January 11, 2016**
PARKING: Please park behind the Fire Station next to the water tank

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- ◆ Message from the President – **Vince Bruner**
- ◆ Fire District Responses – Nov 2015
- ◆ Rainfall Report for December 2015
- ◆ This Month in History - JANUARY
- ◆ Okaloosa National Miniature Golf Course moving along – looking to opening date of March 1, 2016
- ◆ **Update:** Funding to be included in the FY 2017 TDC budget for preliminary design & survey costs for the Bridge to Bridge Pathway proposal
- ◆ **Update:** Latest information on the new condo being planned for construction on the vacant Coquina Isle parcel
- ◆ Minutes (Draft) – December 14 Meeting

Parade on
Okaloosa
Island
@ 1 pm

The first Mardi Gras
celebration on the Gulf
Coast!

www.FWBChamber.com
or 244-8191

13th Annual Mardi Gras Parade
Saturday, January 16

Another Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce Event



The OIL Lantern

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS
ASSOCIATION, Inc

P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549, Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116
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JANUARY 2016

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Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday, **January 11, 2016**

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you speak, please state your name, address and if you are a member.

IV. MINUTES

December 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes (Draft)

V. TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer, Jim Simpson

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Architectural Committee: (see Newsletter)

C. Membership Liaison: **Jim Simpson**

D. WebSite: **Bob Seitz**

E. Boat Basin: **Carol Edlund**

F. Street Lighting MSBU: **Maryl Bednar & Paula Hudson**

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. OILA Mardi Gras Float Schedule – Jim Simpson

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT – Vince Bruner

Writing the message from the president, on the day after Christmas in 76° heat, must bring to mind El Niño, or the Christ child, in Spanish. Indeed, nations in Latin America, along the Pacific coast and all areas of the Pacific coast, experience greater rainfall, that has often helped relieve drought conditions. The snowpack in the western United States has begun to be significantly replenish from the years of reduced snowfall and drought, thanks to this strong El Niño event. Besides keeping California's agricultural industry and its optimum, El Niño has always produced reduced hurricane activity in the Atlantic.

A combination of fresh fruits and vegetables, reasonable prices in our grocery stores and no hurricanes beating down on our island, are plenty to be grateful for!



The first Mardi Gras celebration on the Gulf Coast!

Parade on Okaloosa Island @ 1 pm

www.FWBChamber.com
or 244-8191

13th Annual Mardi Gras Parade
Saturday, January 16

Another Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce Event

Volunteers (walkers, throwers, decorators) still needed to decorate and staff the OILA Float!!!! We had 15 volunteers sign up at the December 14 meeting! -- If you can help, sign up at the Jan 11, 2016 OILA meetings, call Jim Simpson @ 850.585.2116 or email him @ sanleanna@cox.net.

We will decorate the float on the Island starting at 12:00 noon on Friday, Jan 15 at 625 Pelican Dr. All volunteers and walk-ins are needed for this task. More details to follow. P.S. IT'S A LOT OF FUN!! Also, OILA will be the lead float!



ISLAND RAINFALL FOR DECEMBER 2015: 6.1 INCHES

Dec 2.....1.1 inches	Dec 28.....0.9 inches
Dec 16.....0.1 inches	Dec 29.....0.4 inches
Dec 17.....0.2 inches	Dec 30.....1.0 inches
Dec 21.....0.6 inches	Dec 31.....0.3 inches
Dec 22.....1.5 inches	

Avg Rainfall for December.....4.8 inches

Avg Rainfall for January.....5.0 inches
 January Record High.....80° F (1957)
 January Record Low4° F (1985)
 Jan Avg Water Temperature.....64° F

Avg Rainfall for February.....5.8 inches
 February Record High.....80° F (1980)
 February Record Low11° F (1951)
 Feb Avg Water Temperature.....64° F

YTD Variance to Avg.....-15.2 inches
 Rainfall Year-to-Date.....49.9 inches
 Avg Annual Rainfall65.1 inches

FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS 110 RESPONSES IN NOVEMBER

Fire calls.....	5
False Alarms.....	12
EMS/Rescue/MVA	57
Other.....	36



NEW OKALOOSA ISLAND MINIATURE GOLF COURSE, THE OKALOOSA NATIONAL, PROJECTED TO OPEN MAR 1, 2016

Construction of the new Okaloosa Island miniature golf course, The Okaloosa National, on the north side of Santa Rosa Blvd (across the street from the Azure condo) is moving right along (see below photo). The owner/developer, **Vince Bruner**, announced at the last OILA meeting that the goal was to be open for business by March 1, 2016.

Vince advised that the course business hours will be March 1 to October 31, with limited hours depending on the weather from Nov 1 to Feb 28. So far, 30 trees have been planted on the the course with a goal to plant 100. He also announced that he would be working as the Golf Pro for the course.



Photo Taken on December 27, 2015



Vince Bruner, Golf Pro The Okaloosa National



UNCLE OILA NEEDS YOU TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH HIS MARDI GRAS FLOAT

If you can help with decorating, working in the parade as a safety walker or as a rider tossing beads and moon pies, let Jim Simpson know. Call him at 585-2116 or email: sanleanna@cox.net
 Note: If you signed up at the Dec 14 OILA meeting, please do not respond to this call.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY – JANUARY

January 1, 1892 Ellis Island opens as Immigration gateway.

January 14, 1934 The Loch Ness Monster is spotted

January 15, 1943 The Pentagon building is completed

January 20, 1920 Prohibition takes effect stopping the sale and consumption of alcohol when the 18th Amendment went into effect

January 27, 1944 Siege of Leningrad broken after 872 days

JOIN THE LEASEHOLDERS! LET YOUR OPINIONS BE HEARD!

FOR A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION CLICK ON THE ASSOCIATION'S WEBPAGE:

WWW.OILAWEB.COM,

or

CONTACT JIM SIMPSON
AT(850) 585-2116 OR
BY EMAIL AT:

SANLEANNA@COX.NET.



DEVELOPMENT ORDER SUBMITTED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW CONDO ON THE VACANT COQUINA ISLE PARCEL: UPDATE: THE DEVELOPER HAS ASSIGNED THE NAME OF “BLU”

Mr. Ed Stanford, PE, Core Engineering & Consulting, briefed the Leaseholders at the December 14 meeting on the pending construction of a new condo on the currently vacant Coquina Isle lot. The condo will be 75 feet high (six stories) and consist of 47 units. Below are architectural renditions of what the new condo will look like. Mr. Stanford estimated that the size of the individual units would be in the 1,800 to 2,200 square foot range. An earlier request for the partial vacation of Scallop Court has been approved after which an application was submitted to Okaloosa County for a development order to construct the new condo.



WEST ELEVATED GRAPHIC - 2



EAST ELEVATED GRAPHIC



REAR ELEVATED GRAPHIC



WEST ELEVATED GRAPHIC - 1

BREAKING NEWS: THE OKALOOSA COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (TDC) APPROVES BUDGETING FUNDS IN FY 2017 FOR SITE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES FOR THE OILA SPONSORED BRIDGE TO BRIDGE PATHWAY PROPOSAL

Background: OILA, under the leadership of Board of Directors members **Kathy Foster**, **Dave Hancock** and former member **Jill Higgins** have been promoting the development of a bridge to bridge pathway which will connect to the new Brooks Bridge pedestrian path, traverse six miles along highway 98 and wind underneath the Marler Bridge giving access to the existing walkway on Marler or traveling to the Air Force recreational park.

An important first step in this process has been achieved with the U.S. Air Force approval of the Air Force Outgrant & Environmental Process for the proposal. The next step was to obtain funding for the preliminary design and survey... estimated to be \$102,172. An effort by the OILA team to obtain funding from ORAC, the Okaloosa RESTORE Advisory Committee, was unsuccessful. (Note: ORAC was responsible for the distribution in Okaloosa County of \$6.4 million awarded to Okaloosa County by BP).

The next step was to request funding from the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Council. The OILA team approached the TDC staff and board and requested funding. This effort was successful as detailed in the following email received from TDC Director, Ed Schroeder on December 9, 2015:

...Commissioner Ketchel, Jason Autrey and I met to discuss the OILA bike path proposal. We join you in your excitement about the project and feel it is appropriate for the TDC to partner with OILA to help bring this about. We look forward to your presentation tomorrow and suggest you present it as staging the project for the FY 2017 budget and marketing plan. As a capital project, it must be placed in an annual budget request and cannot be funded out of the current year budget. The FY 2017 budget process starts in two months and concludes in the final adoption by the BCC in Sept. It will be staff's recommendation to support consideration by the TDC for inclusion in the FY 2017 budget. Please let me know if you have any questions....

At the December 10, 2015 meeting of the TDC Board of Directors OILA Board Member, Dave Hancock, presented the Bridge to Bridge Pathway Project to stage it for the FY 2017 budget and marketing plan in the amount of \$102,172. This request was supported by TDC staff. The TDC Board concurred and directed the TDC staff to place the funding in the FY 2017 budget

The construction costs will likely be \$200,000 per mile (based on FDOT planning data) with little to no right-of-way purchases. We are passionate about this project and committed to searching for grants from various sources including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Trails, ORAC, Florida Department of Transportation TAP, BP funds, Bill Gates Foundation, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration Recreational Trails Program, etc. etc.

**Minutes (Draft) - Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association
Membership Meeting – DECEMBER 14, 2015 – Island Fire Safety Center**

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m. by Vice President Kathy Foster **Present:** Vince Bruner, Kathy Foster, Dave Hancock, Desley Parker, Kim Haines

Guest Presentation: Mr. Ed Stanford, PE – Core Engineering & Consulting. Mr. Stanford presented the site plan, architectural drawings and general information about the development plan to build a new condo on the vacant Coquina Isle parcel. For more detailed information, please refer to the article on this subject on page 4 of this newsletter.

UPDATE: The developer has changed the name of his development from “The Beach House Island Resort” to “Blu”.

Minutes: A motion to approve the December 14, 2015 minutes which were printed in the January 2016 OIL Lantern was made, seconded and approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Jim Simpson

December 14, 2015 Treasurer’s Report

November 9, 2015 total balance:.....	\$ 36,921.90
Discretionary fund balance as of Nov 9, 2015.....	\$ 35,500.52
Receipts since last report.....	
Membership Dues	\$ 324.00
Newsletter Fees.....	\$ 18.00
Donations.....	\$ 7.00
Total Receipts:	\$ 349.00
Expenditures since last report.....	No Expenditures
Expenses pending approval for payment:	
Reimburse Jim Simpson for stamps for mailing the December 2015 OIL Lantern.....	\$ 21.56
Discretionary fund balance after receipts/expenditures/reimbursement...	\$ 35,827.96
Beautification fund balance (unchanged since last report).....	\$ 1,421.28
Total Fund Balance as December 14, 2015.....	\$ 37,249.24

A motion to accept the Treasurer’s report and reimburse Jim Simpson for his expenditure of \$21.56 for postage to mail the December 2015 OIL Lantern was made, seconded and approved.

Committee Reports

MSBU: Maryl Bednar/Paula Hudson

**REVIEW OF AUDIT TRAIL FOR DEPT 1602 OKALOOSA ISLAND MSBU
DATED DEC 2, 2015. (last report dated Nov.2, 2015)**

EXPENDITURES:

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

10/29--17 pumps	\$ 677.57	(shown on last months report)
11/5----12 pumps	<u>425.50</u>	(29 pumps is correct total of pumps)

Total Charge

	\$ 1,103.07
--	-------------

STREELIGHTS: 11/5

	\$ 2,644.14
--	-------------

BILLING:

	0.00
--	------

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

	\$ 3,747.21
--	-------------

REVENUE:

	0.00
--	------

2015 FUND BALANCE:

	\$ 228,598.87
--	---------------

YTD FUND BALANCE

	<u>224,851.66</u>
--	-------------------

CHANGE:

	\$ (3,747.21)
--	---------------

NOTE*** There has been no noted Revenue since end of Fiscal Year. Clerk’s Office reports that this is due to year end activity with a delay with the transfer of Revenue from Water & Sewer Dept. This is to be caught up by the end of this week. YTD Balance does not yet reflect this additional Revenue.

Minutes (Draft) - Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Associati Meeting – DEC 14, 2015 (continued)

Website - Bob Seitz: No report

Boat Basin - Carol Edlund: No Report

Beautification – Kathy Foster: Kathy Foster reported that the fence problem at the single family residence at 640 Porpoise had been corrected. Several months ago a car lost control on Santa Rosa Blvd and knocked down several sections of the wood fencing which closed off the back area of 640 Porpoise. This resulted in opening access from the street to the back yard swimming pool which is a safety hazard. Kathy advised that **Lisa Payton** of Okaloosa County Code Enforcement had made contact with the owner and that three new sections of fencing have been installed. The pool is no longer visible from the street or accessible from the sidewalk. Kathy complimented Lisa for taking care of this situation. Vince Bruner also noted that Lisa had done a good job in resolving several other problem areas on the Island.

Old Business - Funding request for Mardi Gras supplies (throws, decorations, etc) – Jim Simpson: Jim announced that he was sending around a sign-up sheet at the meeting for those who would like to help with the decorating and staffing of the OILA Mardi Gras float. Jim Simpson requested a \$400 appropriation to support the float – decorations, beads, moon pies, etc. Vince Bruner made a motion to increase the amount to \$600 just to make sure there was sufficient funds to take care of all contingencies. Carmen Parker, who participated on the float last year, noted that we ran short of moon pies towards the end of the parade (where the crowd is greatest) and there was ugly rumblings. In consideration of the need for more moon pies, Jim Simpson withdrew his motion for \$400. The motion to fund for \$600 was seconded and passed.

New Business - Report: Dec 10 TDC Meeting – Bridge to Bridge Pathway – Kathy Foster and Dave Hancock
Dave read an December 9 email he received from TDC Director Ed Schroeder in which Mr. Schroeder advised that he had met with District 2 County Commissioner (and Tourist Development Council member) **Carol Ketchel** and that they were very supportive of the OILA Bridge to Bridge Pathway proposal. (To read the full copy of this email please refer to the Bridge to Bridge article on page 4 of this newsletter). At the December 10 meeting of the Tourist Development Council, they agreed to place funding in the FY 2017 TDC budget for this project. Dave also noted that a bike pathway will be incorporated into the new Brooks Bridge which could be connected to the proposed Bridge to Bridge project.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm

Submitted by Jim Simpson (extracted from the December 14, 2015 on line podcast of the meeting).