

Minutes of the February 14, 2011
St. Johns County Civic Roundtable
St. Johns County Airport Meeting Center

Those in attendance Tony Bosco, Bill Jones Jim Kirkham, Jim McLane, Lim Walter, Len Kaufman, Joe Spadaro, Dave MacDonald, WP O'Malley, Douglas C. Worth, Daniel Hayes, Dan Jones, Beth Grossman, Ed O Sullivan, Mary Saunders, Rick Lofgren, Ed Olsen, D. Ridge Bolgiano, Frank Schwartz, Linda Oakley, Nancy Russell, Ellen A. Whitmer, Fred A Hall, Barbara Jenness, Christine Rich

Meeting called to order at 9:04 AM

Minutes were read and approved with corrections

Membership Report – We currently have 51 members and to date 9 have paid for 2011

Treasurers Reports – Our current bank balance is \$3798.82 Invoices for 2011 membership renewals were passed out. Members were encouraged to get those renewals back to their respective neighborhood and / or civic association for action.

Guest Speaker – Barry B. Ansbacher of Ansbacher & Associates gave a very detailed and informative presentation on “Dealing with Foreclosures and Short Sales”. Highlights included...

- SJC is above the state and national average in foreclosures
- Banks are gaming the system
- Only 22% of these foreclosures have been taken back by banks
- 38% are scheduled for sale
- 40% are sitting limbo with no bank action being taken
- 60% of all Home / Condo Associations are dealing with default issues

Mr. Ansbacher outlined several options and courses of action. The entire presentation can be seen at Ansbacher.net or it may be viewed by clicking on the link on our Roundtable website.

Board of Commissioners – Rick Lofgren

- Fire Chief Bobby Hull recognized both the Fire Fighter & Paramedic of the Year
- Public hearing on VBTCNZV regarding building a deli style take out restaurant with new deck and handicap elevator and chairs for patron who want to dine in or take food out. Motion passed 5-0 w no negative public comment
- Public Hearing on MAJMOD 2010-01 Modification to Julington Creek PUD for an Antenna tower. Public comment was both positive and negative. PZA voted 7-0 in favor and BCC voted 4-1 with Jay Morris as the no vote – comments from Roundtable members again expressed concern about cell tower on church property and churches enjoying tax exempt status and doing commercial business
- County Attorney Patrick McCormick presented ideas about Decorum and Civility. There was some general dialogue and the Attorney will be back with ideas to put in writing

Education Committee – Jim McLane – David Wells

****see report submitted****

New Business

Linda Oakley suggested the Roundtable investigate and then issue an opinion on the proposed extra penny sales tax. Commissioner Ken Bryant advised that Town Hall meeting will be held throughout the county to answer questions and discuss this issue.

Jerry Cameron advised the City was working the media very hard regarding the Gallimore Center Pool. The City still wants the pool reopened while the County position remains unchanged. The County cannot justify this expenditure. The funds aren't there and the new pool is just a mile or so from the old one.

Membership seems to like the new meeting location at the Airport. A "roundtable configuration" was suggested and President Bosco will address that concern. It was further suggested that we invite someone from the Airport Authority to speak at a future meeting about the Airport budget and this new facility.

President Bosco raised the issue of expanding our membership. The theory of strength in numbers is important if we are going to have an impact on policy and direction in the county. He encouraged all members to share the happenings of the Roundtable with friends and neighbors and please extend an invitation to others to attend our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM