

January, 2013 Coconut Telegraph

The **Little Gasparilla Island Property Owners Association** met on Saturday, January 12th. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, February 9th at 1PM.

The **Little Gasparilla Island Advisory Committee** met on Friday, January 11th. The next meeting will be on Friday, February 8th.

Little Gasparilla Island Fire and Rescue had its Annual Meeting on Friday, December 28, 2012. No date has yet been set for the next Board meeting.

LGPOA: Membership is now at 279, with \$23,160 in the Treasury.

Communication being the major purpose of the POA, a volunteer was needed for website maintenance. Cone Darnell offered to do this. Check out our website at www.lgpoa.org.

The Board discussed what sorts of communication to put in the **Coconut Telegraph**. It was decided not to use the Coconut Telegraph to advertise anyone's commercial interests, to offer things for sale or for free or to request or offer services. Instead, the Board voted to explore the construction of a community bulletin board near the chapel on which islanders can place announcements, things for sale, etc. They also noted the fact that Facebook or Craig's List can be used to do these things.

Island Services: LGPOA funded improvements to the section of the main road located north of the Hideaway Condominiums will be completed by Sam Dixon. The **Great American Cleanup** will be held on March 9th. More details will be provided in a future edition of the Telegraph.

Navigation: The County has replaced the missing green #1 marker at the beginning of the channel to the island.

Voluntary Golf Cart Registration: David Haynes presented new forms for registering golf carts with Charlotte County. A copy is attached. The form can be filled out and emailed or faxed. If you cannot email or fax, you may send your completed form to LGPOA, PO Box 3643, Placida FL 33946. As noted in an earlier edition, this voluntary registration program is intended to assist the Sheriff's Office in locating the owner of stolen or vandalized golf carts.

Islanders have reported that theft and vandalism have increased on the island. Two golf carts were stolen from the Hideaway condos, driven on the beach, and left partially submerged in the Gulf. Also, the library was vandalized recently. The Board discussed the possibility for forming a **Neighborhood Watch** association. County Volunteer Coordinator Dale Phillips will present an informational meeting about this on February 7th at 4PM at the Placida Beach Clubhouse.

The LGPOA is offering **free environmentally friendly herbicide** (Garlon 4 or Element 4), which can be used to kill exotics. It should be applied to a fresh cut in a plant or tree; it does not work as a spray on foliage. You may get a supply of this from Phyllis and Charles NeSmith. Their home is located at the far north end of the island, 8078 LGI on the bay. Bring a small pump spray bottle. Email Phyllis at pahlstory2@gmail.com or call her at 697-2242 for directions or more information.

Red Tide: Mote Marine is opening an office on Boca Grande and will be more closely monitoring red tide. Check the status of red tide in our area at <http://myfwc.com/research/redtide/events/status/statewide/>.

LGI Advisory Committee: Committee Chair Bob Hill met with Dan Quick of the Charlotte County Community Development department, asking him to take the LGI Zoning Overlay Act to the County Commission for passage independent of the new comprehensive county zoning ordinance that is still under development by county staff. The Advisory Committee will review the latest draft of the Act prepared by the county staff before it is presented for passage by the County Commission. This Act zones LGI as single family residential only and was prepared more than three years ago by a joint effort of the Advisory Committee and the LGPOA.

LGI Fire and Rescue: The Board of Directors will complete the purchase of the lot just north of the Hideaway Condominiums at the end of January. This will be accomplished with financing provided by an island couple. A Building Fund has been established to deposit funds donated for the construction of the firehouse. Check the website www.lgifr.com for minutes from the meeting, financial reports, and the Chief's Report.