



**PENSACOLA BEACH ADVOCATES  
ANNUAL MEETING  
October 22, 2018, 6:30 p.m.  
Beach Community Church**

*Minutes*

**Introductions**

Pensacola Beach Advocates (PBA) President Benjamin Stevenson welcomed the membership and introduced board members Jack Cerone, Ben Clabaugh, Glen Windham (ex-officio Treasurer) Lauren Campanella (Beachkeepers) and Terry Preston (Government Affairs). He thanked the community church for providing the hall for our meeting and provided an overview of the agenda.

**Board Elections**

PBA held elections for two open board positions. Benjamin Stevenson decided not to run for re-election, and Jack Cerone's position was open for another term. Nominations from the floor were for James Crittenden, Jack Cerone, and Peter Nemeth. Candidates were introduced and allowed to speak for a few minutes on why they wished to be on the Board. A ballot was passed and counted. James and Peter were elected to the two positions. Benjamin thanked Jack for his service on the board.

**Financial**

Stevenson reported PBA's financial status. PBA has roughly \$31k in assets. Income and expenses to date in 2018 have resulted in a net loss of \$1.1k from 2017. Annual financial statements are available to the membership at any time after the close of the fiscal year.

**Government Affairs**

Terry Preston reported that the Save Pensacola Beach activists were successful in forcing the Board of County Commissioners to include a non-binding referendum on the November ballot that allows voters to affirm their support of an Escambia County policy prohibiting privatization through sale or lease of currently unleaded properties, especially conservation and preservation

properties on Santa Rosa Island and reaffirming the congressional restrictions of the 1947 deed. The group hopes to prevent any further support by Escambia County for federal legislation allowing leaseholders to obtain title to the property they are paying taxes on.

The Committee has been discussing the problems encountered with the “hometels” that are infilling all the empty lots in the residential neighborhoods. At this point, the best we can do is complain to the Sheriff’s Office and the SRIA when these properties cause disruption in your neighborhood. It was decided to start with an attempt to control the destruction and disruption associated with the Spring Break crowds first. A meeting will be held in December to develop a plan to deal with 2019 Spring Break.

### **Beachkeepers**

Lauren Campanella reported that the Sea Turtle Baby Shower had the highest attendance yet at approximately 1000 participants! Beachkeepers will be teaming with the Navarre Beach Sea Turtle Conservation Center to pull a float in the Christmas parade. All members are welcome to walk or ride along. They will be dressed as sea life. The group has also partnered with Ocean Hour and the Beach School to collect plastic drinking bottle caps to recycle into a bench. And the PBA sponsored the First Annual Sea Turtle Soiree, a fundraiser for the Sea Turtle Conservation Center’s educational efforts!

### **New Business**

There was much discussion from the floor about the disruption to the residential neighborhoods when large groups fill the rental, particularly the “hometels.” Several people volunteered to work on the committees for Spring Break and for controlling these businesses catering to large groups. Terry Preston mentioned that when asked, Paolo Ghio said that the only requirement for maintaining these buildings as single family homes is the number of kitchens they have. Only one kitchen is allowed in a single family home.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.