

COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF LEHIGH ACRES
Lee County Sheriff Community Meeting Room, Lehigh Acres, FL
Minutes from October 16, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by President, Rick Anglickis

Invocation: Dewitt Green

Pledge of Allegiance – Rick Anglickis

ATTENDANCE: Rick Anglickis, Will Bronson, Jaime Bryant, Joan Cunningham, Tina Despin, Charles Edwards, Ron Gogoi, Dewitt Green, Orville Hall, George Kloers, Frank Mann, Theresa Park, Charles Pakulis, Bob Saul, Linda Saul, Diane Turrill, Tyler Woodby, Diane Zigrossi

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Bill Martin, Mohamed Yasin

ABSENT: Carol Cherigo

A QUORUM was established with 18 members present.

AGENDA: Approved unanimously

MINUTES: Diane Zigrossi made a motion to approve, seconded by Joan Cunningham, approved unanimously

TREASURER’S REPORT: Linda Saul made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report and Check Edwards seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously

GUEST SPEAKERS: Frank Mann, John Wilson. David Hire, Chris Bradley, Roger Dejarlais

Frank Mann: Rumors were being spread that were not true. For example, incorporated cities such as Cape Coral were being cleaned up before the unincorporated areas of Lee County. Mr. Mann reported his assistant, Chris Berry, lives in Cape Coral and reported to him that it was anything but clean. If all goes well, clean up should be finished by the end of December.

The first areas of Lee County to be cleaned were main roadways and getting the street lights working properly. Mr. Mann also reported the media did a good job reporting that where traffic lights were out, the intersection should be treated as if it were a 4-way stop.

Half of Lehigh had power within 6 days, the power companies restored power to the most populous areas first.

Another rumor was in the Letter to the Editor of one of the papers stating the wealthier communities were getting more attention. It appeared that way because those communities have Home Owner Associations that take care of the landscape in the community.

Mosquito control district is allowing debris to be taken to their area or the vacant property on the corner of Joel Blvd and David. If the residents have the ability to get their debris to either of these locations, it would speed up debris elimination. The debris created by Hurricane Irma was 50 times the amount collected in a week.

The County Commissioners are meeting to explore what was done right and what was done wrong. They have another meeting October 17, 2017 to go over the rights and wrongs. Mr. Mann stated he is proud of the countless efforts made by the Police and Fire Departments, Lee County personnel, the Red Cross, FEMA, the power companies and others that worked 18 hours a day, 7 days a week. The county has approximately 300,000 residences several residents had to leave their homes and go to shelters, the people working in the shelters are to be complimented for the good job they did in an uncomfortable situation.

Roger DeJarlais, Lee County Manager, displayed presentation boards of various hurricane details and the timelines that affected Lee County. He showed that Hurricane Irma was wider than the State of Florida is long. He said 16 different functions were going on all at the same time the hurricane was approaching. The day before landfall the heavy equipment was put in place. Crowther Company was hired to get rid of the debris and had trucks in 50 of the 67 counties in Florida.

Flooding was a complex problem in some areas because the weirs are operated on electricity therefore when the power went out the weirs did not open. Some of the residents of Lehigh realized what had happened and opened the weirs. Rick Anglickis suggested the weirs be monitored more closely during power outages.

FEMA representatives and the Lee County Sheriff's Department explained their roles before and after the hurricane. Orville Hall asked if FEMA gave out money for food. The answer to his question is, no.

Steve Despin suggested the public be given more information on what to do and who to call after a storm, the county's plan and functions after the hurricane.

Rick Anglickis brought up areas of roadways where piles of debris are so high they are hazardous to drivers.

Joan Cunningham announced a Town Hall is scheduled for November 4th to be held at the auditorium at Lehigh Senior High from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Chair Person of each committee will give a presentation of the committee's responsibilities with the hope of signing up committee members.

Ron Gogoi reported a round-about was going to be built at Gunnery and Buckingham. On Bell Blvd, a sidewalk will be built to Sunrise. He also reported there will be lane improvements at I-75 and Corkscrew Road.

The Architechural Review Board will become the responsibility of the Community Council. Rick Anglickis will put the agreement in writing to Frank Mann.

Volunteers are needed for the bowling tournament on December 9th. Corporate and lane sponsors are needed as well as volunteers to sell raffle tickets and auction tickets at the fund raiser. Lane sponsors are \$25.00 and Corporate sponsors are \$200.00. The cost to bowl is \$20.00 per bowler, Bowland can accommodate 60 bowlers. Tyler Wooby, Joan Cunningham and Diane Zigrossi volunteered.

Will Bronson reported East Lee Technical Academy will make themselves available as a guest speaker.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Turrill