

CEPD Board Appoints New Commissioners



From right to left: Kathy Rooker, Administrator, Harry Kaiser; Secretary, Dave Jensen; Chairman, Bob Walter; Treasurer, Rich Stegmann; Commissioner, Mike Mullins; Vice Chair, Amanda Colon; Asst. to the Administrator

At their December 9 Regular Board Meeting, CEPD commissioners accepted the resignations of Chairman Jim Boyle and Vice-Chair Doris Holzheimer. In a letter dated November 12, Jim Boyle shared that as of November 12 he was no longer a resident of Captiva. "It is with mixed feeling that I leave Captiva and the CEPD Board. I am appreciative of having had the opportunity to serve as the Board's Chairman for the last four years. I wish to thank the Board for its support in achievement of the 2013-14 Renourishment. Despite the withdrawal of the Corps; we went from facing no project at the end of July to a completed project 5 months later. In the process we built strong cooperative relationships with our partners: Lee County and the Florida DEP." Fellow commissioner Dave Jensen commented that Chairman Boyle's resignation was a "huge loss for Captiva".

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In Defense of Dunes

Building a healthy and robust dune system on Captiva Island has been part of each beach renourishment project on Captiva Island. Current research supports Captiva's efforts. The American Shore & Beach Preservation Association, recently devoted a special issue of their publication "Shore & Beach" to coastal dunes, inspired both by research done in the wake of Superstorm Sandy and the growing interest in more resilient coasts using more natural means when possible.

Post Sandy researchers Daniel A. Barone, Kimberly K. McKenna and Stewart C. Farrell looked at the erosion and storm damage north and south of the landfall site for the storm. They found "the extent of erosion of the beaches and dunes and damages to structures and infrastructure were dependent upon the elevation of the storm waters, volume and extent of the berm [a level elevated barrier separating two areas], elevation and width of the dune, and local management practices for shore protection. ... Communities that suffered the greatest damages to structures and infrastructure were those where dunes were nonexistent, or where elevations of the beaches and dunes were low or had narrow beach widths. Beaches and dunes along the New Jersey Atlantic shoreline were able to protect landward structures and infrastructure if those features were high in elevation and contained enough volume and width to absorb Hurricane Sandy's storm surge and wave energy," they concluded. "The presence of maintained federally designed beach nourishment projects including engineered dunes played a significant role in protecting landward structures and infrastructure as the projects absorbed the impacts of the storm waters.

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Beach Tilling Complete

As part of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) requirement for beach nourishment permitting, Captiva beach tilling operations began on January 5, 2016 and were essentially completed January 8, 2016. The contractor, Perry's Beach Service, began on the north end of Captiva Island near Red Fish Pass and continued the work south to Blind Pass. The project consisted of tilling, dressing and escarpment leveling of approximately 25,600 feet of beach. Tilling was done between the wrack line and the most seaward vegetated dune line. To prevent root



Tilling Tractor

system damage, all salt tolerant dune vegetation was avoided by at least 3 feet. Following the tilling, beach dressing was performed over all areas that were tilled in order to leave a smooth beach devoid of any ruts or furrows created by the tilling operations. On January 9th a significant weather event with heavy rain, high winds and surf impacted the island. Escarpment leveling was postponed until January 11 in order to level any escarpments from the storm.

The CEPD is required by the FDEP to till the sand within the beach nourishment project immediately following beach fill placement and for three subsequent years to reduce the likelihood that compacted sand would impact sea turtle nesting and hatching activities. Sea turtles prefer soft sand for digging their nests and laying eggs.

Captiva's Sea Turtle Success

During turtle season May 1st through October 31st, the sea turtles come to nest on the Florida



beaches. After nesting, two months later the eggs hatch and scores of tiny turtles emerge from the sand and make their way to the sea.

"The success rate for the sea turtles in 2015 was incredible" according to Kelly Sloan, SCCF sea turtle program coordinator. Captiva had 133 nests which was better than 2014 with 124 nests and just one shy of the 2013 record of 134 nests. There were 226 false crawls, which means the turtles came to shore but did not lay any eggs. Out of the 133 nests 167 eggs were lost, 4171 eggs hatched and 3858 hatchlings emerged.

Captiva Beaches Performing Well

Monitoring information on Captiva Island's 2013



beach renourishment project was presented to District commissioners in August 2015 by senior coastal engineers of CB&I Coastal Planning & Engineering. The report which included information on a section of northern Sanibel was in accordance with the approved Monitoring Plan for CEPD's Florida DEP permit. The project was constructed between October and December 2013 and included sand placement and the planting of dune vegetation (Captiva).

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In a letter of resignation dated December 9, Vice Chair Doris Holzheimer, commended the CEPD staff and her fellow commissioners for their dedication to Captiva and its residents. Commissioner Holzheimer served nine years on the Board. Commissioners thanked the Vice Chair for her hard work and service on the Board.

Members of the District Board are elected by the qualified electors residing in Captiva and serve a period of 4 years. If a vacancy occurs on the Board due to resignation, the remaining members may appoint a qualified person to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. Captiva residents Richard Stegmann and Bob Walter were nominated to fill the unexpired terms of Boyle and Holzheimer. Both motions passed unanimously.

Rich Stegmann is a 20 year property owner on Captiva. He is the semi-retired Chairman of Lange Stegmann Company and active within the Captiva Civic Association and several Captiva homeowners associations. Bob Walter is the Regional Managing Director for South Seas Island Resort and the Inns of Sanibel. He has been a resident of Captiva since January 2013.

Commissioner to be inducted into the National Ski Hall of Fame.



Ski and Snowboard Museum in Ishpeming, Michigan the following September.

The US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame announced that The Skiing Company's former Publisher and President, Harry Kaiser has been elected to the 2015 National Ski Hall of Fame. Kaiser's induction will take place in Aspen, Colorado on April 9th, 2016 with a special enshrinement ceremony weekend for 2015 inductees at the US

"Each member of the Hall of Fame's Class of 2015, including Harry Kaiser, was a remarkable leader, athlete or sport builder," said US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame Chairman, Tom Kelly. "So much of what all of us enjoy in our sport today has emanated from the outstanding honored members of the Hall of Fame."

With the addition of the 2015 inductees, Kaiser will be among 410 honored lifetime members. Harry Kaiser remained a forerunner in the ski industry for over 35 years, as publisher and president of the Skiing Company which included publications such as, Skiing Magazine, Ski Magazine, Skiing Trade News, TransWorld Snowboarding and more. Throughout his tenure, Kaiser has been recognized for advancing the freestyle movement in the early days by acquiring the financial commitment and sponsorships to allow for the growth of the sport. He was instrumental in securing sponsorships to the U.S. Ski Team, which has contributed to the growth and success of the teams today. Kaiser and his wife, Carolyn, helped raise over a million dollars for the U.S. Ski Team during their reign as Chairpersons for the New York Committee for the New York Ski Ball. The Kaiser family has been referred to as the "First Family of Skiing" throughout his tenure



as publisher and president of Skiing Magazine. Harry and Carolyn raised their five children within the ski industry; Hank, Carolyn, Lorrie, Cindy and Catherine. Their dedication to the sport of skiing continues on to their ten grandchildren. Today you can find Kaiser on the beaches of Captiva Island where he

resides. Kaiser first came to Captiva in 1980, with his wife Carolyn. Kaiser serves as Commissioner and Secretary for the Captiva Erosion Prevention District's Board of Commissioners. Here he shares his passion for the sun, sand and surf by dedicating his time to the protection and preservation of our beaches.

**In Defense of Dunes
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Nicole Elko (Elko Coastal Consulting and Kate Brodie (Research Oceanographer at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) summed up the current thinking: “In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, coastal managers and residents alike have rightfully embraced dunes as



important storm protection barriers and ecosystem features. Among protection-savvy coastal residents, sand dunes are no longer a view-blocking nuisance, but rather an important element of a long-term community flood prevention plan”.

--Courtesy of the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association.

**Captiva Beaches Performing Well
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Senior Project Engineers, Tom Pierro and Michelle Pfeiffer, pointed out to commissioners that the shoreline and volumetric changes measured in the monitoring engineering report include a period of 1 and 1/3 years and covers two winter seasons. While strong winter winds and high surf are stressors to the shoreline, overall the Captiva’s beach has approximately 84% of the measured pre-to post construction volume remaining within the project area. On northern Sanibel there is a 4% less volume remaining. The results of the one year post construction monitoring report indicate the beaches of Captiva Island are performing well overall.

- 84% of the vol. placed remains within project area.
- Traditional hotspots are showing up as expected.
- Long term nourishment program has resulted in 160 feet of beach and has 2.8 million cubic yards of sand.

The next monitoring is set for spring of 2016

SAVE THE DATE

- 03/09/2016 Regular Board Meeting 1:00 pm
- 04/13/2016 Regular Board Meeting 1:00 pm
- 05/11/2016 Regular Board Meeting 1:00 pm
- 06/15/2016 Regular Board Meeting 1:00 pm
- 07/13/2016 Regular Board Meeting 1:00 pm

Meetings are held at Tween Waters Inn, 15951 Captiva Dr., Captiva, FL 33924. The public is welcome.

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