TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SHORE & BEACH
PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Minutes

Meeting Date: August 17, 2012

Meeting Location: Galveston Island Convention Center

Lunch Sponsor: Shelmark Engineering: (http://www.shelmark.net)
Dannenbaum Engineering: (http://www.dannenbaum.com)
Callan Marine, LTD (http://www.callanmarineltd.com/)

Meeting called to order at 12:35 by Jerry Mohn

Welcome remarks were provided by:
Ø Mayor Lewis Rosen – the Mayor read a proclamation to the Texas ASBPA Chapter from the City of Galveston to declare August 17 as the Texas Chapter of the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association day.
Ø City Manager Michael Kovacs
Ø Galveston Parks Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Craig Brown

Jerry Mohn introduced a number of public officials, as well as Texas ASBPA Chapter board members, and corporate sponsors. The Texas Chapter of the ASBPA Board of Directors continues to seek representatives for several coastal counties including Kennedy, Orange, Jackson, Victoria, Refugio, and San Patricio.

Jerry Mohn welcomed Jim and Linda Guidry of Guidry News Service.

Colonel Leonard Waterworth, Executive Director of the Port of Houston, advised the first coast sharing program with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers was 98 years ago for $1.25 million to construct the Houston Ship Channel, which was completed in 1914. Today the Ship Channel is the largest petrochemical producer in the U.S. and second in the world. It also produces all the U.S. military fuel. By 2020 the Ship Channel will be a net energy exporter with all the oil and gas wells being drilled in the shale areas.

Marie Robb, Chair of the Legislative Committee, outlined what issues are to be addressed in the upcoming Texas Legislative Session such as funds for coastal preservation, windstorm insurance issues, and work with the General Land Office (GLO) on the Severance issue. She stressed to think of Texas as a coastal State rather than a State with a coast. Cameron Perry spoke later about the need to bring back CIAP funding to the coasts.

Otie Zapp, Chair of the Coastal Windstorm Insurance Coalition (CWIC), stressed that TWIA (Texas Windstorm Insurance Association) needs fixing and discussed
the threat of higher insurance rates. TWIA would like to base windstorm insurance rates on replacement costs. A $174,300 home that is insured for windstorm at $3,810 per year could go to $11,687 based on a replacement cost of $346,000. TWIA will consider in the upcoming legislative session going from 14 coastal areas to a territorial one with 33 and cities like Galveston could be subject to major rate increases. The Texas coastal communities and the Chamber of Commerce’s are uniting together to basically march on Austin during the legislative session to stop any rate increase for windstorm insurance.

- Cameron Perry wanted to mention the upcoming ASBPA Technical Conference in San Diego, CA. October 9 – 12. Also, he requested the members to please plan to attend the ASBPA Technical Conference in South Padre in October, 2013.

- Owen Parker, Co-Chair of the Technical Committee, would like to have more members in the committee and to please email him at Owen.Parker@dannenbaum.com or Co-Chair Marisa Weber at marisa.weber@atkinsglobal.com. Owen introduced two power point presentations:
  - Ty Summerville of Atkins Engineering gave a presentation on a Geographic Information System (GIS) Based Cumulative Effects tool for Galveston Island to assist planners in achieving permits for their projects.
  - Captain Robert Webster of Texas A&M University at Galveston presentation on a Sargassum Early Advisory System that he is developing.

- John Lee, Chair of the Membership Committee noted that the Texas chapter is the largest and most active in the ASBPA and urged the members present to help it grow.

- Communication Committee Co-Chairs – Cris Weber and Jayne McClure talked about the recent Texas ASBPA Chapter Newsletter, Volume 6, Number 2, summer 2012. They plan to do one more newsletter before the end of the year and if members have articles or pictures to please send to: Jayne McClure: jdmclure@gba-inc.com or Cris Weber: cweber@ljaengineering.com

- Next Texas ASBPA Meeting: December, 2012, or in Austin, February 2013.

- Meeting adjourned 2:05 PM