



## Cocoa Beach Surfrider Foundation Chapter Meeting

March 21, 2018 - Café Surfinista, 6pm ~ 16 attendees

### Presentation

Lisa Good from Blue Life FL presented the Blue Life program, which focuses on attaining a healthier lagoon through behavior change/education. Education topics include proper lawn care, pet waste, fertilizing and other practices to reduce storm runoff pollution. Post-discussion included the brown tide algae bloom, septic systems, fertilizer and the lack of flushing. FIT is investigating some spillway designs and Brevard County is looking at aerating areas to reduce blooms and potential fishkills.

### Old Business

- **Feb 24/Save the Mid Reach** – Pelican Beach Park, 12 – 2. None present attended but effort still has momentum; broadcasted widely the issue of incompatible fill/dirt used for the truck “sand” placement.
- **Mar 6/Surfrider Core Training** – postponed, no date certain yet.
- **March 13/Up with People** – beach cleanup / lagoon paddle with Fin Expedition support.
- **Beach & Boards** – large event; beach yoga with Infinity Yoga and Roxy ~ 200 participants. Proceeds went to Brevard childhood hunger program.

### New Business/Upcoming Events

- **Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition** – CBSF part of coalition with Sebastian SF.
- **April 1/Easter Surf Contest** – CBSF tenting Sat/Sun. Dune protection/Lori Wilson Park - Lawrence in touch with City Manager/ City will provide fencing; area also used for large Sunrise Easter Service with stage/speaker/crowd – dune is normally protected there but other beach services not so much.
- **April 7/Trash bash** – lagoon cleanup; Lutheran Church north islands. Fin Expedition kayaks and the City boat will be there. Hot dogs/snacks afterwards.
- **May 19/Hands Across the Sand**- John registered CBSF on national signup.
- **June 2/Waterman’s Challenge** - John threw down gauntlet. Sebastian, Sun Coast probably West Palm. Core group should try to get the invite out there; not much Surfrider participation recently.
- **Membership** – 2018 goal is 125. Free t-shirt or rash guard for first time new members. Joanie has requested a new membership list from National.
- **Surfrider Intern** – Holly will be on maternity leave soon and has interns to help if needed.

- **Day in the Life** – a traveling one-day program/event focused on waterway/eco awareness. Other local groups like KBB, MRC, CBHS involved. Jackie/Sallie attended training. Will be another training session and then April event. NY based; travel around the country putting on one-day events/hands on experience. Good time to connect with CBHS (2 science teachers involved).
- **Black Tie & Baggies** – JoB/ probably Sep/Oct timeline at Longdoggers. Joanie/lookup list of Sep/Oct events.
- **Surfers for Autism** - June 9; Need to replace top & coverbag for tent and also get new flags.
- **Surf's Up exhibit/Studios of Cocoa Beach** – Fri, Mar 23 6pm exhibit opening; showing all month.
- **Infinity Yoga Open House** – Fri, Mar 23 6-9pm
- **CB Community Garden** – Sun, Mar 25 1pm; Ramp Road Park, need volunteers to build raised garden beds.
- **Beach Nourishment Study** – John's report will be posted on Beachapedia website; promoting "Save the Waves" campaign - public use/recreation of waves becomes part of beach renourishment consideration.
- **Doggies on the Beach** – Bruce brought up that CB Commission voted to draft ordinance to allow dogs on the beach with specific locations (south beach/Lori Wilson), times through permit for a trial period. Discussion included shorebirds, poop, pet stations – if interested, attend the 2 meeting where the ordinance is being considered [probably April 4 & 19].
- **Paddleout for Pete Barnes** – April 8/9am, Cocoa Beach Pier

### Campaigns for CB Surfrider

- **Pollution** – SB1014 local plastic bag rule- failed / SB562 regulation of smoking in public parks- failed / SB2776 amendment added which would prohibit local control of plastic straws – bill failed. All Wins.
- **Coastal Preservation** – FL bill SB804 amended to allow cities to codify customary use, **still threatens beach access laws**. SB232 established SE FL Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area. Florida Resilient Coastline Initiative - Legislature has appropriated \$3,600,000 to assist local governments with storm resiliency, sea level rise planning, coastal resilience projects, and coral reef health.
- **Ocean Protection** – SR550 resolution supports oil drilling ban on east coast and 125 miles out on Gulf coast/seismic testing; active lobbying for FL Constitutional Amendment. Pg1 to ban drilling in FL waters. These may still get on ballot.
- **Clean Water** – Florida Healthy Beaches Program which pays for water testing was not funded. Loss

### Lawrence's Last Word

Lawrence asked if we wanted the 10 minute or 30 second last word. Lawrence sent thanks to Holly Parker for lobbying so hard for us during session and encouraged her to do the same next year – and feels strongly about the smoking legislation that was proposed. This meeting included the strong core group and he was impressed by the Blue Life FL program. We should keep our good morale up and looking forward to a strong presence at the Easter Surf Fest.

**Adjournment: 7:15pm**