

MINUTES OF THE ST. FRANCIS BAY RIPARIAN HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON THE 18TH DECEMBER 2007

PRESENT

B. Morsink
J. Robson
B. Robson
B. Rheeder
B. Buckham
H. Kleinhans
A. Peros

APOLOGIES

S. Gallarelli
M. & P. Almedeo
M. Woods
C. Beckley
K. & B. Barker
J. & R. Cook
B. Firth
P. Vorster

Plus Attendance register.

1. Welcome by Chairman & Chairman's Report.
The Chairman welcomed all and handed out his report. This was proposed by Alan Davidson, Seconded by B. Buckley
2. Approval of Minutes.
Minutes Approved by B. Buckham Seconded by C. Atwood
3. Finance
Mr. Vorster asked if the money from the Municipality was included in the financial accounts. B. Morsink replied that it was not but it was to be included in the budget next year.
4. Election of Office Bearers
The Chairman informed those present that the Directors and Office bearers were and asked if there were any other proposals. There being no other proposals, the committee and Directors remain as is.
5. General
A lady has been employed to sit at the small boat harbour to sell licences. Someone from the floor asked if the money collected for licences and jetties could be banked directly into our account and the 5% paid over to the Municipality. Mr. B. Rheeder replied that he doubted that the Municipality would agree to this as it had taken three years to reach this stage of the Agreement.
6. Dredging
Tenders for dredging would be going out in January for the dredging of the canals. We have had three interested parties, one from Durban, Miles Cuff and a local company. T. Fox asked when dredging would commence, the Chairman replied it was hoped to start late February or March. H. Thorpe asked what would happen to the spoils. Chairman

replied that hopefully we would be able to pump it onto the spit. He said that John Robson and himself had gone to Port Alfred where they pumped the sand approximately two kilometres. Mr. Ron Friedrekson asked that if any canals were to be blocked of could we advise them in advance.

7. The Spit

The Chairman asked if there were any suggestions as to what should be done about the spit. He informed the floor that not all on the canals had paid into the account and that there was approximately R700 000,00 in the account. R.F. asked what was happening to the money paid in by riparian homeowners. He replied that it was being kept in a separate 32 day call account He then read a letter from Municipality that informed us that at the moment there was no possibility of getting a loan from the Development Bank and they were looking into alternative methods to fund this. The Municipality indicated that there were three projects that they would be attending to and one was the spit. In one of the chairman's meetings with the Municipality they had advised that they were not allowed to take a loan from a private organisation. It was suggested from the floor that we ask the bank where the money is invested to loan the money to the Municipality. Ben Rheeder said the Spit was Government land and we would have to get Government approval before any work can be done on it. Hennie Kleinhans said he had been working with the Municipality for the last six months and he felt that if we waited for the Municipality to take any action it would take years. Guy Hopkins said that he felt there was a conflict of interest. R.F. said it looks like we are wasting our time. H.K. advised that it would take approximately 2.5 million Rand to complete the work on the spit, but he felt that one million would be sufficient to protect the "hot spots". B. Buckham felt we should spend some more time with the Municipality but in the meantime make all effort to get more support from all property owners. RF suggested that we should advise the Municipality that we are prepared to go 50/50 on the project and advise them that if anything should happen to the spit we would not be able to pay our Rates and Taxes. B.Rheeder suggested that we give the Municipality another three months to see if they were able to raise the money. After this time we should look to do it out of our own funds but then this would not be a loan. Gert Voster said that he had instigated the whole project and the way he understands it is, that if the spit is declared a disaster area we will get the funds. Ben.R. said it was not hollow promises and that the Council is working toward having the dune declared a disaster area. The Council's financial year starts from the 1st of July and we should look into it again as only 25% of the canal owners had paid and this was a risk. It was decided that a decision would be taken in three months. It was also mentioned that some property owners had not contributed but they informed the meeting that their money was available if called for. Ron said we should get back to all the homeowners and let them know what is happening. B. Buckham asked, as the money was limited should we not start at the houses and go as far as we can. It was stated that the money from the owners was

only a loan. Mr. Gouws stated that we should not only worry about the dune as, if the river mouth closes, the canals would also go. H. Kleinhans said that he was not an expert but the first part of the dune was moving towards ski canal. When he was working with the Council they had asked the Nelson Mandela University to do a study on the spit/dune problem. B. Dowley asked why we are dealing with the beach and the spit separately. B. Morsink replied that the spit was an emergency and the beach could take some time to be resolved. W. Furphy asked what our stand is if the Councils lack of action causes damage to our property. B. Buckham commented that the Committee had taken a soft line with Council up to now, but feels that it may be time to change our approach. W.F. said we need to find out legally where we stand. Ben R said that the beach belongs to the Government. He feels that the Committee should speak to C. Cawood as he was involved in trying to get the beach to be declared a disaster area. For any legal questions we should talk to Zybrandt. Ron F. suggested that if anyone needs to know what is going on, they should read the SFBRHA Minutes on the web page as he found them very informative. He also asked if Pieter Grobbelaar had any authority to fine anyone. B. Morsink replied that he did not but we could report anything to Hein Corneilson who had the authority. It was hoped that in the near future the Canal Wardens would write an exam, which would give them this authority. B. Buckham proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for all their work.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.10 p.m.