



Architectural Rendering of the Proposed Restroom Facilities at the Beach Park.



The Moorings
**MOORINGS PROPERTY OWNERS
 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**
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 NAPLES, FLORIDA 34101

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 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

www.MPOA.org



NOVEMBER 2010

MOORINGS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 8961, NAPLES, FL 34101

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FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

CELEBRATE!!!! The Moorings Beach Park is 50 years young!

A half-century of sunrises, sunsets, sundowners, sand, sand castles, seashells, smiles, sailboats, sunglasses, sunscreen, suntans, sunburns, sun-hats, kites, swimmers, surfers, body-surfers, surfcasting, surfboarding, strollers, shelling, stooping, stretching, staring, significant others, dolphins, steamy novels, toddlers, smiling beach guards, lugging stuff, suppers, sexy bodies, squishy bodies, skywriters, shorebirds, sandpipers, skimmers, sandals, Hot Flashes, Green Flashes!!! Fifty years of this and much more is what we all have to CELEBRATE!

How visionary it was in 1961 of developer Milton Link to dedicate 2 1/2 acres of precious Gulf-front property for a residents' Beach Park in his planned community in North Naples called The Moorings. He could so easily have used that prime land for more beachfront condominiums or apartments. The lots on Binnacle, Crayton, Portside and Ketch would still have sold, but Link wanted every street, whether on the water or not, to have a mooring line to the Gulf. Thus he created the Beach Park and with it a covenant that this land be for the use of Moorings residents only. (Aside: when he developed The Moorings in Vero Beach he neglected to give them the gift of a beach park.)

So 2011 is our Beach Park's 50th birthday. The Board of Governors is planning some special events for next year. Of course, there will be a party at which we will pop champagne and recognize our residents of long-standing and hear their stories of the early years. (If you were here in the '60s or early '70s, PLEASE contact Beth Smith bethdonsm@aol.com so we can get your remembrances of the early years.)

This 50th birthday is the perfect time to do something really special and it makes awfully good sense to add the one facility we all have wished for some time or other--a permanent restroom! For many years there were no bathroom facilities at all. Our wonderful beach guards gratefully accepted the hospitality of nearby condos when nature called, but those facilities were not available for the use of regular beach goers. Then two years ago we decided to try a temporary solution by renting Port-a-Johns. Although these somewhat declass  fiberglass boxes served the purpose, they were not a long-term solution as Naples' building code mandates they be taken away for several months out of every year.

So we are very excited to present the drawings for a new permanent restroom facility, comprising a women's bathroom, a men's bathroom and storage space for the guard's equipment. We have worked closely with an architect to ensure that it will meet building code. (As you are well aware, we are in the flood plain.) Of course it will be handicapped accessible and have changing stations for little ones. The City will pretty much tell us where it can be located, but we will work with them and nearby condos to choose the best possible location.

(con't on back)

FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbor: As you have read elsewhere, our long-serving, dear friend, most efficient president, Linda Penniman, has decided to remain on the Board but step down as president. Our good friend Bill Kroeschell who passed away awhile back, was our V.P. and, after his passing we never got around to getting a new one. So as your treasurer for the past 3+ years, the Board has asked me to become the president. I'm going to do this but we desperately need a new person to fill this role of treasurer.

As you can see, the Park, which is our main concern, is in great shape and going to get better with the new bathroom facilities. We'll have some of the best water-conserving features for the bathroom and with a front porch, we think the design fits in just great with much of The Moorings. We'll do our best to get this project moving so all of us can use it. When deciding how to finance the construction, the Board felt the fairest way was to make sure everyone participated, and to that end, we have added the one-time fee to this year's invoice. The Board also agreed all new members joining or rejoining the MPOA over the next 3 years would be required to pay this capital improvement fee.

Staying with the Park, we are so fortunate to have Elmer, Keith and Tom as our security team. They not only act in that capacity, but we all know they are truly goodwill ambassadors for the MPOA as well. Please offer a "thank you" to them when you are next at the Park. By the way, the front porch on the new bathrooms was, in part, designed with these fellows in mind--offering a place to keep them out of the hot Florida sun.

Mark your calendars for our semi-annual meeting on Saturday, December 4 when we will have more to say about the restroom's progress and have a report from our nominating committee for next year's Board, plus have some great libations and light food.

With this newsletter we hope to return to a quarterly format. If you need me regarding MPOA stuff, my email is RKatz9500@comcast.net and my phone number is 403-3916. Thanks for your continued support. If you are not yet a member of MPOA, come join us and see what a wonderful facility our Beach Park has become.

Al Katz

And now it is time for me to say good-bye as president of the MPOA. It has been a privilege and pleasure to have led this organization for the last six years. I have met so many wonderful people and had such interesting and enriching experiences. It is a good feeling to hand over the tiller to such competent and committed people as those in place on the Board of Governors who, I am confident, will lead the organization well as the MPOA enters its 50s.

Linda Penniman

BEACH PARK

A great big welcome back to those of you who travelled to other places for the summer. As you know, the big news is the new permanent bathroom facility!! The Board listened to the members who were present at the annual meeting last spring when they voted unanimously to go forward with this endeavor. We had our marching orders! We have spent many hours going over designs for the exterior and picking out the most efficient products to use on the interior. We think the design speaks to "Olde Naples" with a "Come on in!" front porch to welcome all who visit..

Fifty years ago there were no facilities at all in our Park. Then we added on a Chickee Hut and "outhouse" (port-a-potty) and now, finally, we are becoming up to date by adding an "in house" bathroom for our 50th Anniversary! I think Milton Link would be proud of how well his gift has been maintained and used and enjoyed and glad that we have taken this last step in providing our members convenience for when nature calls.

On a more ordinary note, we had a very hot and steamy summer with tons of rain. The Beach Park continues to flourish and look better as the landscaping is becoming more established. The palm trees have been trimmed having cocoanuts, dead fronds and seed pods removed. (Sort of a fresh haircut for all!) Annuals will be planted in a few weeks to add color for the season.

When emergency squads were called to the park this summer to assist a young man (who is fine, by the way), we discovered that although the Park has been around for 50 years, there was not a street number posted anywhere. This oversight has been corrected and now we have an official numerical address -- 2101 -- at the entrance. We are grateful to our local emergency crews who responded so quickly and for their suggestion of this addition. Having an actual street number should help visitors attending various functions here in the future.

We are still short one picnic table for the Park. (One near the south end had to be removed as it was crumbling.) The one we hope to install will be made of the same construction material as the new benches and will be square with seats on all four sides. The cost is around \$3000 and HELP! we are looking for a donor or donors. (Perhaps a group of members or condo association(s) would like to make this generous contributions????) Please contact me if you are interested in helping this wish become a reality; we all know how much we love our picnic tables.

On another issue, we are looking for advice, council and funding! Many of the old concrete benches and tables need desperately to be cleaned and scraped and then repainted with a special paint. Is anyone is interested in assisting with this project both from a funding standpoint and helping us find the right person/company to do the job correctly? I welcome your thoughts, advice and assistance in this matter. Please give me a call.

See you 'round the Park!

Linda Black – Beach Park chair

RESIDENT CLUB CARD

A relatively new benefit of MPOA membership is receiving an RCC (Resident Club Card) good for discounts at over 50 local establishments. For example, presenting this card at Bambu Grill at Waterfront earns a 25% discount off your entire purchase; Bija Yoga takes \$2 off a drop-in rate fee; Fashion Fresh Dry Cleaners will discount your bill by 20%. Pick up your card from the guards at the Park. They also can supply you with a list of participating merchants or you can go to the website and click on Newsletter to see the most current list. If some of your favorite places are not participating, please suggest they do so. Feel free to give them my name and contact information, or let me know and I will contact them.

Marie Murphy

CHICKEE HUT

Since renovating the Chickee Hut back in February, we have received from members over 50 reservation requests for functions such as birthday parties, weddings, anniversaries, reunions and picnics. Last year the sand flooring was replaced with pavers and the tables and benches were refurbished and painted, making the Chickee a wonderful place to host a party. The Beach guards have available the reservation forms which specify a recommended donation, the amount depends upon the size of the function. Once approved, the completed form and check are given back to the security guards who confirm the date and post it on the Chickee reservation calendar. This facility with ample parking and its great beach location has become the most desirable place in Naples to hold outdoor functions. This is a wonderful benefit available exclusively to MPOA members and their guests.

Ned Kendall

WATERWAYS

Naples city council has revised the ordinances for the construction of docks. Prior to this revision there were restrictions on building a dock for a boat to moor straight in, making parallel dockage the norm. The revised ordinance now provides that straight dockage is permissible and there is no limit on the length of the boat as there previously was.

Also, Doctor's Pass will be inspected later this fall for any change in shoals, etc. Currently there are no issues in the Pass.

Bob Reynen

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to recognize the following new Gold Level Donors:
Marlene Hodge, Susan Wright, Kimberly Strollo, Gemma Intriери

Friends of the Moorings Beach Park Sponsorships...

Have you been thinking about making a donation to the Moorings Beach Park in your name or in the honor or in memory of a loved one? Here are some guidelines:

Gold Level--any donation of \$1000 or more. Gold level donors are recognized in the MPOA newsletter, on a plaque on the Friends of the Moorings Beach Park' donation board near the flag pole, and receive an honorary lifetime membership in MPOA.

Silver Level--donations of \$500 - \$999. Silver donations are recognized in the MPOA newsletter and a plaque on the Friends of the Moorings Beach Park' donation board.

Any other level of donation, whether monetary or of time and effort, is always greatly appreciated and will be recognized in the MPOA newsletter.

Please make all donations by check to:

MPOA,
PO Box 8961
Naples, FL 34106

Sue Weidlich

WEBSITE

Over the summer we have been working on a new and improved website. The location is still the same--www.MPOA.org--so please take a moment to check out some of the new features. For example there is a page dedicated to our newsletter so you may view the current or past issues online. There is also a calendar page featuring upcoming events, and a contacts page so you know whom to contact with comments or concerns. One wonderful feature of the new website is a page dedicated to the newest benefit to MPOA members, the RCC (Resident Club Card) card. This is a FREE benefit that enables you to get wonderful discounts at area restaurants and merchants. Please visit www.MPOA.org/residentsclubcard-new.html to get the most recent list of participants. We would also like to create an online photo album of member-submitted PHOTOS from the Beach Park. Please contact Sue Weidlich by email: stweidlich@comcast.net or phone 239 290-8166 if you have photos you would like to share.

Sue Weidlich

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Many of you have no doubt noticed the Mooring Line bridge is undergoing some extensive repairs. These repairs, costing around \$750,000, will most likely be paid for by federal stimulus funds. As a result the project is being managed by the state and not the city. The city has talked about the need to repair the bridge for many years, even longer than I have served on the MPOA Board. Since the project was "shovel ready", the city went after federal dollars rather than use city funds, but there was a catch. CONTROL was lost locally. Long ago the MPOA had expressed interest in requesting a new, upgraded bridge-railing once repairs got underway. Unfortunately federal funding and state did not permit such a thing. However, through the efforts of the MPOA and our City Manager a compromise was reached. The city kicked in a little extra money and we were allowed a nicer looking bridge-railing than the flat, concrete knee-wall which was scheduled. Currently, the project is scheduled for a March completion date, but if everything goes well the City Manager hopes it will finish much sooner.

In September City Council adopted a millage rate of 1.18 for your new property tax bill. This is the same millage as last year. Since taxable values have fallen, about 80% of the properties within the city will see a reduction in the city portion of their taxes, perhaps by as much as 10%. The remaining 20% of properties will see a slight tax increase of about 2.7% due to the state-mandated "recapture" rule. Properties affected by recapture are those which are homesteaded and still have value in Save Our Homes protection. Sound complicated? It is and it would take a long time to explain here. Please call me if you want the details.

Doug Finlay

CONDO NEWS

As your condo liaison I have been in conversation with several board representatives who have expressed interest in having an informal meeting to discuss issues affecting condos in our area. It has been suggested we form a president's club to discuss common issues--budgetary items, insurance, waterways, traffic, etc. A meeting could be scheduled for November or early December. If you are president of your condo association and are interested in forming such a group, please contact me promptly. Marie Murphy, 239-435-7370 or emmy1992@yahoo.com.

COMMITTEE MEMBER NEEDED

The Moorings Bay Citizen Advisory Committee is short a member. This committee meets monthly at City Hall and advises the City Council on a variety of issues relating to the Moorings Bay System. One major requirement is that members must live on the Bay, i.e. in the special taxing district. If you qualify and are interested in filling this position, please pick up an official application at the City Clerk's Office.