



Minutes for January 8, 2007

ROUNDTABLE BUSINESS

Convened at 0900. Number of members and others present: 47+
Minutes of the December 11, 2006 meeting were approved as read.
Treasurer Barrie Higgins' report: Balance December 31, 2006...\$ 2004.50

Committee Reports:

Budget Committee:

The County Administration budget review will be 4/26 through 5/3.

Education Committee:

A report was handed out and can be found posted on the WEB page at www.SJCroundtable.org.

All new schools are being hurricane proofed. Most schools are designed using the same footprint and model.

The impact fee contribution is small compared to cost.

Medical Review Committee:

In the Hastings area, and looking at the clinic, they are talking with the health services people and fire rescue people to get better coordination of care. Most of the calls to fire rescue are health related. He referred to a report called the future of emergency care. Key findings and recommendations can be found on the Institute of Medicine site www.iom.edu/?id=35029.

Other Business:

Amphitheatre

Mr. Bruce Lucker from Signature requested to speak to group about the amphitheater. He stated he wanted straighten out several things: He thinks the county should not manage the amphitheater. He was not leasing the amphitheater, rather asking for a contract to manage it for the county. The management company will carry \$5 million in insurance to help cover the county. It, but not the county, can provide alcoholic drinks. They estimate that the not-for-profits will bring in \$30,000 for total of 24 days a year.

In Q&A Mr. Lucker stated past Commissioner Mary Kohnke supported the restoration of the amphitheater. Kohnke agreed but stated that she made it very clear only if it was done with private funds and was assured that the Friends of Amphitheater and St. Augustine Record would raise those funds. She further stated that the amphitheater must not be supported with taxpayer money.

In response to Lucker's request that the Roundtable set up a group to investigate whether the county or a private firm should manage the amphitheater C. Cowan and

M.F. Kohnke stated that Commissioner Sanchez was charged with the chore and he should be left with it. No motion was offered.

PROGRAM

Mr. Wally Kropacek, the new interim County Administrator, gave a brief summary of his work with the Custom Service from 1973 to 2000. He has been a county resident for past 14 years. Since being on the job he stated he has found citizens to be very helpful and the staff excellent

He said it would be a challenge to have enough personnel to meet the demands of the growth and still hold down the budget. It would be a challenge to maintain a high level of service and get the needed money to do so. They needed, and would look at, the benefits of out-sourcing vs. doing work in-house.

He stated the Commissioners make policy; he carries it out. Although he would only be here six months his decisions would be made for the long haul.

Q&A

The Commissioners DO NOT give staff directions. Everyone was told what the chain of command was and would be. No, he is not a candidate for the Administrator's job. Clear policies for staff and commission interactions will be forthcoming. Policies for Requests for Proposals and their evaluation will be clear and enforced. He will try hard to get information out to the public in a timely manner. During Commission the staff will give meetings summaries of agenda items.

ISSUES WISH LIST

The Roundtable members were asked to bring to the meeting issues that they wanted the Commission to deal with in 2007. After much discussion it was decided to create a list out of the many issues mentioned then mailed to the members. They could then add to that list. These items would be put into clearly stated action items and prioritized. For example, instead of just saying "Water" the item might say: "Assess water needs for the next twenty-five years."

Look for this in your e-mail and send it back promptly.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Jerry Cameron will no longer be a voting member of the roundtable as he is now a county employee. He is the new Special Projects person.
- The Commissioners will be having town meetings in February and the Visioning people will be gathering information from homeowners groups to bring to these meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 1115.

Respectfully submitted
Mary F. Kohnke, secretary