

**CITY OF TEMPLE TERRACE, FLORIDA
RIVER WATCH TASK FORCE
REPORT OF MEETING**

**Monday, July 19, 2010
Council Workroom
4:30 p.m.**

The Temple Terrace River Watch Task Force met on Monday, July 19, 2010, in the Council Workroom at City Hall.

PRESENT WERE: Task Force Chairman Jack Westberry and Task Force Members Frank Chillura, Terry McMahon, and David Pogorilich. **ABSENT WAS:** Task Force Member Ron Smith.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Legislative Secretary Sobeida LeBlanc, Dr. Marty Kelly, and John Rodgers. **ABSENT WERE:** Task Force Liaison Gross and Staff Member Scilabro.

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 p.m. by Chairman Westberry.

Persons Wishing to be Heard on Items NOT Listed on the Agenda:

Chairman Westberry stated Task Force Liaison Joe Gross is on vacation and would not be attending this evening's meeting. He distributed copies of the Liaison Report dated July 19, 2010, provided by Task Force Liaison Gross, a copy of which is a part of the record. Chairman Westberry stated the Liaison Report covers in depth information from the various meetings Liaison Gross attended since their last River Watch meeting in May.

Task Force Member Pogorilich reported that Hillsborough County Commission backed away from a ban on the sale of lawn fertilizer with nitrogen in the rainy seasons because they claim there is no scientific proof that stopping fertilizer does anything.

Chairman Westberry passed around a copy of the Hillsborough River Watershed Alliance weekly newsletter dated July 9, 2010, also provided by Task Force Liaison Gross, a copy of which is a part of the record. He said anyone wishing to be added to receive the newsletter by email can sign up by going to the Hillsborough River Watershed Alliance website.

1. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Upon motion of Task Force Member Pogorilich, seconded by Task Force Member McMahon, and unanimously carried, the **REPORT** of the May 17, 2010, meeting was **APPROVED**.

2. Current River Water Level:

Chairman Westberry stated the River water level by his house has been relatively the same for a long time, although they have had a lot of rain.

Dr. Kelly reported that the Fowler Avenue gauge indicated water levels of 22.39 this morning, and the dam was 22.3, therefore, things are looking pretty good. He informed the Task Force that the District ordered to go back to two days per week watering; they still have a little bit of a deficit, but based on rainfall earlier in the year, all the drinking water reservoirs are full. He submitted for the record a copy of the USGS Real-Time Water Data Report dated July 19, 2010.

Chairman Westberry questioned whether the current condition makes them susceptible to sinkholes. Dr. Kelly responded he is not the best person to address this question, adding the District does have a sinkhole expert on board. He suggested the Task Force invite this person in the future to address their questions.

3. Liaison Report:

A written liaison report was distributed earlier in the meeting for the Task Force Members' review at their leisure.

4. Marine Officer Report:

Staff Member Scilabro was not present; and there was no written report provided.

5. Other Business:

Task Force Member Chillura stated it is ridiculous how boat and jet ski speeders have increased. Chairman Westberry interjected citizens living on the River should be more cognizant of what goes on in the River and should report these things to the Marine Officer. He suggested the Task Force Members have Marine Officer Scilabro's phone number on their cell phones for quicker access.

Task Force Member Chillura added he saw the Florida Wildlife crew cruising the River a couple of times recently, which is a good thing.

The Task Force discussed various parts of the River that need to be sprayed for weeds. Mr. Rodgers offered to contact Hillsborough County Mosquito Control Department and request spraying.

Task Force Member Chillura questioned when work is scheduled to begin on the South County reservoir. Dr. Kelly responded there is a schedule, but he believes it is farther out than a couple of years.

Task Force Member Chillura questioned whether there is a plan in place for when this system goes into repair for about a year. Dr. Kelly responded there is a contingency plan, but they do not want to have an empty reservoir during the middle of a drought. He said they can always go to emergency orders.

Task Force Member Pogorilich questioned whether there is still any interest or discussions on reclaimed water use. Dr. Kelly replied the District has pushed that as an alternative water source. He said the District is still well into funding re-use projects on a 50/50 cost-share basis, but right now local governments don't have the match. He said they have projects underway they agreed to years ago that are still being funded.

Chairman Westberry thanked everyone for being there, even though there was nothing critical on the agenda.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sobeida LeBlanc
Legislative Secretary