

P.O. Box 141
Captiva, FL 33924
July 26, 2011

Kathy Evaugh
Planning Dept.
Lee County Dept. of
Community Development,
1500 Monroe St.
Ft. Myers, FL 33901

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Evaugh:

I want to thank you for your wise decision to postpone the Captiva CPOA's proposal. The proposal proposes to alter roof heights. This is to the advantage of hardly anyone save developers. Most members of the CPOA are developers or in some way represent commercial interests that would profit by development.

The CPOA started their own private survey, sent it to a select group and lo and behold came out with a positive response. The survey was completely unofficial yet they treated it as an honest response of Captiva residents. If they want a real survey, they should hire an objective individual to conduct the survey and contact all residents by letter with alternatives clearly spelled out.

Few people in Captiva want more development. We want to preserve our charming island as it is, though with due consideration to the interests of restaurants, clubs and shops. We do not want higher taxes to benefit special interests like CPOA, particularly since the fire dept informed CCA that their proposal undoubtedly requires more firemen and perhaps even another fire truck.

An outstanding example of the CPOA's self-serving agendas was their recent proposal to have Captiva telephone lines buried underground, whose only advantage was to enhance the appearance of their own properties. They held several meetings to push this agenda, which required the attendance of several state officials. The proposition was luckily defeated as it would have involved more breakdowns of service, more difficult access to the lines and would have cost the taxpayers plenty.

You are right that there should be an us on the island, not a we they.

At the very least equal representation of CCA on the CPOA board. Since longest standing members of both association's boards are quite entrenched in their animosity toward the opposite camp, perhaps the county could pressure them to join forces. Or at least require the formation of new boards to replace the current embattled attitudes.

I for one am glad that an official like you is overseeing proposals for development with an unprejudiced eye.

Sincerely yours,



Clare Sawyer