



## REQUEST TO BE HEARD

Agenda Item: 4C Subject: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: **(Please print legibly)** Susan Jones

Address: Emerald Harbor

\*E-Mail Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone Number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

### Please check one:

- ☐ Public  
☐ Applicant/Presenter  
☐ Staff

### FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ONLY

To present evidence and/or testimony during a public hearing, you must complete and sign the following oath.

I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the evidence or factual representation which I am about to give or present to this Board at the public hearing, held this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, is truthful.

Signature: Susan Jones

Please read the Pledge of Public Conduct and Town Code Section 30.06(E), Addressing the Commission, printed on the back of this form. **Give this request to the Town Clerk** for submission to the Mayor. The Mayor will call upon you to speak at the appropriate time.

**\*Note:** Under Florida law, e-mail address and phone number are considered public records when submitted to a government entity. If you do not want this information released in response to a public records request, you should not complete this section of this form. All written documents are also considered public records and open for inspection upon request.



## REQUEST TO BE HEARD

Agenda Item: 4c Subject: Goals + Objectives Date: 4-7-25

Name: **(Please print legibly)** Susan Phillips

Address: 3350 GMD LBK

\*E-Mail Address (optional): hurricane 007@me.com

\*Phone Number (optional): 941-374 5819

### Please check one:



Public



Applicant/Presenter



Staff

### FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ONLY

To present evidence and/or testimony during a public hearing, you must complete and sign the following oath.

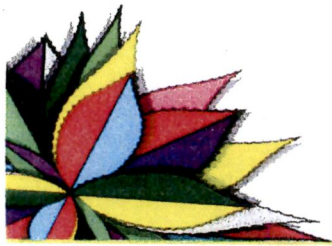
I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the evidence or factual representation which I am about to give or present to this Board at the public hearing, held this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025, is truthful.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please read the Pledge of Public Conduct and Town Code Section 30.06(E), Addressing the Commission, printed on the back of this form. **Give this request to the Town Clerk** for submission to the Mayor. The Mayor will call upon you to speak at the appropriate time.

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The Longboat Key Garden Club  
P.O. Box 8375  
Longboat Key, Florida 34228  
[lbkgardenclub.org](http://lbkgardenclub.org)

A philanthropic, social and eco-friendly organization

April 7, 2025

Mayor Ken Schneier, and  
Longboat Key Commissioners  
501 Bay Isles Road  
Longboat Key, FL 34228

Dear Mayor Schneier and Commissioners,

On behalf of the Longboat Key Garden Club, President Dale, and Board, I am writing to share the Club's 2025-2026 Goals and Objectives. We thank you for your invitation to participate in the Town's annual goal-setting process.

The Longboat Key Garden Club considers itself a long-term, valued partner of the Town beginning in 1969 with the Club's founding. Our very first undertaking was clearing land adjacent to Town Hall to design and create Bicentennial Park. We also were responsible for maintenance of Bicentennial Park for many years and continue our presence there with the Butterfly Garden. *Our first post-storm environmental restoration and beautification of Town parks & public places will be restoring landscaping in Bicentennial Park.*

*We wish to thank Town Parks staff for clearing all dead and damaged material from Bicentennial Park so that now volunteers can go in with resilient, salt tolerant materials to replant and restore Bicentennial Park landscaping.*

*We ask Town Parks staff to continue clearing dead materials through other park and public places to allow us to continue restoration of landscaping in other Town parks. Our hope is that our next project is to replant the botanical garden at Joan Durante Park.*

Encourage beach-fronting property owners to restore the dune system that was severely eroded during the 2024 hurricane season. This includes dune plantings to reduce erosion of dunes which also create beach habitat, for the preservation of native wildlife that nest or live on our beaches and in dune vegetation. The dunes, and plantings to protect infrastructure and upland properties, did their job during recent storms but are now flattened leading up to the 2025 hurricane season. **Vision Statement, Core Value 9** – *The Town will protect the islands' invaluable natural resources...*

Create awareness of our long-standing designation as a Bird Sanctuary by Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission. One component of this is creating awareness to residents, and enforcement of the Town's laws against dogs on the beach and at beach accesses. **Vision Statement, Core Value 9** – *The Town will protect the islands' invaluable natural resources...*

The Longboat Key Garden Club is an equal funding partner with the Town and the Longboat Key Turtle Watch to produce Marine Turtle Nesting & Protection educational literature for resorts, residents, and visitors. The materials cover lighting requirements, removing beach furniture at night, protecting nesting areas, etc. **Vision Statement, Core Value 9** – *The Town will protect the islands' invaluable natural resources...*



We support construction of enhanced community spaces as part of the Sarasota Co Library project at the Town Center. The resiliency built into the project will serve the community not only as a community hub, but also post-storm to provide community services to our residents and businesses. The Longboat Key Garden Club commits to continue to enhance landscaping and beautification on the current site and those future amenities developed there. **Vision Statement, Core Value 7** – *The Town will maintain and improve the quality and variety of island—based recreational and educational opportunities...*

Recent examples of supporting Town beautification are:

- Grant funding of \$12,000 for shell road, and other beautification at the Town Center area.
- Grant funding for Light Up the Key event in November 2023 to replace lighting in the canopy of oak trees at the Town Center.
- Funded a beautification project, and installed the plant materials/mulch, etc. for the Town Center in advance of the November 11, 2023 Veterans' Day event and dedication of the Karon Family Pavilion.
- Grant funding of \$5,000 for Beautification Project for the new South Fire Station AND beautification project at North Fire Station following renovations.
- Provided funding of ~ \$10,000 for permitting and design for electrical and fans at Joan M. Durante Park Pavilion.
- Donation of \$3,000 and coordinated volunteers with Sleepy Lagoon HOA to install approximately 500 plants to re-landscape the Town's Public Works Complex.
- Donation of \$6,135 for shade trees at the Bayfront Park Children's Playground.
- Donated funds for construction of the Chickee Hut at Overlook Park.
- Donation of additional funding for landscape enhancement at Bayfront Dog Park,
- Routine plantings, maintenance, and beautification of Bicentennial Park Butterfly Garden.
- Annual Arbor Day donations of trees and beautification projects in parks and on public lands and to enhance Gulf of Mexico Drive right-of-way.
- Upcoming April 25 Longboat Key Garden Club Annual Arbor Day Picnic & Annual Meeting.
- Our Annual Grant process awards significant funding to environmental organizations such as Save Our Seabirds, Mote Marine, Longboat Key Turtle Watch, Sarasota Bay Watch, Selby Gardens, the Paradise Center, and many more.
- College Scholarships of up to \$15,000 each for students studying in environmental fields, conservation, or allied subjects (Junior, Senior, Masters Programs, and Ph.D.).
- Summer Camp scholarships for underserved children to expose them to the wonders of our natural environment and educate them on the value of natural resources and wildlife conservation. Also, Longboat Key children (and kids whose parents work on Longboat Key) at Selby Gardens & Mote Marine.

We also want to thank you for your dedication, very hard work, and service to our Town.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan M Phillips,  
Longboat Key Garden Club, President Emeritus/Executive Advisor to the President  
Director of Beautification Projects for Town Parks & Public Places