

11. Longboat Key Grants Award Process

A draft application was provided for Commission consideration (included in the agenda package); homeowner's associations and neighborhood associations would not be eligible for grant funding. Local not-for-profit organizations were identified as:

START (Solutions To Avoid Red Tide)
SCOPE (Sarasota County Openly Plans for Excellence)
Longboat Key Center for the Arts
Longboat Key Historical Society
Longboat Key Kiwanis
Longboat Key Rotary
Longboat Key Garden Club
Longboat Key Volunteer Fire Department
Longboat Key Longboat Key/Lido Key/St. Armands Key Chamber of Commerce
Longboat Key Turtle Watch
Longboat Key Church Groups
Longboat Key Adult Education Center
Friends of Tennis
Longboat Library

Attorney Persson advised public funds could not be expended without valid justification; encouraged the Commission to develop grant qualification criteria. Manager St. Denis stated the applicant could be required to state how the award would serve a valid public purpose for Longboat Key on the application form.

Commissioner Rothenberg did not agree with dispensing funds for operating expenses; suggested the grant list could be developed from submitted applications.

The Town had membership status in START, SCOPE, and the Longboat Key Longboat Key/Lido Key/St. Armands Key Chamber of Commerce; however, they were not precluded from applying for grants over and beyond the annual membership dues. **There was consensus to budget a preliminary amount of \$15,000 for grant funding.**

There was consensus to evaluate and compile a grant list as applications were received; utilize the draft grant award application on an interim basis (included in the agenda package); and consider/review grant applications for FY 2005-2006 at the February 16, 2006 Regular Workshop.

Information regarding FY 2005-2006 and FY 2006-07 grant application would be publicized by Manager St. Denis.

There was consensus to forward Item 9 forward for discussion at this time.

9. The Accord – Proposed Revisions to Manatee County Interlocal Agreement (ILA)