

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)