

COLLIER COUNTY PRESIDENTS COUNCIL
Regular Monthly Meeting
Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce Community Room
Friday, April 8, 2011 – 9 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Murray Hendel at 9 a.m. Murray then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

GUEST SPEAKER - Francis Rooney, former Ambassador to the Vatican

Mr. Hendel introduced Francis Rooney to the membership, stating that Mr. Rooney was the Ambassador to the Vatican during President George Bush's term. Mr. Rooney spoke about the importance of the Vatican and the Pope to the entire world. The Pope is often used as an intermediary between countries and receives a lot of information from different parts of the world, which he shares with those who need to know. He mentioned several instances where the Pope and his office obtained information and exchanged communications, such as when Khrushchev and Kennedy exchanged messages through the Pope during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He also shared stories about his relationship with President Bush. Mr. Rooney spoke for over an hour about his experiences while working for the United States government.

TREASURER'S REPORT – There was no treasurer's report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative. VP Dave Trecker distributed his report regarding state legislative activities that could impact Collier County. Those activities include education reform, water districts, election reform, insurance reform, and condo and HOA bills.

Murray Hendel feels that the membership of the CCPC should develop positions regarding some of these activities, such as ways to reduce the influence of state-backed Citizens and providing incentives to bring major insurance companies back to Florida. Hendel asked for a motion to send a letter to the state legislature showing their support for SB 408, SB 1712, SB 1330 and others. **A motion was made and seconded, but defeated in a vote of the membership.** Members felt there should be more study before endorsing any of these bills.

Regarding submitting a letter to the state legislature re class size restrictions, **a motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously by the membership to endorse easing the class size restrictions.**

Issues. Vice Chair Linda Penniman prepared a paper containing random notes from the Water Symposium on March 29, 2011 (REDUCING WATER WASTE), which provided valuable tips and information about ways to be "water smart." Copies of the report will be available at the next meeting. Linda gave an example of how a resident had used the Mobile Irrigation Lab to more efficiently irrigate their property and encouraged others to seek the lab's free assistance.

OLD BUSINESS

Cable. Representatives of Village Walk stated that Paul Feuer wanted the membership to know that Village Walk will not be signing a contract with Comcast. They have decided to let their residents pick their own cable/satellite contractor until a viable bulk contractor comes on line.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CCPC is scheduled for May 13, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. The speaker will be David Tetzlaff, Director of the Naples Zoo.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Kirk
Acting Secretary