

The Lake Worth Tribune

Domine, ut videam

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2015

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Coming Up

Sunday, March 28

PrideFest Parade
starting at 11 a.m.
on Lake Avenue

Wednesday, April 1

Planning & Zoning Board Meeting
at 6 p.m.
in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall

Friday, April 3

Good Friday Passion Pageant
from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
in the Cultural Plaza

Saturday, April 4

Easter Egg Hunt and Bonnet Parade
From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
In Bryant Park Bonnet Parade at 11 a.m.

Sunday April 5

Easter

Woman Who Died in Fall From Lucerne Was a Young Mother, Aspiring Model

By Margaret Menge

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office has identified the woman who fell or jumped from the sixth-floor balcony of The Lucerne on March 10 as 23-year-old Meagan Sullins, who also went by the name Meagan Vance.

Sullins had been in Lake Worth since late last year, staying with her mother on South K Street, according to friends. She'd left Austin, Texas, where she was from, and left behind her baby girl, Schyler, with the baby's father.

On the night of the tragic event, Meagan had been drinking with a friend, Justin Holmes, at Havana Hideout on Lake Avenue. She'd left briefly to go up to the sixth floor-condo in The Lucerne condominium building, where she'd been staying for a couple of days with a



Meagan Sullins with her infant daughter, Schyler, in a photograph posted on her Facebook page. Meagan moved to Lake Worth in late 2014, leaving her daughter behind in Texas with the father.

man named Larry, known as "Larry the lawyer."

Holmes, a cook at Havana Hideout, said he was out on the street when Meagan fell through the air.

"I saw her hit the ground," he said. She rolled over, he said, and groaned. Emergency crews were called. But it was too late.

The Palm Beach County

Sheriff's Office has not released the official report of the incident, as the investigation is still open pending a

Continued on Page 4...



Doug Yoakum, a Lake Worth Ocean Rescue lifeguard, ran down the beach on the afternoon of March 19 to revive a woman who'd been pulled from the water by other swimmers. (photo by Margaret Menge)

Veteran Lifeguard Saves Woman From Near Drowning After 10 Minutes of CPR, She Gasps for Air

By Margaret Menge

On Thursday, March 19 the ocean was rough, with lots of rip currents. The lifeguards who work for Lake Worth Ocean Rescue had a big enough job keeping watch on all of the spring breakers and other vacationers at the Lake Worth beach that day, and pulled a number of people out of the water who were near drowning, including two children.

But they also dashed to help a woman who'd been pulled up on the beach in front of one of the private condominiums to the south of the Lake Worth beach, off of city property.

"A guy came running up

Continued on Page 4...

CHANGE: Maier Gets ITN Cancellation on Commission Agenda, Majority Votes Him Down 3-2

"The Invitation to Negotiate has allowed for the submission of multiple proposals for an unknown amount of development on our public beach. There is great public concern, which I'm sure we'll hear some of this evening, about this taking place out of the public eye."

—Commissioner Ryan Maier on March 24, City Hall

- Mayor, Maxwell, Amoroso Block Cancellation of ITN, Vote to Continue With Beach Build Process
- Triolo Allows One Public Workshop Meeting Before Vote on ITN Recommendation to Build at the Beach

By Margaret Menge

No sooner had the City Commission meeting begun on March 24 than new Commissioner Ryan Maier spoke up about his addition to the agenda: The consideration

of a motion to cancel the Invitation to Negotiate process.

The Invitation to Negotiate, or ITN, was issued on Sept. 9 before it had ever

been discussed at a public meeting. It was revealed last month that Hudson Holdings, owner of the Gulfstream Hotel, has proposed to build a 40,000-square-foot

addition to the Casino building through that ITN process — a revelation that took most residents of Lake Worth by surprise and became the biggest issue in the closing weeks of the City Commission race.

Mayor Pam Triolo at first said she wanted a chance to look at it, and to read the back-up materials. And Commissioner Scott Maxwell said there is a process for public comment as the ITN Committee is required to have a public meeting before making its recommendation to the City Commission.

But commissioners Maier and McVoy pushed the point — saying the issue had to go on the agenda for this meeting as a vote to approve the ITN Committee's proposal could come at the very next Commission meeting in April.

The last meeting of the ITN Committee will take place on

March 31, said City Attorney Christy Goddeau, when the committee members will evaluate the proposals and likely pick one. The ITN Committee would then be required by law to have at least one public meeting before

Continued on Page 4...



Commissioner Ryan Maier speaks from the dais at the City Commission meeting on Tuesday, March 24, about the need to put the cancellation of the Invitation to Negotiate on the agenda for the meeting, given that the ITN Committee's recommendation could be voted on at the next meeting. (photo by Margaret Menge)

TICK TOCK TICK TOCK 40,000 sq ft Building at the Beach a 'Done Deal' by the End of March?

By Margaret Menge

It's almost the end of March. Do you know where your beach is?

Steve Michael from Hudson Holdings told the Gulfstream Condominium owners on Feb. 25 that Hudson Holdings expected to have an answer from the city "by the end of March" on their proposal to build a 40,000-square-foot conference center and private

beach club on the one-acre parcel south of the Casino building in Lake Worth.

"Once we are past the ITN, we'll move very fast," he'd said.

The ITN Committee meets on March 31 to evaluate the replies to the Invitation to Negotiate and pick one. Following this, they will have one public meeting, as re-

quired by law, before making a recommendation to the City Commission on which proposal the city should choose.

The City Commission majority is strongly pro-development, with Mayor Pam Triolo and commissioners Scott Maxwell and Andy Amoroso (who sits on the ITN Committee) almost always voting in synch.

Hudson Holdings on The Gulfstream: 'This Is Our Most Special Project'

By Margaret Menge

Steve Michael, one of the two co-founders of real estate investment firm Hudson Holdings, owners of The Gulfstream Hotel, appeared before a packed room at The Beach Club on Monday, March 23 for a meeting of the Bryant Park Neighborhood Association.

"We are doing a total renovation," he said of the firm's

plans for the historic hotel. He emphasized that the firm is "local" — based in Delray Beach — and is committed to historic preservation. In the case of the Gulfstream Hotel, he said, they are committed to keeping every historic detail possible.

"We're long-term inves-

Continued on Page 3...