

GPICA BOARD MEETING MINUTES 3/10/2021, 1PM -2:55PM

Present: Nadine Slimak, Debbie Memoli, Jamie Brush DeLacey, Claudia Bringe, Helen Fox, Michael Sweeney, Noel Andress. Absent: Leoma Lovegrove

1. Leaves of Absence and Resignations:

Tim Heitz requested a leave of absence for the foreseeable future to care for a family member. Roger Wood tendered his resignation after a long career serving on the GPICA. Scott Wilkinson also tendered his resignation citing competing obligations. Scott had recently served as President and was currently serving as GPICA Recording Secretary.

2. Board member replacement process.

Shari Perkins will review the membership list shared by VP Nadine Slimack to ascertain if there are potential members who would be willing to move to a Board position in the GPICA to replace the retiring members. Shari also volunteered to design a plaque to acknowledge Roger Wood's long service on the Board. Noel Andress and Helen Fox will send her templates that she could use for the wording of the plaque.

3. Board Minutes Approval

Nadine and Helen reviewed and edited the February 10th GPICA Board meeting minutes submitted by Scott Wilkinson. The minutes were unanimously approved by all Board members present.

4. Audit and tax filing

The IRS filing for the GPICA and an independent audit were announced as upcoming. Mike Sweeney and Shari Perkins volunteered to organize the process when Shari returns to the island in April and can access her paper files. The tax postcard can be sent before then and should be done before April 15.

5. Chamber of Commerce membership

Debbie Memoli suggested the GPICA become a member of the Pine Island Chamber of Commerce. The GPICA is an established organization on the island and could benefit from manning a table at the Chamber's meetings to explain the GPICA goals and encourage membership. Membership in the Chamber of Commerce is \$100 annually for nonprofits. Concerns were raised about the differing goals of the Chamber of Commerce and the GPICA. The idea of

increasing membership by attending various club and organizational meetings on our own was also discussed. Shari Perkins moved, and Nadine seconded that the GPICA join the Chamber of Commerce. The motion was defeated: 2 in favor, 5 opposed.

6. Upcoming Meeting with County Commissioner Kevin Ruane

Several board members volunteered to attend an upcoming meeting on Zoom with Commissioner Ruane. Possible topics to be discussed included:

- A) Traffic cams and web apps to address traffic congestion on Pine Island Road
- B) Separation of pedestrian and auto traffic in Matlacha
- C) Parking in Matlacha
- D) Emergency access to and from the Island
- E) Upcoming traffic study and possible roundabout at Stringfellow and Pine Island Road

7. Bocilla Island Seaport

Helen Fox will update the membership at the next general meeting about the efforts of some members of Bocilla Island to question the legality of the marina on Pine Island and the reason we have not requested a hearing as requested by the membership. Noel Andress explained that during the previous presidential administration responsibility for approval of marinas went from federal control under the Army Corp of Engineers to State control under the DEP. The approval procedures are different and there is now a federal lawsuit challenging the rights for the DEP to issue permits in some areas. Noel further suggested that we get involved at the County level, where all requests for re-zoning require a public hearing.

8. Speed Bumps

Some residents in Saint James City are interested in speed bumps for Oleander and Sanibel Sts since vehicles are not observing posted speed limits. Noel suggested that residents call the Director of the Lee County Department of Transportation, and if there is no response, to email the District 1 Commissioner.

9. Bert Harris Properties

The County has paid for development rights for several small, mostly non-contiguous properties around Marina Drive in Bokeelia under the Bert Harris agreement. These parcels can now only be used for agriculture and are low in

value since nothing can be built on them. The County should be encouraged to buy them with 2020 funds and turn them into preserves. Shari will look into acreage.

10. Noel will find out about a speaker for April and keep us posted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Sweeney