

**MINUTES**  
**PIE BOARD MEETING**  
**JANUARY 12, 2004**

The meeting was called to order by Valerie Guenther, President, at 7:03 PM.

Those present were: Meryl Schaffer, Cassie Ator, Jim Clinton, Duane Allen, Kevin Mackin, Duane Allen, Dan Kett, Carol Peterson, Bob Horswill, Dick Aulenti and Valerie Guenther. Absent: Andy Nichols, Holly Wade, Kimber Dill and Mike Fahlmark.

New officers were elected: Valerie Guenther, President; Dan Kett, Vice President; Mike Fahlmark, Treasurer; Carol Peterson, Secretary.

A motion was made to remove Pam Hess and Joyce Stivison as signatories on the business checking account at Englewood Bank and to add the Treasurer (Mike Fahlmark) and Jim Clinton.

A motion was made and carried to close the Strong Account and transfer funds to the Englewood Bank in order to save money on monthly fees. The balance of the Strong Fund is \$12,295.83. Of that balance, \$6,733.22 applies to PIE savings and \$5,562.61 applies to the Scholarship Fund.

A motion was made and carried to open a business account at Englewood Bank in the amount of \$6,733.22 to be called the PIE Savings Fund. The signatories will be Valerie Guenther, Mike Fahlmark and Jim Clinton. One signature is required to sign checks.

A motion was made and carried to open a business account at Englewood Bank in the amount of \$5,562.61 to be called the Scholarship fund. The signatories will be Valerie Guenther, Mike Fahlmark and Jim Clinton. One signature is required to sign checks.

Areas of responsibility were discussed. Valerie explained each item and asked for volunteers. Duane Allen and Kathy Seidenwater will be responsible for the scholarship fund. Susie Kett is responsible for social events. Mike Fahlmark is responsible for membership. Jim Clinton is responsible for the legal/PAC group. Carol Peterson is responsible for the cookbook revision. We need to find someone for Arts in the Palms. Valerie suggested that we use EWOL to keep our website up to date. No objection.

Bob Horswill suggested that we rename the Beautification committee the Environmental Committee to include beach clean up, Gopher tortoise protection, sea turtle protection, etc. Bob will bring ideas for the Environmental Committee to the next meeting. Dan Kett said that he had talked to Dean Becksted about a new gazebo on the mainland in the mate's parking lot. He will continue the conversation. Valerie said that we might look at new beach access signs. Meryl Schaeffer suggested that we should put a plaque on the gazebo

indicating that it was donated by PIE.

### **Old Business**

Susie Kett updated the board on the street dance to be held on January 31 on Kettle Harbor Drive. The band has few requirements other than some pallets to put their carpet on, 2 ferry passes and dinner. The board agreed that none of their requirements would be a problem. A motion was made to buy a keg tap. Passed. Gisella Allen will do a 50/50 for the legal fund. A motion was made to move the PIE shed BEFORE the tables are put back after the party. Passed. The shed will be moved February 1, 2004.

Susie Kett reported on the Senior Prom. The caterer has been engaged and the decorations committee has been formed. There was discussion on the disbursement of invitations and the charge for the dance. It was decided to send the invitations to everyone on the islands and to charge PIE members \$100 per couple and non-PIE members \$150 per couple.

Valerie reported on the incident in Colony Don Pedro during the beach clean up. Reports from the homeowner and the clean-up crew were very different. The homeowner requested a meeting with a PIE board member. Valerie will respond with a letter to him.

### **New Business**

The Legal Fund has \$3000 in it. The attorney we have spoken to about a credit for the Kosinsky bridge requires a \$2500 retainer. He is up to date on all the issues and is ready to proceed immediately. A motion was made to hire the attorney. Passed. Jim Clinton gave background on the issue. We need to use whatever tools the attorney has at his disposal. A discussion ensued about our intent vis a vis Charlotte County. It was clear that we need to professionally present our point of view so that the county will recognize it. This should be the beginning of responsible communications with the county.

Jim Wade gave a report on the proposed wastewater treatment facility by Island Environmental Utilities, Inc. He believes that dealing with this on a county level is a “waste of time”. We should be dealing with the PSC in Tallahassee and should have a “big time” attorney to represent our interests before the PSC. He recommended Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson, Bell and Dunbar. A discussion ensued about the motivation of Charlotte County vis a vis a wastewater facility on the islands. The above named firm requires a retainer of \$7500 to begin. Their task is to stop the certification of Island Environmental Utilities, Inc. If we retain them and they defeat the certification, it gives us time to get changes made to the Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan and make sure that the zoning on the islands restricts multi-family dwellings, hotels, etc. on the islands.

Jim’s report led to a discussion about the next step. Clearly, we need to raise money.

Susie Kett suggested that we use the names on the petitions against a wastewater treatment facility on the island to solicit funds. Others suggested going to the various homeowners associations or selling t-shirts. It was clear to all that PIE needs a legal defense fund. Jim Clinton discussed the need for a legal defense fund and PAC. A motion was made to raise as much money as possible before our next board meeting on February 3 for the legal defense fund. Passed. A motion was made to hire the attorney in Tallahassee as suggested by Jim Wade and to send letters to all petition signers asking for contributions to the legal defense fund. Jim Clinton was asked to do some research on PACs and report to the board on Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Dan Kett will look into t-shirts with creative logos to help the fundraising.

Jim Clinton proposed changing the name of PIE so that it would be more inclusive and would represent all property owners on the islands whether they are contributing dues or not, thus reducing the public appearance of dissension among ourselves and presenting one front to the county. It was decided to have a name contest. We will ask people completing surveys to suggest names.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Peterson  
Secretary