

Palm Island Estates Homeowners Association
Annual Meeting
January 6, 2024

President Meryl Schaffer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was met. Out of the 99 paid-to-date memberships, 45 members attended in person and 8 submitted proxies. Board members in attendance were Linda Cotherman, Kelly Lube, Meryl Schaffer, Susanne Stubbs and Lindsay Yates.

Minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting were approved unanimously.

President's Report:

Meryl read the Mission Statement of the Association explaining the purpose of PIE and who is eligible for membership. In the year 2023 the Association had a total of 230 members at year end, with 26 of those being new memberships. During the year PIE put on seven social events and presented two Info Central informational meetings. This year we did not hire additional island security over the July 4th holiday and there were no incidents reported. Meryl expressed the appreciation of the PIE Board and the community with thanks to Buzz Mallett for keeping the island roads in great shape, Gisela Allen for repainting the decorative signs along the road after the destruction of Hurricane Ian, Ray Smith for taking responsibility the flag at the barge landing and for being the go-to man for flag etiquette and procedures, Martha Duncan for her support of the scholarship fund, Jeff Fleck for rehabbing the bulletin board at the Palm Drive intersection, Don Schultz for resurrecting, repairing and replacing the cupola on the ferry landing gazebo roof, and Dick Aulenti and Sally Johnson for decorating the gazebo for Christmas.

Treasurer's Report:

Income for the year was \$12,332, most of which was derived from dues payments. We also received a very nice \$200 donation to the Scholarship Fund. General operating expenses totaled approximately \$7,821 for a net income of \$4,511. The largest expense for 2023 was liability insurance -\$3,712. The Association's bank accounts had the following balances on December 31st: General operating accounts (checking and savings), \$29,600; Action Fund (for legal matters) \$6,767; and the Scholarship Fund \$9,800.

Committee Reports:

Info Central – Susanne Stubbs: Two programs were held this year – the first was with Commissioner Bill Truex and the second was with Sheriff Bill Prummel and Deputy Billy Prummel. Another program is being scheduled for January 24th with Michael Poff of Coastal Engineering and Matt Logan from Charlotte County who will be speaking about the planned dune restoration project to repair damage caused by Hurricane Ian.

Social Committee – Kathy Sickles: In Kathy’s absence Meryl reported that the Social Committee had organized the following successful events during the year: New Year’s Day Parade, Palm Palooza, an Easter Charcuterie Brunch and Beach Ball Hunt, a July 4th Sandcastle Contest, Trunk or Treat for Halloween and Donuts with Santa in December.

Island Watch – Linda Cotherman: (1) Tim Ziegler, the consultant who previously advised the County and the Roads and Bridges committee (officially “Don Pedro/Knight Island Streets and Drainage Advisory Board) on improving the Island’s sand roads, will be attending the January meeting of the committee to evaluate the road process to date and to suggest additional strategies for maintenance and dust suppression. (2) The County has approved modifying the purpose of the MSTU/MSBU to include payment for a professional iguana hunter. (3) There is a new golf cart ordinance that raises the legal age for driving. (4) County Code Compliance is citing homeowners for placing unpermitted landscaping and hardscape in the rights of way. (5) Linda believes that the Bridgeless Barrier Island Accessibility Survey sent by the County and also the drop-in meeting scheduled for January 11th was initiated by the possible loss of access for residents of Little Gasparilla Island if Eldred’s Marina is sold and the County is just gauging residents’ interests in alternate forms of access (whatever that might mean).

Community Liaison – Craig Baresel: In Craig’s absence Meryl reported that Craig has developed relationships with Deputy Billy Prummel and with Palm Island Transit. Palm Island Transit has been very helpful in keeping us all up to date on barge information. Meryl also pointed out that Deputy Billy has an informative page on the PIE website.

Scholarship – Kelly Lube: Kelly presented a \$1,000 scholarship to resident Quincy Dunlap who will be graduating from Lemon Bay High School.

Old Business: Nothing to discuss.

New Business: (a) The 2024 budget was approved. (b) The following Board members were elected for a two-year term: Craig Baresel, Linda Cotherman, Amy McCully Kathy Sickles, and Susanne Stubbs.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is January 8, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Yates, Acting Recording Secretary