

March 2025 - Meeting Notes for Palm Island Estates (PIE) Board of Directors

The meeting took place March 10, 2025. It started at 5:01pm and adjourned at 7:06pm.

In Attendance:

- Amy McCully - attended in person
- Linda Cotherman - attended in person
- Deb Knighten - attended in person
- Kelly Lube - attended in person
- Ember Harker - attended in person
- Susanne Stubbs - attended in person
- George Sinnett - attended in person
- Mic McCully - excused absence

Guests:

- None

Recording Secretary - Ember Harker

- February Minutes - Approved
- **ACTION: Ember to post last month's minutes to the website**

Corresponding Secretary - Kelly Lube

- Nothing to report

Treasurer - Deb Knighten

- Quickbooks Online is fully setup
- Ember has a Quickbooks coach or Linda has a niece that can help as well
- ~\$22k in action fund, we expect one more bill for the briefs and last meeting in Tallahassee, but we should have enough to cover final sewer bills and have a little left over to help fund the conservation bill
- ~7k for operating fund
- ~22k in saving
- Insurance was paid and was \$52 over budget
- We are down in dues paid year over year
- Zelle is working well and we are trying to use it more and more for payments
- **ACTION: Deb to follow up with Ember regarding the Annual Report**

Administrative - Deb Knighten

- Included in Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Action - Linda Cotherman

- Conservancy Act -
 - The Conservancy Bill has been filed HB4077 and assigned to the first of three committees.
 - Getting a quote from LGIPA Attorney for lobbying
 - LGIPA is doing a call to action and we may soon send out our own.

Social - Kelly Lube

- Palm Palooza went really well.
 - Cost was \$500 and a big success
- Movie Night, March 8th.
 - We had a low turn out, possibly related to location or movie choice. May discontinue this event next year. Although it's a very easy, low cost event. Maybe do it in the common lot on North Gulf where people can see it getting set up.
- Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Brunch coming up
 - Kathy Sickles offered to host
- Island Day at the Ball Park
 - Not an official PIE event

Info Central - Susanne Stubbs

- Conservation District Act
 - ~45 people attended
 - Danny Nix was impressed with the turnout and did a good job
 - It seemed like it helped connect people and make them feel heard today and tomorrow. It also helped people to understand the bill.
- Not doing one in March, but potentially looking at a few options for April
- Partner with BICI for Dark Sky Info central
- Combine a Right of Way Info central with beach renourishment

Island Watch, Roads & Bridges, Barrier Island Fire District - Linda Cotherman

- Potentially change the name of this committee because this is really a reporting to PIE of these other groups that potentially impact our island.
- **Right of Way:**

- In the Dec Commission meeting, they discussed making us a special district for what we do in the right of way.
- Roads and Bridges is recommending phased launch, first 10 ft off the edge of the pavement. Any homeowner should remove any hardscape. On N and S Gulf, there are 5 beach easements. If there's not enough parking (50 spots near each public beach access) we don't get much funding for beach renourishment.
- **Neighborhood plan** - this is going out for bid again to be updated, which means it's advertised and sent to all the engineers and contractors the county can work on it. Ultimately have the commissioners approve it.
- **Speed limit** - March 28th meeting to present the lowered speed limit to the commissioners. All sand roads and N. Gulf from the ferry landing to the bridge will be 15mph. From the bridge to the resort will be 20 mph.
 - May need letter writing or in person meeting. TBD.
- **Fire District** - last meeting cancelled
- **Paving Panama Blvd** is planned. We are keeping an eye on this to advocate for how this should be done. And to see if the county would consider re-striping it, taking back the easement, making appropriate parking, making a walkway, etc.
 - **Action: Linda to get more info on the timeline and what we can do**
- **Street Lights** - Carol, new head of Turtle Watch, will advocate for the further in street light to be turned off. Terry Miklos is very upset and wants it turned off because it shines into his bedroom.
 - **Action: Linda to connect with Terry**
- **Beach Renourishment** - no update
- **Flag Pole Area:** all replanted and pretty
- **Dead Fish** - Danny Nix to look into that
- **FEMA** has not brought the sifter in because they are waiting for the birds.
- New trees planted on N. Gulf at the request of the homeowner. They are in the right of way and are being done without a permit.

Community Liaison - Linda Cotherman

- No News

Scholarship - Kelly Lube

- Kelly provided the existing, specific guidelines for who qualifies for scholarships. Conclusion is that island kids scholarship should go to "island kids" as defined by the guidelines.
- One recommended change is to make the scholarship amount a set amount of \$1000
 - **Action: Ember to update the website**

Membership - George Sinnett

- 169 households (we had 229 last year total)
 - **Action: Deb to help compare YoY of who hasn't paid**

- George read out a draft letter to non-members
 - *Action: Ember to look into the possibility for some kind of survey in the email*
- Motion Passed: We expand our email list to any past or current PIE members and handle non-PIE members on a case by case basis.
- George to order note cards
- Asked communications if we make the online PIE application online and automatically update Mailchimp.
 - *Action: Ember to look into it.*

Communications - Ember Harker

- **Logo:**
 - All files were provided to board.
 - *ACTION: Ember to update social channels, letterhead*
- **Website:**
 - The website is live with access to the old one
- *ACTION: Ember to look into cost implications SMS messaging via Mailchimp, not likely to happen before next meeting*

Old Business

- Ferry Cam - *ACTION: Deb to connect with Jude on buying and implementing camera*

New Business

- BICI asks for PIE to sponsor their Shamrock Event. Motion was approved.
 - *Action: Deb to write \$100 check to BICI*
- Deb is making buttons for PIE Board to wear at events
- Deb to check the lattice
 - *Action: Deb to see if it was fixed*