

June Minutes 2026 - Meeting Notes for Palm Island Estates (PIE) Board of Directors

The meeting took place June 8, 2026. It started at 5:00pm and adjourned at 5:59pm.

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
- Jeanie Adams - excused
- George Sinnett - excused
- Mic McCully - attended in person

Guests:

- Chris Luke

Recording Secretary - Ember Harker

- Last Month's Minutes - no changes
- ***ACTION: Ember to post last month's minutes to the website***

Corresponding Secretary - George Sinnet

- Mark Rubio - would like reflective numbers

Treasurer - Deb Knighten

- Motion made to approve last month's treasurers report as information passed unanimously.

Administrative - Deb Knighten

- Nothing to report
- Discussion was held about researching lower cost insurance. To be considered 90 days before renewal.

Committee Reports

Action - Linda Cotherman

- The Neighborhood Plan is nearing completion with the rewrites based on public feedback. Aiming for June. Discussion was held on when to release survey results. They will follow up with us.

Island Updates - Linda Cotherman

- June 23rd is the BCC meeting where they will discuss Bocilla Lagoon. Islanders will be allowed 3 minutes to talk.
 - Survey to go out soon and to promote the meeting as an opportunity to be heard.

Community Liaison - Linda Cotherman

- Deputy Billy said a case was created about a recent accident involving a minor driving an ATV that was rolled on its side, but couldn't give any more details.
- We paid \$563 for off-duty police coverage over Memorial Day weekend.
 - The coverage wasn't late enough on Friday because the officer left at 8pm when there was still a line all the way to Placida Road. He did talk to some kids partying on the bridge and told them to go home.
 - Saturday the officer said everything went well.
 - They were seen driving around with lights on which was helpful.
 - There was also miscommunication. The officer was in the resort, thinking that "Palm Island" paid for him and that was the resort.

Social - Kelly Lube

- Drum Circle was ok. About 40 people showed up, people came and went. People seemed to prefer the previous leader.
- July 4th - between beach access 5-6
 - Parade - see if Mike and Sarah Green are willing to organize it. Need a parade route.
 - Sand Castle Contest - 10-12
 - Pie Eating Contest - 11

Scholarship - Kelly Lube

- Nothing to report

Info Central - Jeanie Adams

- Nothing to report

Membership - George Sinnett

- Nothing to report

Communications - Ember Harker

- SMS texting is now functional. Ember looking into an onboarding campaign for current PIE members to subscribe
- Traffic camera - extender was added but charging cord wasn't installed correctly. Still troubleshooting

Old Business

- Discussion held about buying new tables. Options and costs reviewed. Motion was made to buy six new 6' adjustable height tables, not to exceed \$750. Passed unanimously.

New Business

- **Beach Access** - We reviewed what needs to be done on every easement to make them consistent, including trimming, posts, rope, etc.
 - We looked at two proposals. Motion made to approve the Hunter Barrett-Smith's quote for and not to exceed \$1250. Passed unanimously.
- **Welcome Baskets** - Are these going out to the new homeowners? We'd like to have a couple baskets on hand and ready to go so they happen in a timely manner.
ACTION: Deb to make some up.
- **Beach Access Signs** - These have info on who to call if you find a hurt animal. We used to have them prior to the storm and all but one washed away. Kelly presented an updated design. We'd need 18. Total is \$880 split 3 ways between PIE, BICI, and Coastal Wildlife Club, so cost is \$293.33.
 - A motion was made to approve PIE's portion of the cost for these signs. Passed unanimously.
- Art Knighten reported that the **flag** was in a poor state and should be replaced. Deb found a new one for \$33. Motion made to approve the purchase of a new flag. Passed unanimously.

Comments from Guests

- Chris Luke asked about the iguana problem on the island. He saw a really large one near the resort and wanted to know if he was allowed to kill them.

PIE Special Meeting – May 18, 6:04-6:21 PM

The Board held a special meeting to discuss whether PIE should request and fund an off-duty law enforcement officer to be physically present on the island over Memorial Day weekend. All 8 current board members were present.

Background / Rationale

Billy advised that Memorial Day weekend presents an unusually high-demand public safety situation due to:

- Most available law enforcement resources will already be committed to The Boca Grande concert which is expected to draw an estimated 50,000 attendees, with hundreds of boats anticipated in the surrounding waters.
- The island is expected to see an influx of visitors and short-term rental guests.
- Heavy alcohol consumption is expected over the holiday weekend.

While 911 services will remain available, response times for non-life-threatening incidents may be delayed due to limited officer availability.

It was noted that Billy has never previously recommended that PIE hire an officer for holiday coverage. In past years, if PIE needed Billy to come to the island over a holiday weekend, he was often able to work it into normal coverage. This year, that flexibility is not expected to be available due to staffing demands for the concert event.

It was also noted that:

- If PIE requests an officer, availability is not guaranteed.
- The longer the PIE waits to make the request, the less likely an officer will be available, and the higher the cost may become.
- The Board briefly discussed the possibility of providing an empty patrol vehicle for visibility, but did not have a practical solution.

Motion to Hire Additional Officer

A motion was made to hire an additional off-duty law enforcement officer for Memorial Day weekend coverage. **Motion passed: 6–2**

Discussion of Coverage Hours

The Board then discussed the most effective coverage windows, with the goal of maximizing visible presence during high-traffic periods, particularly as visitors arrive for holiday rentals.

Approved coverage: **Friday:** 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM; **Saturday:** 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Total coverage: **8 hours**; Expected Rate: **\$69/hour** ; Total estimated cost: **\$552**

Motion passed: 6–1

Note: Deb's phone died before the vote could be completed, but she later texted that she was comfortable with whatever hours the Board selected.