

**Siesta Isles Association  
Annual Dinner Meeting Minutes, Feb 25, 2021**

The Siesta Isles Association Annual Meeting for FY 20-21 was conducted via Zoom. Attendees pre-registered to ensure accurate tracking of eligible membership. Zoom polls for anticipated votes were prepared in advance for use during the meeting, with the understanding that Webmaster Ted Ritter would revise those polls in real time if necessary. Zoom training sessions were offered to members unfamiliar with the online meeting format. Attendees were invited to join the Zoom link at 6:30pm for social time.

President Pam Akins called the Siesta Isles Association Annual Meeting to order at 7pm and gave a brief review of how the virtual meeting would be conducted. She thanked all for coming and for being a member of Siesta Isles Association and then thanked SIA Secretary and Webmaster Ted Ritter for managing our virtual meeting. Ted provided a few Zoom etiquette reminders and explained how Q&A and voting would be done. Ted Ritter then reported we had 57 attendees representing 35 member houses.

Pam introduced the SIA officers and board members with their committee assignments: Caren Levin, Vice President; Janet Emanuel, VP House Plans; Ted Ritter, Secretary, Records Retention Chair and Technology Chair; Harold Ashby, Treasurer; Judie Berger, Directory; Tammy Dentici, Liaison; Bill Hewitt, Security; Clay Keeley, Liaison; Caren Levin, Membership & Hospitality; Fred Levin, Compliance; Kumar Mahadevan, Liaison; and Jerry McLaughlin, Entrances. She noted board members who could not complete their term of office: Barbara Habel; Laura Parziale who served as Hospitality Chair; and Catherine Hay, Records Retention Chair.

Pam identified two long-time board members leaving the board: Ted Ritter and Dr. Kumar Mahadevan. She thanked non-board member committee volunteers for the Traffic Safety Committee, comprised of Tony Romanus, Peggy Howrigen, Joanne Lockard, Vince Riva, who got the county to lower the speed limits in the Isles and added new stop signs for pedestrian safety; the Nominating Committee comprised of Pat Bennison, Ernie Chartier, Caren Levin, Kumar Mahadevan and herself; and the Election Committee comprised of Joann Lockard, Judy Sass, and Dave Thompson.

At 7:15, President Pam called the formal business meeting to order. Secretary Ted Ritter certified that we had a quorum (15%) of members with the assistance of Membership Chair Caren Levin, noting 35 households attending. Ted presented the minutes for the 2/27/20 Annual Meeting. Pam called for a motion to approve. William Hough moved to approve the minutes; Kris Clerkin seconded. There was no discussion. Webmaster Ted issued a poll for voting on the minutes. There were 29 votes in favor, 0 no votes and 2 abstentions. The motion carried. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Harold Ashby presented an interim FY 20-21 Treasurer's Report, with a statement of income and expenses as of February 11, 2021. The final report will be submitted after the close of the fiscal year on 2/28/21 and posted on the website. Revenues exceeded expenses by \$13,074. Harold noted this is a record for the association, primarily due to no picnic or annual dinner and much lower legal fees than projected. We also had \$3,000 more revenue than expected since we had 20 members over the projected 125. Pam asked questions be submitted in the Chat function to be addressed at the end of the presentation.

As Chair of the Nominating Committee, Pam presented the slate of nominated board members:

- New Board Members: Vanessa Ballard, Chuck Collins, Maribel Figueredo, Carol Gosart, and Tara Meyer, all nominated for three-year terms.
- Continuing Board Members: Harold Ashby, who filled a vacant seat last April, for a full three-year term; Janet Emanuel, who is willing to serve a third term with the board's approval; Fred Levin and Jerry McLaughlin, who agreed to serve second three-year terms.

Pam called for nominations from the floor through Chat. Seeing no nominations from the floor, she asked for a motion to accept the slate as presented. Dave Thompson moved to approve; Bill Hough seconded. Webmaster Ted issued a Zoom poll for voting on the board slate. There were 31 votes in favor, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions. The motion carried, and the slate was approved. The Election Committee, chaired by Joann Lockard, certified the election. (Note, this action happened later in the meeting during Q&A, but is recorded in the minutes here for clarity.)

Harold Ashby explained a proposed amendment to the SIA Bylaws: The amendment would change the language related to banking and the need for signatures on checks. Paper checks are not used; everything is done electronically. More than one officer checks the account to ensure account security. Pam acknowledged Harold for his excellent leadership as Treasurer. She asked for approval of the amendment to the Bylaws. William Hough moved and Harma Nijhof seconded. There was no discussion in the Chat. Webmaster Ted issued a poll for voting on the Bylaws amendment: There were 30 votes in favor (with one verbal), 0 no votes and 0 abstentions. The motion carried; the Bylaws amendment was approved.

Pam announced the end of the business part of the meeting and proceeded with a year-end review. She reported it was a year of challenges because of the pandemic. Because of recommended precautions against spreading the coronavirus, we were unable to have our Annual Picnic or Annual Dinner. However, we were able to conduct SIA business via Zoom, and we were able to maintain our membership numbers: Current membership is 145. Special thanks

went to Caren Levin, who sent a reminder mailing in June. She also contacted new homeowners to invite them to become members. All memberships received with the January newsletter application or registered online since January 1 will be applied to FY21-22. Already 75 have registered for FY21-22 membership.

Special thanks went to Janet Emmanuel for chairing the House Plans Committee. The Board approved 8 new construction or addition plans, 7 fence approvals, and 11 other variance requests (mostly pre-existing setback encroachments). Under Compliance, we dealt with 8 compliance issues (several multiple times), but there was no need to refer any to our attorney, thanks to Compliance Committee Chair Fred Levin.

The board decided not to purchase additional security cameras for other entrances because of the cost and difficulty of working with the data they provide. Security Chair Bill Hewitt investigated connections with the local sheriff's office to identify materials for members to contact local officers. Pam recognized Jerry McLaughlin for a great job maintaining our entrances landscaping and lighting.

We produced four newsletters this year with features on board members and Isles members, as well as the latest board actions and issues affecting quality of life in the Isles. We also emailed newsletter links so members could view color versions on our website. Special thanks went to Nadja Bernitt for writing the Meet Your Neighbor column, and to Ted Ritter and Caren Levin for handling printing and distribution.

Pam noted that when we met last year, we were in the middle of addressing traffic issues with the County. Since that meeting, we were able to secure the stop signs at Contento and Shadow Lawn and at Cape Leyte and Beach Road, which has helped slow the traffic down in the Isles.

Liaison Committee Chair Tammy Dentici engaged with the county on issues related to the wastewater treatment plant demolition and property upkeep. Pam also reported the board voted to support the efforts of the Siesta Key Coalition to oppose the development of a hotel on Calle Miramar and to oppose changes to the County's Unified Development Code and the Future Land Use Plan for the Barrier Islands that would be required for any such development on Siesta Key. And we gave our permission to list the Siesta Isles Association along with the Siesta Key Association, Siesta Key Condominium Council and other HOAs that oppose the development.

For the new SIA website, Pam reviewed new pages and payment options on website. Members need to register accounts on the website (if they haven't already) and fill in and publish the contact info they want available to other SIA members. The website had 95 member accounts, 3,739 visits, and 1,861 visitors. Pam thanked Ted Ritter and past board member Michael Murphy for making the website happen. Pam also thanked Caren Levin for approving all membership accounts. Judie Berger is the Directory Chair and will be working on a new directory in the coming year.

In closing, Pam thanked the outgoing board and committee chairs and welcomed the new board members. She thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and the continued support of our members, saying that she wants to build more connectivity and community in the Isles. Pam opened the meeting for questions:

- Q: William Hough asked what do we store? A: We store hardcopy records of every lot in the Isles (house plans, variances, permits). Records are stored on the third floor well above flood level. We are doing more scanning of variances, but most information is still hard copy.
- Q: Peggy Howrigan asked about hotels and the incorporation of Siesta. A: We are not taking the lead. We endorse the actions of the SK Coalition related to opposition to changing Unified Code. We will be bringing up the SK incorporation at the next board meeting. Harold added that the *Siesta Sand* newspaper and the *Sarasota News Leader* have very comprehensive information on these issues.

Fred and Caren Levin handled the drawing for gift certificates from the Summer House. Winners were: Bob and Ruth Cullinane, Dave and Ruth Thompson, and John Burns. John gifted his back and Louis Leoni won the third certificate.

President Pam wrapped up the Zoom meeting with thank yous to the new directors and to Ted Ritter, outgoing Secretary, for coordinating this event. Pam thanked all for coming and supporting Siesta Isles Association! Dave Thompson moved to adjourn; Maribel Figueredo seconded. The meeting ended at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

SIA Secretary Ted Ritter