

THE CENTER OF ANNA MARIA ISLAND

*The Center is a Sec. 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.
which will be celebrating its 65th anniversary!*

Board Meeting Minutes for January 4, 2024

In attendance: Executive Director-Chris Culhane, Board Chairman-Don Purvis, Remi Drigan, Kathy Morgan Johnson, Ben Webb (via Zoom), Christine Major Hicks (Via Zoom), Liz Hager, Sheila Fuse, Jillian Ptak (Via Zoom),

Absent with excuse: Mike Thrasher, Dan Anderson, and Mark Short.

Call to Order at 5:35 pm. The minutes from the December 2023 meeting were unanimously accepted with Liz Hager proposing and Sheila Fuse seconding the motion. The minutes were approved.

Finance Chris Culhane provided a detailed financial report, highlighting the following key points: In the month of November the Center experienced a net income loss of (\$64,054), an improvement from the prior year's loss of (\$185,885). As of the end of November, there was \$332,338 in cash in the bank account. Anticipated incoming Concert funds range between 50,000-60,000. The Fall Campaign yielded impressive results, raising \$137,000 in addition to a generous \$100,000 donation. The Center's accountant is currently preparing the audit report. The Eisenbath Trust has given the Center \$15,000. The upcoming Giving Challenge will take place on April 9-10, a biennial event that successfully raised \$75,000 in the previous edition.

Governance. Chair, Liz Hager provided an update on committee activities, including the establishment of new requirements for board members and recruitment efforts. She noted that no board members reside in Bradenton Beach so she will focus there first for potential members. Additionally, it was announced that Mike Thrasher has resigned as a board member but will continue to serve as an affiliate board member.

Strategic Planning. Remi Drigan noted that she is working with Chris and Jillian on the strategic plan. She is asking the board to vote to budget for a consultant to finalize the plan. The consultant will keep the board accountable, identify milestones and leadership. Since, according to the bylaws, we need to obtain three proposals, Chris is identifying who to ask. The board voted all in favor of reaching out to consultants to bid on as motioned by Remi. Shelia Fuse seconding. Remi is also developing a team of 5-6 people to be a volunteer fundraising committee. They will jumpstart the Capital campaign. Don made a motion to create the committee with a first by Liz Hager and seconded by Shelia Fuse, all approved.

This campaign will have 2 phases and span 3 years. Phase I will have a 2.5 million goal to make capital improvements and associated expenses. This will enforce the Center's commitment to comprehensive wellness of our community. Phase 2 will focus on endowment growth.

Development. Jillian shared details of recent development activities. Over 600 Christmas cards were sent out to members and donors. Postcards will be placed on concert seats to let attendees know that the Center is a 501-C not for profit and that our mission is to, “enhance the overall well-being of individuals of all ages, while preserving a sense of community through creative programs and partnerships.” A QR code for donations will also be on the card. The Center is planning the St. Patrick’s Day Parade and will include the distribution of free tokens for a one-week membership.

Management Executive Director Chris Culhane announced a significant change in the Center's logo, transitioning from “go Green” to a image of the “old Schoolhouse” to better reflect the Center’s non-profit status.

Event Calendar. Several exciting upcoming events on the calendar include the Concert Series featuring Foghat on January 13, 2024. Additional performances include Al Croce (son of Jim Croce) on January 26, 2024, Guess Who on February 23, 2024, and Al Jardine on April 6, 2024. The Murder Mystery Dinner Shows are scheduled for March 1 and March 2, 2024, with an American Idol theme. The AMI Garden Club will be hosting a fashion show on February 28th, and on March 23rd, the Wine Tasting Fundraiser will take place. This event has proven to be very successful, raising 10% more than the previous Tour of Homes fundraiser, with the added benefit of requiring fewer volunteers and easier setup.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm. The next board meeting is January 29nd.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Morgan Johnson

Secretary, The Center