

# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

for The Center of Anna Maria Island – Oct/Nov/Dec 2024

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

## **Attendees:**

**In - Person:** Executive Director Chris Culhane, Kathy Morgan-Johnson, Sheila Fuse, Jillian Ptak, Caroline Leibfried, Ben Webb, Christine Major Hicks, Remi Drigan, Board Chair Don Purvis, Liz Hager

**Absent with excuse:** Dan Anderson

**VIA Zoom attendance:** Ben Webb

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Board Chair Don Purvis. Christine Major Hicks moved to accept the minutes of the September meeting. Sheila Fuse seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Finance:** Christine Major Hicks reported that the Center financial are in very good shape. October financials show a net income of \$149,555 Vs. last year at this time net loss of -\$116,069. The Hurricane Relief fund raised \$253,000 and the Lynard Skynyrnd Concert raised around \$350,000. This will be distributed to the community and barrier island workers.

**Governance:** Liz Hager reported there were no updates.

**Strategic Planning:** No Report

**Development:** Jillian Ptak, Director of Development, reported that the Selby Foundation sponsored the purchase of new vans to replace hurricane damaged ones. The Manatee Community Foundation sponsored the purchase of security cameras. The Community Center of Sarasota donated \$50,000 for fencing around the Center to replace damage from hurricane. Mosaic donated \$15,000 towards fencing costs. IMG donated \$10,000 and Harvard Business School \$2,000.

**Executive Committee:** No updates or reports were provided.

**Old/New Business:** The is a Toy and Bike Drive until December 18<sup>th</sup>. The School for Constructive Play (a pre-school) has been operating here since the end of October due to hurricane damage at their previous building. Licensing and agreements are being finalized to make this a long-term arrangement. The Women's Resource Center is processing grants from monies received during the Hurricane Relief and Lynard Skinner Fundraising. Almost \$200,000 has been given out already to the community and barrier island hospitality workers. This number will be updated once the finance committee finishes their reports.

Annual membership as of November 2024 is 453 members, representing a significant increase of 161 members since 2021.

The Center's new Fitness and Wellness Director is Chris Emkey. He was hired December 9, 2024.

Chris Culhane reported that the Center's roof and fences are awaiting repair. Two vans have been replaced. The score boards and the lawnmower are being replaced. The Center coordinated over 1000 volunteers and helped cleanup over 500 houses. Chris stressed that "It takes a village to bring the Community together" and the Center is the village. Chris thanked Liz Hager and Darcy Duncan for coordinating the free Thanksgiving Dinner the Center put on.

Build Back the Beach is a community effort lead by Cindy Stimart. She needs volunteers to plant sea oats to renourish the beach from Pine Avenue to Bean Point. The Center is currently signing up volunteers for January 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> to plant the beach. Over 150 volunteers are needed.

The Anna Maria Farmer's Market will now be at the Center on Tuesdays from 9am to 2pm. Starting January 14-May 27.

The concerts that will be held at the Center this year are Sheana Easton (Dec 12), The Wailers (Jan. 11), Robby Krieger from the Doors (Feb. 8), John Lodge of the Moody Blues (Mar. 24) and the Infamous Stringdusters April 5<sup>th</sup>. Family Fun night is January 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Adjournment:** The meeting concluded at 6:23 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathy Morgan Johnson, Secretary.*