

THE CENTER OF ANNA MARIA ISLAND

Celebrating 66 Years of Service

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: June 23, 2025

Location: The Center | Zoom Access Available

In Attendance:

Executive Director: Chris Culhane

Board Members: Don Purvis (Chair), Kathleen Morgan Johnson (Secretary, City of Anna Maria Liaison), Christine Major Hicks, (zoom) Liz Hager (zoom), Sheila Fuse, Jillian Ptak, Caroline Leibfried (zoom) Remi Drigan (zoom)

Excused Absences: Ben Webb, Dan Anderson (Treasurer)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the May 2025 board meeting were approved. Motion made by Sheila Fuse and seconded by Caroline Leibfried. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Report

Finance

Christine Major Hicks:

Christine reported that the budget is generally on target. At the end of May, the organization was \$37,000 over budget in a positive direction. However, a \$74,000 loss was incurred due to the Kansas concert. Notably, \$50,000 in sponsorship funds expected for the concert has not yet been collected.

The Tourist Development Council (TDC) has agreed to provide additional funds to help cover this shortfall, but those funds will not be available until their new fiscal year begins on October 1—after the close of our current fiscal year.

Despite the loss, the Kansas concert provided valuable experience in staging a full production, including sound and lighting. This will streamline future concert planning.

The board discussed evaluating the most successful concert formats—indoor, outdoor, or at the convention center. Concerts held at the Center tend to benefit local restaurants and hotels more than those at the convention center.

Chris will present a detailed report next month breaking down the income and expenses of each concert.

Adult sports and fitness programs continue to perform well. Memberships have increased significantly; annual memberships have doubled since 2021. The Center was closed for a month and a half due to storm damage—otherwise, financial results would be even stronger.

Governance

Chair Liz Hager reported:

Liz is reviewing the bylaws, particularly concerning the process for hiring an Executive Director. She raised the question of whether the Executive Director should be hired by a majority of the Executive Committee or the full Board. She emphasized the need for checks and balances and a more defined process for bringing on new board members.

Strategic Planning

Chair Don Purvis announced: The committee is composed of **Don Purvis, Mary Kate Scott, Christine Major Hicks, Jillian Ptak**. The strategic planning team is exploring the creation of a building endowment fund. The Key Royale Club has agreed to host the golf camp. The Center continues to expand community partnerships in response to growing space needs.

Development

Jillian Ptak reported:

The Center was recently nominated for *Small Business of the Year*. Previously, it was named *Business of the Year* by the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce seven years ago.

Executive Committee

No report.

Management Report

Chris Culhane received an “above average” rating in his recent 360 review. He is currently preparing the budget for the next board meeting.

Milestones and Events:

- Tyler celebrated his seventh anniversary with the Center—congratulations were extended.

Community Recognition:

Kathy Morgan Johnson attended a Manatee County Commission meeting where the Center was commended for its service to the community during the hurricane.

Upcoming Events

The annual LaPensee Bowling Tournament is scheduled for September 6

Next Board Meeting: Monday, July 21, 2025

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Morgan Johnson

Secretary, The Center of Anna Maria Island