

The Center of Anna Maria Island

*The Center is a Sec. 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.
which will be celebrating its 66th anniversary!*

Board Meeting Minutes for October 27, 2025

In attendance: Executive Director-Chris Culhane, Board Chairman-Don Purvis, Secretary-Kathy Morgan Johnson, Jillian Ptak, Caroline Leibfried, Christine Major Hicks

Zoom attendance: Sheila Fuse, Ben Webb, Treasurer-Dan Anderson

Absent with excuse: Remi Drigan, Liz Hager

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: October 27, 2025

Time: Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m.

Location: The Center

Presiding: Don Purvis

Recorded by: Kathleen Morgan Johnson

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. A quorum was established. The Chair welcomed attendees and noted that a few members were absent due to travel and seasonal conflicts.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed.

Motion: To approve the minutes as presented. Caroline Leibfried

Second: Christine Major Hicks

Vote: Unanimous approval.

Result: Motion carried.

3. Financial Report

Presented by: Dan Anderson and Christine Major Hicks

Overall Financial Position:

The first half of the fiscal year reflected an expected operating loss, with revenues projected to increase beginning in October. Despite apparent deficits, results align with the Center's normal seasonal cycle.

Operating Results:

- Program Income ahead of budget.
- General & Administrative approximately \$15,000 above budget (under review).
- Fundraising Revenue \$32,000 below budget, primarily due to delayed municipal grants now expected in spring 2025.

Year-to-Date Summary (through September):

Operating loss of \$126,000, about \$12,000 worse than last year and \$32,000 under budget. Adjusting for grant timing (~\$25,000), results are within expectations.

Capital Activity:

Capital expenditures total \$195,000, including an unbudgeted vehicle purchase earlier than planned. Revised budget from Ellington CPAs accounts for these adjustments.

Cash Position:

Cash as of September 30: \$207,000. By late October: approximately \$235,000–\$240,000, following receipt of \$50,000 in county concert funding. Additional possible grants include \$100,000 from Bishop Foundation and \$25,000 for tennis-court improvements.

Summary:

Although the current statement shows a \$322,000 loss year-to-date, revised projections indicate the Center is approximately \$26,000 ahead of the adjusted budget.

4. Governance

No formal Governance Committee report was presented. The Board discussed adding potential committee members and future board candidates. Candidates will attend meetings as guests before nomination. The bylaws limit the Board to 13 directors. Attendance accountability was also discussed.

5. Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning Committee will meet next Thursday. Subcommittees are being organized and will coordinate planning with the Fundraising Committee. A detailed report will follow next meeting.

6. Development and Fundraising

Presented by: Jillian Ptak and Carol Leibfried

A meeting with Melissa and Krista (new fundraising committee members) is scheduled for November 10. The committee is focusing on both short-term fundraising and long-term endowment development.

Endowment Discussion:

Existing funds include Endowment & Kessler (~\$498,000), and JVZ (~\$88,000) funds. The Eisenbart Foundation continues to contribute about \$15,000 per year. A Legacy/Bequest campaign will be developed to encourage inclusion of the Center in members' estate plans.

Funding Goals:

Endowment replenishment goal: \$600,000 over two to three years to replace funds previously used for mortgage reduction and operations. Long-term goal: \$5 million endowment generating \$500–600K annually. A fundraising dinner and a one-time gala are planned.

Merging Endowment Accounts:

Discussion held on combining the Kessler and smaller endowment funds for efficiency; Ellington CPAs and the Community Foundation will advise.

Fall Fundraising Campaign:

The 'Lighting the Path Ahead' campaign runs Nov. 12–Jan. 12. Donors receive a luminary bag displayed on the tennis courts with a lighting ceremony on January 14. Survey: 'Why is the Center the light of your life?' As of meeting date, \$65,000 committed toward a \$150,000 goal.

Capital Projects and Reserve Usage:

Fence replacement nearing completion (\$55,000–\$60,000 total). Discussion held on temporarily using reserve funds until Bishop Foundation reimbursement is received. Vote deferred to next meeting.

7. Programs and Operations

The Center currently offers 27–29 fitness classes. Attendance is strong, and new instructors have joined. Personal training and adult sports continue to perform well, with youth programs showing a \$12,000 positive variance. The Center currently has 492 annual memberships.

Tennis courts remain open and are being upgraded with new fencing funded by the Sarasota Community Foundation. Staff updates: Raul replaced Tuna; Armani Henry replaced Tyler Bekkerus; Tyler Bekkerus replaced Morgan. Recruitment underway for a Cultural Programs Director.

Wellness initiatives include monthly seminars, the rollout of the Embodiment technology for body-composition tracking, and fitness challenges such as the October Bingo Card. Acupuncture and peptide-therapy programs are being developed.

8. Upcoming Events

Blue Oyster Cult concert (December 19th) ticket sales between 180–300; additional acts under negotiation (War, Steel Pulse). Stage placement adjusted to protect the field. John Oates will play March 1, 2026. The Farmers Market will be at Roser Church every Tuesday. Lester Family Fun Day is December 10th. Bingo starts March 1st.

9. Next Meeting

The next combined November/December meeting is scheduled for the first week of December (tentatively December 8).

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Submitted by: Kathleen Morgan Johnson, Secretary