

MINUTES
MANASOTA LEAGUE OF CITIES
VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING (Hybrid)
January 14, 2021

Present: Vice President Jim Kihm (Holmes Beach), Commissioner Carol Carter (Anna Maria), Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch (Sarasota), Debbie McDowell (North Port), Councilman Patrick Roff (Bradenton), Vice Mayor Mike Haycock (Longboat Key), Councilman Joe Neunder

Absent: Treasurer Brian Williams (Palmetto), Mayor John Chappie (Bradenton Beach)

Also Present: Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler and Deputy Town Clerk Savannah Cobb

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Kihm called the hybrid Regular Meeting of the Manasota League of Cities (MSLC) to order at 9:30 a.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President Kihm reviewed the procedures and protocols for the virtual meeting and called roll.

Public to be Heard

1. Public Input

Ms. Colette Russell, field representative for Representative Vern Buchanan, commented on mental health initiatives and future involvement with the MSLC board.

Approval of Minutes

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 4, 2020.

Member Roff moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 4, 2020. The motion, seconded by Member Carter, carried unanimously.

Special Presentation

3. Antonio "Tony" Ortiz, President, Florida League of Cities (FLC)

Mr. Tony Ortiz provided a PowerPoint presentation on Building Stronger Cities. Individual comments followed.

4. Fredrick "Rick" Piccolo, President/CEO, Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport, provided information on airport activities via a PowerPoint presentation, discussed COVID-19 travel challenges, spoke of new airlines flying into and out of the area, and spoke of other opportunities for the airport.

Reports and Communications

5. Reports

A. Associate Members and Ex-Officio Members

No items were presented

B. Vice President's Report

Vice President Kihm commented on his follow-up meeting with Representative Vern Buchanan, planning a future meeting with Representative Tommy Gregory, and the filing of a House Bill that would remove Home Rule protection from cities.

C. Treasurer's Report

Vice President Kihm noted the end of the year Edward Jones account balance, and noted if anyone had questions to reach out to Treasurer Williams.

Member Carter moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion, seconded by Member Roff, carried unanimously.

D. Administrative Coordinator's Report

Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler commented on the Florida League of Cities (FLC) Action Days, upcoming presentations for ManaSota League of Cities, the annual stipend increase announced by FLC, and the upcoming Legislative Session.

E. Florida League of Cities' (FLC) Board of Directors

No items were presented.

F. Florida League of Cities (FLC) Legislative Committee Member Reports

No items were presented.

G. Advocacy and Key Contact Reports

Member McDowell provided a summary of the recent Sarasota Legislative Delegation Meeting wherein she represented MSLC and presented its legislative priorities.

New Business

6. New Business

A. Florida League of Cities (FLC) Nominating Committee

Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler provided information regarding selection of a Board member to recommend to serve on the FLC Nominating Committee.

Member Ahearn-Koch volunteered to be recommended for the FLC Nominating Committee. **There was consensus to approve recommending Member Ahearn-Koch for the FLC Nominating Committee.**

B. Appointment of members to serve as "Key Contact" to local legislator(s)

Individual members discussed being paired with local representatives to serve as a "key contact."

C. Approval of travel for FLC FAST Fly-in to Washington, D.C., May 11-12, 2021

Members Ahearn-Koch, McDowell, and Kihm, noted their interest in attending the FLC Fast Fly-in.

Member Roff noted he would be interested in attending if one of the three members should not be able to attend.

Member Carter moved to allow up to three members attend the FLC Fast Fly-in to Washington, D.C. The motion, seconded by Member Roff, carried unanimously.

D. Annual review of By-Laws

Vice President Kim noted the copy of the By-Laws in the agenda packet.

Member Roff commented on FLC Conference travel being covered in the By-Laws.

There was a consensus to keep the By-Laws as previously adopted.

E. Election of Officers

Member Carter moved to nominate Vice President Kihm to serve as MSLC President. The motion, second by Member Roff, carried unanimously.

Member McDowell moved to nominate Member Ahearn-Koch to serve as MSLC Vice President. The motion, seconded by Member Roff, carried unanimously.

Member Roff moved to nominate Treasurer Williams to continue to serve as the MSLC Treasurer. The motion, seconded by Member Carter, carried unanimously.

Member Comments

7. Member Comments

Legislative

Member Roff commented on MSLC covering costs for Tallahassee Legislative Action Days, and MSLC having consistent representation at both Washington, D.C. and Tallahassee Legislative Action Days.

Legislative

Member Carter recommended members continuing contact with legislators outside of Legislative Action Days.

Travel

President Kihm requested each board member to have one trip be paid by MSLC to lobby in Tallahassee. Individual comments followed.

Member Roff moved for MSLC to reimburse members for one trip to Tallahassee a year. The motion, seconded by Member Carter, carried unanimously.

Meeting Schedule

8. Meeting Schedule

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment

9. Adjournment

President Kihm adjourned the January 14, 2021, hybrid Regular Meeting at 11:02 a.m.



Jim Kihm, President

Submitted by: Savannah Cobb, Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes Approved: 3/11/2021