

**MINUTES
MANASOTA LEAGUE OF CITIES
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2016**

Present: President Linda Yates (North Port), Vice President Brian Williams (Palmetto), Treasurer Kit McKeon (Venice), Commissioner Carol Carter (Anna Maria), Councilman Patrick Roff (Bradenton), Commissioner Jean Peelen (Holmes Beach), Commissioner Irwin Pastor (Longboat Key), Mayor Willie Shaw (Sarasota), Mayor William Shearon (Bradenton Beach)

Also Present: Administrative Coordinator Trish Granger and Assistant Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Yates called the September 8, 2016, Regular Meeting of the Manasota League of Cities (MSLC) to order at 9:35 a.m. in the Town of Longboat Key Commission Chamber, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the audience were recognized and Board members introduced themselves.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Opportunity for Public to Address Board: No items were presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 14, 2016

Vice President Williams moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 14, 2016. The motion, seconded by Member Shaw, carried unanimously on a voice vote.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

3. Reports

A. Associate Members or Ex-Officio Members

Ms. Rae Dowling, on behalf of Associate Member Florida Power & Light (FPL) Company, provided information about storm damage due to Hurricane Hermine and commented that recent maintenance efforts by FPL helped lessen damage, resulted in fewer power outages, and enabled electricity to be restored more quickly.

Members expressed appreciation to Ms. Dowling and FPL for the collaboration, cooperation and communication with their communities.

B. President's Report

President Yates provided a summary of the Florida League of Cities (FLC) Conference, and commented on the following topics/issues:

- a need to build relationships with legislative candidates
- enhancement of advocacy strategy and efforts
- Florida Constitutional Commission
- FLC Resolutions Committee action regarding federal and constitutional issues
- flood insurance, unmanned aircraft (drones), autonomous vehicles
- internet transportation and vacation housing rental companies

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS - Continued

3. Reports - Continued

B. President's Report - Continued

- installation of FLC officers and the focus of newly elected President Susan Haynie, City of Boca Raton Mayor, related to safety and quality of life in communities
- election of President Yates as District 10 Director on FLC Board of Directors.

Member Peelen advised that the short term vacation rental industry was scheduled to hold a conference in Orlando in the near future with a focus on community challenges to short term rentals.

C. Vice President's Report

Vice President Williams commented that during the FLC Annual Conference, President Yates was elected District 10 Director on the FLC Board of Directors. Members thanked Member Roff for his previous service as District 10 Director.

D. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer McKeon reviewed the Treasurer's Report and noted the account balance as of August 31, 2016, was \$33,260.00.

E. Administrative Coordinator's Report

Administrative Coordinator Granger commented on the following topics/issues:

- invoices for membership renewals were mailed
- electronic distribution of the September agenda went well
- paper copies of agenda packets will not be provided, unless there is a specific need.

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

District Director Roff commented he attended his last FLC Board of Directors meeting as District 10 Director, and it was a pleasure to have served. The following topics/issues were discussed:

- Florida Constitutional Commission
- impact of autonomous vehicles on local governments and communities.

President Yates commented it could be advantageous to meet with Florida Senator Jeff Brandes, a strong supporter of new technology companies, and express local government concerns.

G. Advocacy Report: No items were presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. Review of Travel Policy - President Yates

President Yates reviewed proposed amendments to the Travel Policy based on discussions at the July 14, 2016, meeting. Discussion ensued on the following topics/issues:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Continued

4. Review of Travel Policy - Continued

- Board authorization required in advance for a Board member to attend events or the Florida League of Cities' (FLC) Federal Action Strike Team (FAST) Fly-In in Washington, D.C., at the expense of ManaSota League of Cities (MSLC)
- travel on behalf of a member's individual government entity would not be reimbursed
- reimbursement shall be made for MSLC members serving on FLC Board of Directors or Nominating Committee for attendance at meetings
- travel expenses for non-members will not be paid, unless specifically approved in advance by the Board
- ability to hold a telephone conference Board meeting to approve an immediate and unexpected travel expenditure.

Member Roff moved to amend the Travel Policy guidelines with changes as discussed. The motion, seconded by Member Shaw, carried unanimously on a voice vote.

5. Continued Discussion Re: 2017 Legislative Priorities - President Yates

President Yates opened discussion to identify legislative priorities for 2017.

Subsequent to discussion, there was consensus as follows:

- update and modify language of the 2016 Legislative Priorities based on legislative action during the past session and current needs
- legislative priorities would be supported by a collective effort of the Board
- list of legislative priorities would be prioritized on a one page document.

Member Peelen moved to retain the 2016 list of Legislative Priorities with the addition of Tourist Development Tax. The motion, seconded by Member Carter, carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Subsequent to discussion, there was consensus for each Board member to be assigned an issue from the 2016 Legislative Priorities to update and provide to the Administrative Coordinator by October 13, 2016, as follows:

Relocation of Utilities
Vacation Rentals
Water Quality, Quantity and Sea Level Rise
Economic Development
Local Government Revenue
Mental Health Initiatives and Sober Homes
Public Pensions
Tourist Development Tax

President Yates
Member Peelen
Vice President Williams
Member Roff
Member Pastor
Member Shaw
Treasurer McKeon
Members Carter, Peelen, Shearon

(Mayor Shaw left the meeting at 11:03 a.m.)

NEW BUSINESS

7. Discussion Re: Orientation programs for newly elected officials - Member Peelen

Discussion ensued concerning a need for newly elected municipal officials to attend formal training to learn the responsibilities of an elected official.

Subsequent to discussion, Member Peelen moved that the FLC (Florida League of Cities) send a letter to member cities stating the ManaSota League of Cities strongly recommends each member City adopt a formal training program for newly elected municipal officials. The motion was seconded by Vice President Williams. Subsequent to discussion clarifying the intent of the motion, the motion and second were withdrawn.

Discussion ensued concerning IEMO (Institute for Elected Municipal Officials) training offered by the FLC and the possibility of sending letters directly to newly elected individuals to provide information about training opportunities.

Subsequent to discussion, Vice President Williams moved the MSLC send a welcoming letter to every newly elected municipal official within the MSLC jurisdiction suggesting different venues available for learning about responsibilities of being an elected official. The motion, seconded by Roff, carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Discussion ensued on the process to notify the Administrator Coordinator's office of newly elected officials.

Treasurer McKeon commented that agenda Item 6 was passed over.

6. Discussion Re: Presenters for Manatee and Sarasota County Legislative Delegation Hearings - President Yates

President Yates commented that dates were not yet established for Legislative Delegation Hearings, and typically the President would present the legislative priorities.

There was consensus to place the topic on the November 10, 2016, meeting agenda.

MEMBER COMMENTS

8. Member Comments

President Yates opened the floor for comments by members on topics of interest.

- Vice President Williams noted discussion with City of Punta Gorda Councilwoman Rachel Keesling at the Florida League of Cities (FLC) Annual Conference concerning ManaSota League of Cities (MSLC) and Southwest Florida League of Cities (SWFLC) holding a joint meeting to discuss mutual issues and concerns from a regional aspect. **There was consensus to explore the possibility of holding a joint meeting in the future.**
- Member Peelen commented that in an attempt to expand lobbying efforts beyond MSLC individual members, she launched an effort to create an island lobbying group, consisting of members of the public and public officials, who would sign up to lobby for issues for which there was a specific interest.

MEMBER COMMENTS - Continued

8. Member Comments - Continued

- Member Carter commented on the following topics/issues:
 - efforts of Home Sweet Home (HSH) group on Anna Maria Island to involve the community in recruiting new permanent residents to the Island to replace residents who have left in the last few years
 - efforts of AMI Community Development Fund, Inc., a 401(c)(3) corporation, to raise funds and acquire properties that it will own, control, and set up as annual rentals to attract permanent residents
 - Conservation Foundation partnership for land and environmental conservation.
- Member Shearon inquired about the possibility of area local governmental lobbyists making a joint presentation to the MSLC. Subsequent to comments, it was determined that it would not be possible.

MEETING SCHEDULE

9. Next Meeting

Next regular meeting scheduled for November 10, 2016.

President Yates commented that the legislative priorities would be a topic on the agenda, and if a need arises for a Special Meeting, members would be contacted.

ADJOURNMENT

President Yates adjourned the September 8, 2016, meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Linda Yates, President

Submitted by: Gail Loeffler, Assistant Administrative Coordinator

Minutes Approved: _____