

**MINUTES  
MANASOTA LEAGUE OF CITIES  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 9, 2017**

**Present:** President Brian Williams (Palmetto), Vice President Willie Shaw (Sarasota) (Left at 10:16 a.m.), Treasurer Kit McKeon (Venice), Commissioner Carol Carter (Anna Maria), Vice Mayor Patrick Roff (Bradenton), Commissioner Irwin Pastor (Longboat Key), Mayor Linda Yates (North Port); Mayor-elect John Chappie (Bradenton Beach)

**Absent:** Commissioner Jean Peelen (Holmes Beach)

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

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Williams called the November 9, 2017, 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.

**PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

**1. Public Input**

The Board heard comments from the following:

- a. Rae Dowling, Area External Affairs Manager, Florida Power & Light (FPL), expressed appreciation for the help and support of communities in responding to Hurricane Irma.
- b. James W. Jacobs, Regional Manager, Office of External Affairs, Florida Department of Financial Services, introduced himself, provided information about services of the agency, and offered assistance with filing insurance claims, if needed.
- c. Jeffrey Harbaugh, Business Development Manager, and Jamie Lee, Account Executive, Enterprise Fleet Management, a division of Enterprise Rental Cars, came forward. Mr. Harbaugh commented Enterprise was considering an Associate Membership, and provided information about the company and services it provided.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2017 and Joint Meeting with Southwest Florida League of Cities of October 3, 2017**

President Williams commented Minutes of Joint Meeting with Southwest Florida League of Cities (SWFLC) held on October 3, 2017, in North Port, were provided to members electronically, and requested the Minutes be considered for approval.

**Vice President Shaw moved to approve Minutes of the Joint Meeting with Southwest Florida League of Cities of October 3, 2017, and Regular Meeting of ManaSota League of Cities held on July 13, 2017. The motion, seconded by Member Roff, carried unanimously on a 8-0 voice vote.**

## **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **6. Reports**

#### **A. Associate Members or Ex-Officio Members:**

No items were presented.

#### **B. President's Report**

President Williams commented he presented MSLC 2018 Legislative Priorities to Manatee County Legislation Delegation on October 19, 2017, and Vice President Shaw presented priorities to Sarasota County Legislative Delegation on September 20, 2017. President Williams requested members stay on top of legislative actions during session.

#### **C. Vice President's Report**

Vice President Shaw commented he needed to leave the meeting early, and reported on the following topics/issues:

- represented MSLC at Florida League of Cities (FLC) FAST Fly-In to Washington, D.C., on October 10-13, 2017, and the FLC 2017 Federal Action Agenda was presented to congressional members
- topics discussed with congressional members included National Flood Insurance Program, FEMA Deobligations/Clawbacks, Tax Reform/Municipal Financing, Community Development Block Grants, and Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery
- Florida Delegation appeared to be working together in a bipartisan manner on topics most important to the State.

Member Roff requested to speak about MSLC financial issues while Vice President Shaw was still in attendance.

Member Roff discussed a need to cover administrative costs while leaving sufficient funds for lobbying purposes, and referred to information provided in May 2017 that detailed the history of MSLC relative to revenues, administrative costs, and membership fees.

The following proposals to increase revenues was presented by Member Roff:

- 1) each member secure a new Associate Member
- 2) increase membership fees by \$100.00 to \$600.00 per year for member municipalities.

Treasurer McKeon commented the meeting would be his last one and Member Roff would take over as Treasurer.

**After discussion, there was consensus to place an item on the next agenda relative to revenue and expenditures.**

(Vice President Shaw left the meeting at 10:16 a.m.)

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS** (Continued)

**6. Reports** (Continued)

**D. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer McKeon reviewed the Amended Treasurer's Report.

**Member Chappie moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion, seconded by Vice President Shaw, carried unanimously on a 7-0 voice vote.**

President Williams commented the meeting was the last for Treasurer McKeon, whose term on Venice City Council expired due to term limits. President Williams and members of the Board expressed appreciation for the time and efforts of Treasurer McKeon as both an active member and Treasurer of MSLC.

**E. Administrative Coordinator's Report:**

Administrative Coordinator Granger reported on the following topics/issues:

- annual membership renewal invoices were mailed in September
- FLC Legislative Committee Meetings were scheduled for December 6-8, 2017
- copy of finalized MSLC 2018 Legislative Priorities was provided in agenda packet.

Administrative Coordinator Granger spoke regarding the work and services Gail Loeffler provided over the years in coordinating MSLC, and presented a recommendation that Ms. Loeffler be appointed Administrative Coordinator. Ms. Granger commented she would become Assistant Administrative Coordinator, and if deemed necessary, would provide a staff member to take Minutes of meetings at no additional charge to MSLC.

**Member Chappie moved to appoint Gail Loeffler as MSLC Administrative Coordinator. The motion, seconded by Member Roff, carried unanimously on a 7-0 voice vote.**

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

Member Yates, FLC District Director, reported on the following topics/issues:

- attended August 2017 meeting of FLC Board of Directors held at Annual Conference
- newly elected officers of FLC Board were: Gil Ziffer - President, Leo Longworth - First Vice President, Isaac Salver – Second Vice President
- information and resources regarding Safe Cities, Safe Florida, an initiative of FLC past-President Susan Haynie, was available on FLC website
- Home Rule was chosen as the initiative of FLC President Gil Ziffer
- FLC Annual Legislative Conference December 6-8, 2017, Lake Buena Vista
- FLC Board meeting scheduled in conjunction with Legislative Action Days in Tallahassee on January 30-31, 2018
- resolutions passed by FLC were available on its website and cities were encouraged to pass similar resolutions.

## **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS** (Continued)

### **6. Reports** (Continued)

#### **G. Advocacy Report**

Member Yates commented on the following topics/issues:

- importance of participating in FLC call-ins held every Monday during legislative session
- FLC request for information and data from cities detailing the impact of bills filed regarding Impact Fees (SB 324), Comprehensive Plans (SB 362, HB 207), and Tree Trimming and Removal (HB 521, SB 574)
- FLC request for cities to advocate for amendments to the Florida Constitution proposed by the Constitutional Revision Commission (CRC), Proposal 61-Strengthening Home Rule, and Proposal 92 – Unfunded Mandates.

## **MEMBER COMMENTS**

### **9. Member Comments**

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

- Member Carter commented on the following topics/issues:

- legislation in the Florida Senate could be stopped legislation by 21 senators out of 40 if they wished to, and last year some bills detrimental to cities were stopped in committees
- possibility of FLC taking over the website, [www.homerulefl.com](http://www.homerulefl.com), set up by a group of Anna Maria residents, if there was an interest to utilize the website as a tool for providing information to the public in an attempt to garner support statewide from citizens on important issues.

**Subsequent to discussion, there was consensus to submit a proposal in an FLC Monday call-in session for FLC to consider taking over the website [www.homerulefl.com](http://www.homerulefl.com).**

- President Williams commented on the following topics/issues:

- expressed concern that legislation like the Tree Trimming and Removal bill would create a financial impact on municipalities by requiring amendments to Comprehensive Plans to bring them into compliance
- SWFLC joint meeting went well and suggested holding similar meetings in the future. Members expressed appreciation to President Williams for his efforts in organizing the meeting, and President Williams gave credit to Mayor Rachel Keesling for spearheading the effort.

## **MEETING SCHEDULE**

### **10. Next Meeting**

The next Regular Meeting of the ManaSota League of Cities was confirmed for January 11, 2018.

**Discussion ensued regarding future meeting start times due to seasonal traffic concerns. There was consensus to continue the 9:30 a.m. start time.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Williams adjourned the November 9, 2017, meeting at 10:35 a.m.

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Brian T. Williams, President

Submitted by: Gail Loeffler, Administrative Coordinator

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes in draft form and are not official until approved by the ManaSota League of Cities.