

MINUTES OF THE HUTCHINSON ISLAND PRESERVATION INITIATIVE (HIPI)

HELD VIA ZOOM AT 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022

Communications Officer Elizabeth Farrar called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Answering to roll call were President Dottie Lanci, Membership Officer John Hodge, Secretary Patty Jones, Director Ralph Jones, and Director Barbara Seaton. Conservation Officer Paul Laura, Directors Jim and Sue Foley were all absent.

Resignation of Vice President: President Dottie Lanci reported receiving the resignation letter of Todd Berwick as Vice President. Mr. Berwick stated that he cannot participate as a board member due to personal and business commitments.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Hodge moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2022 as corrected. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: President Lanci reported the bank balance as of 3-21-22 as \$2,043.71. She reported deposits of \$561.02.

Ms. Farrar reported in response to a question that PayPal charges \$1.19 for a \$20.00 membership payment. HIPI receives \$18.81 for one on line membership fee.

President Lanci reported that she met with Mr. Flowers, the CPA, regarding the tax returns required by the State for HIPI and fines levied. Mr. Flowers sent a letter requesting forgiveness for the late filing due to COVID. He also filed an extension to September for payment of taxes until such time as a determination can be made and the issue is resolved.

Election of HIPI Officers: Per HIPI Bylaws, 1/3 of the active members are eligible to vote. Mr. Hodge stated we have 48 paid members; 1/3 would equal 16 members to constitute a quorum for the Annual Meeting. It was agreed the voting would be done electronically before the annual meeting with newly elected officers being announced at the Annual Meeting.

President Lanci reported that Dr. Wayne Maxson, 1259 MacArthur Boulevard, Stuart is willing to serve on the board and Ms. Angela Ratinella, Pres. Lanci's daughter who is co-owner of their home on Hutchinson Island, is also willing to serve on the HIPI board.

Page 2.

Consideration of Open Board Meetings: Mrs. Jones suggested that to help insure the sustainability of HIPI that Board meetings should be held at a public location and open to all members and even any interested member of the public.

She suggested that the Communications Officer could email the meeting notice which could be the agenda to all members several days before the meeting. We would then have an interested audience, could be only 3 or 4 people, but from this we would find new board member candidates. Mrs. Jones suggested the Elliott Museum, as an example, may be willing to allow HIPI to use a meeting room on a fixed day and time of the month for their meetings. If HIPI doesn't have a meeting that month, it could be posted on the website and emailed to members. Mrs. Jones moved, seconded by Mr, Hodge, that a request would be made to the Elliott regarding this and if acceptable the April HIPI meeting date could be announced at the Annual Meeting. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

Mr. Hodge stated that Robert's Rules would apply to all HIPI meetings.

Tasks for Annual Meeting March 30th: President Lance and Ms. Farrar outlined all board members responsibilities to prepare for the annual meeting at the Elliott.

Next Meeting Date: It was agree the next meeting date would be either Wednesday, April 20th or Thursday, April 21st, depending on the availability of the Elliott Museum to allow use of a meeting room. Mrs. Jones said she would pursue this immediately and let all board members know by Friday, March 25th, if we can meet at the Elliott in April.

Adjournment: Upon motion made, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Patricia L. Jones, Secretary

Prepared 4/1/22

