

MINUTES OF THE HUTCHINSON ISLAND PRESERVATION INITIATIVE (HIPI)

MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021

President Dottie Lanci called the HIPI board meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. Those attending the meeting at Pres. Lanci's home were; Jim and Sue Foley, John Hodge, Barbara Seaton, Ralph and Patty Jones. Board members absent were Todd Berwick, Elizabeth Farrar, Paul Laura, and Hilarie Davis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Hodge moved, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2021 meeting. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dr. Davis, our Treasurer, was absent. Pres. Lanci stated the bank balance remains the same as last month, \$1,578.02.

MEMBERSHIP: Mr. Hodge said there are no new members this month. He said he is in the same position as last month with regard to Sandpebble memberships. He said we should forward the letter he sent to Beachwood residents and the HIPI newsletter. It was agreed among those present that we need a membership list and membership renewal notice sent annually. It was thought that membership is due in March annually but this needs to be confirmed. It was agreed that due to the Covid pandemic, HIPI has been unable to hold an annual meeting since its first annual meeting in March, 2019. It was agreed that it would be good to use the attendance records from the 2019 annual meeting, plus any other membership records, to send membership renewal notices. Additionally, we do need to know the number of paid members at this time.

NEW WEBSITE: This matter is pending a report from Ms. Farrar who has been researching and working on a new HIPI website provider to provide a more user friendly application and online payments.

UPDATE ON PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL: Mr. Foley reported that with the expertise of Sue Foley, they were able to send out the President's Council Membership Directory. Mr. Foley reported that Ms. Farrar had told him some of the Presidents had corrections to the President's Directory.

Page 2.

Mr. Foley said he will plan a networking event for the President's Council to be held before January 15th at the Elliott Museum. His idea is to hold the meeting about 10 a.m. mid-week. Mr. Jones said he would check with Rob Steele the director of the Elliott on availability of a meeting room.

Mr. Foley said his idea would be for the Presidents to meet other Presidents. Mr. Foley said there would be exercises to work on questions in small groups to create a synergy in the room. Mr. Foley said his objective would be to get HIPI out of the group. He said there is a President that is interested in being the director of the President's Council. Mr. Foley said they would have a guest speakers. Some common areas of concern for agenda items could be; Martin County Code Issues; MSTU taxing district; and beach replenishment as an example.

Mr. Hodge moved, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve Mr. Foley's ideas for planning a Martin County President's Council meeting on or before January 15, 2022. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

REPORT FROM CONSERVATION OFFICER: In the absence of Mr. Laura, his written conservation report was accepted upon motion made by Mr. Hodge, seconded by Mr. Jones. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

REPORT ON ZOOM MEETING WITH FDOT: The board members had received a copy of the minutes of the virtual meeting with FDOT held November 18, 2021 prepared by Mrs. Jones. Mr. John Krane, P.E., District Planning & Environmental Administrator, FDOT – District Four, returned the minutes marked-up with some strike throughs for clarification and agreement.

The Pres. Lanci was concerned that Lisa Wisher, Martin County Engineer had provided accident data for a different time frame and area than the base accident and traffic data used by FDOT for their "Lighting Safety Improvement Study", even though Pres. Lanci's request was for the same data provided to FDOT. The FDOT data was from 1/1/2014 to 9/2/2021 showing 85 accidents. Data submitted to Pres. Lanci was for the period 7/16/2017 thru 5/7/21 showing 21 accidents.

Mr. Jones made the point that FDOT had performed a "Lighting Traffic Study" for the period 2014 thru 2018 and concluded street lights were not required to

Page 3.

improve traffic safety. Mr. Jones's point was FDOT should have started their current study at the date the previous one ended. Also, since the Hutchinson Shores Resort requested additional street lighting, the study should consider the opening date of the resort and its impact on traffic and pedestrian safety. The resort did open in 2018. HIPI board members would suggest the cost of any improvements proposed for additional lighting should be borne by the resort and not the local taxpayers, i.e. MSTU or other tax source.

Mr. Laura had pointed out during the virtual meeting that the color coded legend for the crash analysis showed many of the accidents are due to drug and alcohol abuse. These were generally in the area of the roundabout. Also, FDOT spent a lot of time studying crashes entering the roundabout going southeast and west are going too fast. It was agreed at the board meeting that enforcement is a major deterrent and preventative for speeding and much needed in the study area. For details on FDOT's recommendations, a copy of the minutes marked-up by FDOT is attached.

The lighting schematic will not be developed until the constructability phase beginning in February, 2023. The FDOT stated the intensity of the traffic roadway lighting on A1A at the Hutchinson Shores midblock crosswalk and at the roundabout do not meet minimum lighting required standards. FDOT did state that any lighting would meet standards set by the Florida Turtle Conservancy.

Ms. Foley moved, seconded by Mr. Jones, that Ms. Jones draft a letter to FDOT expressing the HIPI board concerns after their review of the minutes of the virtual meeting of 11/18. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

ANNUAL MEETING: It was agreed that plans for the annual meeting in March, 2022 should be made. The date should be picked and the venue, perhaps the Elliott or the Marriott. It was agreed a planning sub-committee of the board including Ms. Farrar is crucial as this information needs to be communicated in the newsletter and website a.s.a.p.

Ideas for agenda items and speakers for the annual meeting discussed were:

Martin County Sheriff's Police – traffic safety enforcement

Page 4.

FDOT; Sarah Heard, Ed Kampi, Ed Campo, all Martin County board members and MPO, County Administrator, individuals relevant to the Island, Maggie Hurchalla, Water research/environmental, Army Corps/ beach renourishment.

NEWSLETTER: The board agreed that it will be a missed opportunity if we cannot get a newsletter out by January 1st. It was agreed Ms. Foley would contact Ms. Farrar to offer assistance in this regard.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting date was set for Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 7 p.m. at President Lanci's home.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by motion duly made by Mr. Hodge, seconded by Mr. Jones. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

Minutes prepared by:

Patricia Jones, Secretary

Hutchinson Island Preservation Initiative

December 15, 2021