

UCCA November 15, 2020, 11:30am

NCIC Boathouse Restaurant

Meeting Video: <https://youtu.be/vlfTYKbtcwM>

Board members present: Pres. JoAnn Beiermeister, V-Pres. Richard Gross by Zoom, Communication Sec. Sue Ann Cousar, Treasurer Helen Justice, David Bolme, Bryan Brilhart, Jackie Byrnes via phone and Rick Noland. Also present: Kerry Williams, Nicole Rossi, Kristi Riggle, Pam West, AJ LaVallie, Teresa Bolme, Swin Swinford, and Bill Fry (and Robert & Sue Hipkens, Bill Bowman, Terry Malloy, Charles Brazik, Emily & Steve Holt, Lucy Hammond, and a guest by Zoom).

[Agenda – JoAnn Beiermeister](#): Agenda was approved without objection.

[Secretary's report - Sue Ann Cousar](#): Minutes for January 26, 2020 were posted on line, reading was dispensed with and were approved without objection.

[Treasurer's report - Helen Justice](#): Provided financial reports for Q1-Q3 2020 that were also posted on the website before the meeting. Began year 2020 with \$24,159.62 in checking. Deposit of membership dues of \$6,660. Phone book advertising of \$6,725. Expenses: Administration, Insurance \$2,345, administrative of \$211.50; Island Fest \$260; Newsletters of \$1053.22, and Kingfisher Road Donation of \$5,000. Checking at end of September 2020 was \$25,868.64. Island Access account \$101,308.93 ending balance for September with a more detailed report later. Treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Fire District Update – AJ LaVallie: Meetings for November and December are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday due to holidays and all other meetings for 2021 will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, with September meeting usually on a Saturday as it's the Budget meeting. Year to date calls of 120 (95% medical related), fire commissioners approved a big ticket digital radio replacement mandated by the County, Chief applied for and received a \$21,000 grant from Firehouse Subs for two night-vision-goggles (one of only 100 grants approved across the country), all four of our water carrying trucks were donated by other Fire Districts (not bought with UCFRD money), and we received a brush truck 50/50 grant from the state of \$4,267. On the mainland, a mutual aid response from other districts, they arrive with their own trucks and equipment, but on the Island, we have only what we have. For example at the 2017 Sol Vista fire, there were 37 responding organizations and more than 90 firefighters on scene from roughly midnight until sunup. Fire District signed a contract with Team Davenport for the new two-bay station and awarded the road trimming contract to Clean Cut for \$17,500. In the November election that took place, Steve Sward, Bill Byrnes and Mike Filipczak were elected and Mike attended his first meeting on Friday, Nov.13.

Access-Way Committee - AJ LaVallie: Work scheduled this month was rained out by Tropical Storm Eta but had planned major improvements on North Airport, East Seair, and Spanish Gold and will be rescheduled. Thanks to JoAnn Beiermeister for her fund raising efforts for Kingfisher since that work held up very well, even after Eta. The swale on East Seair seems to be doing well, along with the new curb to hold back tidal flows. Although past efforts have been on the 5 main roads (Rum, Harbor Bend, Spanish Gold, East Seair, and North Airport), the rest of the roads will start to have holes filled in, starting from the fire station radiating out now that we know what materials and methods work, along with \$62,000 budgeted by the fire district this. Bill Fry asked the UCCA Board and membership to thank AJ LaVallie, Mark Justice, and others who have donated their money and their time to wield a shovel for the work that has been done over the last three years.

Brazilian Pepper Letter to the County – David Bolme: With the approaching January 1, 2021 effective date of enforcement of Lee County Code that requires eradication of Brazilian Pepper on homesites around the island (it doesn't apply to the state lands), the Board wrote a letter in September and again in October, asking for the County to provide their enforcement plan, that primarily effects our vacant lot owners, so that we could communicate with the public what would happen, how long they would have to resolve, and what the fines might be for failing to comply with the code if not resolved within the violation timeframes. There is still no meaningful response other than they received the letters and that they had met but no details have been provided yet and, until the County responds with their plan, the Board intends to wait for details before starting an education program with the vacant lot owners (the same applies to the

Dark Skies ordinance that affects primarily homeowners that virtually nobody on the island currently meets, other than relatively new construction).

2021 Vision – David Bolme/Rick Noland: The vision is posted on the website that says not just what we are going to do but how we intend to do it. This Board approved vision being presented is posted on the website and outlines six focus areas to which the board intends to direct their efforts. Communication: blog posts, email notices, newsletters, etc. Involvement: commitment of time of Directors and general members in planning and problem solving. Education: blog posts, frequently asked questions, historical files, newsletters, re our pathways, county services not available and why, golf cart drivers, etc. Outreach to new owners. Community: building our Island family through events and gatherings to improve Islander interactions, even though we may have different opinions on some issues. The Board will form different initial committees and will begin asking for member volunteers in January.

Island Access Fund – Helen Justice: Will propose a vote of the membership to “liberate” the Island Access Fund and return those funds to the UCCA General Fund for use in island community projects by majority board vote. There are currently no community projects under consideration but, until that money is released by a membership vote is not legally usable for any other purpose. The question will be placed on the Election Buddy ballot, as part of the board member election in December. The board recommends to the general membership that the money should be “liberated” for future use other than for Island Access.

Nominating Committee Report – Sue Ann Cousar: Jackie Byrnes and Sue Ann Cousar were appointed by JoAnn as the nominating committee this year. We have three board seats that are coming up for election this year: JoAnn Beiermeister, David Bolme, and Bryan Brillhart have agreed to stand for re-election. We have only one other new nominee so far, Swin Swinford. We will be sending out an email later this month with information about the nomination process and how to nominate someone (or to self-nominate) and an Election Buddy election will occur in December. Results will be announced in January.

Other Business: David Bolme updated that there were 123 active member households, ten have been added in the last two months and the membership levels have been relatively constant over the last 5 years. JoAnn Beiermeister reminded everyone that the new phone books were available for pick-up and hand delivery. Nicole Rossi reminded everyone that we were less than 1 year away from the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary (the 1921 hurricane that split us apart from Captiva) and was there any planning for a celebration? JoAnn Beiermeister said that she had two bicycles that were donated for the Island Fest that was cancelled and she asked board permission to run a raffle and the board deferred decision to a future board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned. Next General Membership UCCA meeting will be Sunday, January 24, 2021, in the yard outside David Bolme’s home, 201 Hummingbird Dr., at 11:30am (please bring chairs and masks and use approved distancing).

Minutes submitted by Sue Ann Cousar, Communications Secretary