

SUMMARY MINUTES

ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS YOUTH COUNCIL ORIENTATIONAL MEETING

January 17, 2023

Meeting started at 4:04 p.m. at the Founders Park Community Center.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Riley Cooper, R.J. Dube, Kai Guth, Zane Rindom, Ambrose Sanchez, Abbie Sargent, Olivia Sargent, Corley Smith, Caroline Waterman (IVOI), Anne Onsgard – Youth Council Liaison (IVOI).

ABSENT: Kaitlyn Dickerson and Simon Gutierrez, justified.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Youth Council Chair Riley Cooper asked R.J. Dube to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

EMERGENCY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS:

The group was introduced to the new Recreation Program Leader Caroline Waterman and welcomed her to Founders Park. Caroline explained her background including that she is a Coral Shores High School graduate and graduated Florida Gulf Coast University with a degree in hospitality. She expressed her excitement for the position and assisting the Youth Council through events and this program.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Riley Cooper motioned to approve the minutes from November 2, 2022. Abbie Sargent seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (8-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

A QUICK CIVIC REVIEW; CITY GOVERNMENT IN FLORIDA:

The group reviewed the article published in *Quality Cities*, the bimonthly magazine of the Florida League of Cities, Inc. (FLC) and as the first part of the FLC's *My City; I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It* model program promoting active citizenship to all Florida Students manual. In addition to providing a quick civic review about city government in Florida, the article addresses the need for civic education in our state. The group discussed each section of the article including Just what is a Florida City; City rights and privileges; Why cities are formed; What are Florida Cities like; Every city is full service; The Structures of Governments in Florida; and the need for Civic Education.

They also reviewed Facts on Florida Cities before being quizzed on the following questions: When was Islamorada, Village of Islands (the Village) incorporated; what islands make up the Village and it's boundaries; who are the Village Council members; what type of government is the Village; what is the Village's population; name the cities in Florida with

a population of over 1 million; what is the largest city in Florida; what are the smallest cities in Florida; identify the oldest cities in Florida; identify the newest city in Florida; what is a municipality; what is Home Rule; what is the difference between a city council and a city commission; can you name any of the members of your city council/city commission; and name two or three staff positions within a city.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES 2023:

The group discussed goals for this term which included some items not completed last term such as the Youth Council promotional video. Unfortunately, the deadline was missed for the FLC's Youth Council Video Competition in December. The committee wished to move forward with the goal of producing the promotional video. They wished to explore teen events for both the middle school and high school. Some ideas presented included a drive in movie, kickball field day, pool parties, and extended pool hours during summer. The group expressed interest and a need for a teen recreation center. Anne informed them of a new business opening in Tavernier Town featuring an arcade and mini bowling. She also explained the JOY Center's initiative to obtain a building for senior and teen programming within Monroe County and Islamorada. The group wished to explore the idea further for a possible recommendation to support this effort.

The committee wished to consider an environmental project to potentially include helping the Florida Bay Forever with plant identification installation at the Green Turtle Hammock Preserve. Also, they will consider attending the 2023 FLC Annual Youth Council program in August. Anne commended the members that attended the Village Council Candidates forum in October and the compilation of questions submitted by the Youth Council. She will continue to seek out and schedule guest speakers on the topics presented which included affordable housing crisis and civic engagement with youth and families.

The committee was in support of learning more about the Monroe County Coalition's Safe and Drug Free Partnerships of Monroe to consider a Youth Council sponsored anti-drug campaign. Also, exploring Marathon's youth leadership program for comparisons, ideas and strategies.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DETAILS:

Anne explained the upcoming community service opportunities including Movie Under the Stars January 28, 2023, 6:00-9:00pm and the new Beats on the Bay Music Series cosponsored by Islamorada Community Entertainment. Tasks will include event set up/break down and concessions booth. The members confirmed their commitment to assisting at the events for community service.

YOUTH COUNCIL VIDEO:

The members discussed an outline of the video production and assigned members with sections to prepare scripts and collection of photos and videos:

- 1) Who is the Islamorada Youth Council - Riley and Abbie
- 2) Mission and Purpose – Riley and Abbie
- 3) Personal “Why” – All

- 4) Examples of events and accomplishments – Corley, Olivia, Kaitlyn (voice over photos and videos)
- 5) Future Projects
- 6) How to get involved – RJ, Zane, Ambrose
- 7) Scrolling logo & Mission Statement – Annie and Olivia
- 8) Group photo

The group set a filming date for January 30th at 3pm. Olivia Sargent volunteered as director and final production tasks.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Finalize Youth Council Video
Teen Programs & Projects
Leadership Activities

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 4p.m. Riley Coöper motioned to adjourn. Kai Guth seconded the motion. Meeting ended at 5:57p.m.

Recording Secretary,

Anne Onsgard
Recording Secretary

Riley Cooper
Youth Council Chair

Approved on: _____