

FIRE ISLAND PINES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
AND THE PINES FOUNDATION, INC.  
Whyte Hall

Minutes of meetings Saturday, September 9, 2023

**Directors participating in Whyte Hall:** Allan Baum; Alan Brodherson; Gary Clinton; Greg Henniger; Andrew Kirtzman; Charles Montorio-Archer; Jay Pagano; Nate Pinsley; Leland Rechis (who joined mid-meeting); Henry Robin; Russell Saray; Eric Sawyer; and Ed Schulhafer.

**Directors participating telephonically:** Matt Tague.

**Directors absent:** Chris Mai.

**Also participating:** Karen McCutcheon (Community Manager) (who joined mid-meeting); Joe Micheels (Facilities Manager) (who joined mid-meeting); Jennifer Suh-McCormack (Finance Manager); and Doug Harris (who joined mid-meeting).

Henry Robin called the meeting to order at 10:13 AM.

Greg Henniger moved to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2023 meetings of the Boards of Directors. Motion was seconded by Charles Montorio-Archer and was unanimously approved, except by Jay Pagano, who was not present for the August 5 meeting and therefore abstained.

FIPPOA Discussion:

- Beachcomber Contract
  - Henry Robin informed the Board that the contract with Beachcomber Freight has been signed by all parties.
  - The new agreement includes a significant increase in the annual landing fee.
  - While the agreement includes an exclusivity clause, we have the unilateral right to terminate the exclusivity should we choose to do so.
- Community Parking
  - No parking signs have been installed along the Boulevard.
  - Henry, Karen McCutcheon and others will be meeting to discuss plans for enforcement of the no parking rules.

Foundation Discussion:

- Pines Party
  - Allan Baum provided the Board with an update with respect to the Pines Party.
  - While the numbers are still not final and there are some outstanding invoices, the approximate profit from the Party, before any grants are made, is estimated to be \$320,000-\$325,000.

- Allan moved that the Board approve a grant to The Stonewall Foundation, in the amount of \$75,000, if the net profit from the Party is \$325,000 or more, or in the amount of \$70,000, if the net profit is less than \$325,000.
- The motion was seconded by Greg Henniger and, after further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.
- The Foundation will also make a contribution of \$10,000 from the Party profit to The Seashore Defense Fund.

#### Pines 70th Anniversary

- Nate Pinsley provided a recap of the beach event.
  - The 500 tickets that we hoped to sell all did in fact sell, at which point the Committee chose to sell 250 tickets for drinks only.
  - The event was well-received by all attendees.
  - Ultimately, the cost to The Pines Foundation is estimated to be \$30,000.
  - The entire Board thanked Nate and the Committee for their efforts and congratulated them on bringing their vision to fruition.
- Trailblazers Park Task Force
    - Doug Harris and Gary Clinton, the co-chairs of the Task Force, provided an update as to plans for 2024.
    - 16 new Trailblazers have been selected for 2024 and 2025.
    - Whereas the majority of the first set of Trailblazers are deceased, the majority of the next Trailblazers are still living.
  - AIDS Memorial Task Force
    - Jay Pagano updated the Board as to the efforts to create the AIDS Memorial.
    - Jay has been working with staff in the office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand in drafting a bill that would be introduced into both houses of Congress and which would authorize the construction of the Memorial in the Carrington tract.
    - We are not asking for any federal funds for the project, something which simplifies the process of having this approved.
    - We expect that the bill will be introduced shortly in the Senate; we are contacting our local representative in the House in the hope that he will introduce the bill in that legislative body.

#### Joint FIPPOA/Pines Foundation Topics:

- Contracting, Insurance and Risk Mitigation
  - Alan Brodherson provided an overview of the procedures with respect to contracting on behalf of the corporations.
  - Only the President of the corporations, or someone to whom contracting authority has been duly delegated by the Board or the President, has authority to execute contracts on behalf of the corporations.
  - We have to give consideration to partnerships with other organizations and how participation in events, either as a producer, promoter or recipient of funds, can give rise to potential legal claims against us.

- Beach Update
  - Henry explained that the recent NY Times article has received wide-spread attention.
  - We are continuing to press the Corps to include our beach within the emergency repairs that will take place on the west end of Fire Island.
  - We have been speaking with staff in the offices of Senators Schumer and Gillibrand in an effort to have them reach out to the Corps to ask them to reconsider their position.
- PSE&G Substation
  - We have been informed that PSE&G recently arranged to have equipment and sand delivered to fortify the substation.
  - PSE&G has made inquiry concerning a purchase of sand from FIPPOA.
- Fire Department update
  - Leland Rechis provided an update concerning the recent house fire at 299 Fire Island Boulevard.
  - Mutual aid was activated and fire departments from across the island and from the mainland reported to assist.
  - The Fire Marshal is continuing to review the situation.
- Political Action Committee
  - The PAC is sponsoring a fundraiser later in the day for three of our elected representatives.
  - It is imperative that we have a large turnout in order to thank our representatives for past actions on our behalf, and to press them with respect to ongoing concerns, such as the condition of the beach.

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 PM.