

**GIMA Annual Meeting
Minutes
March 5, 2016**

President Tom Ashford called the meeting to order at 10 AM.

We were led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Steve Pieratt.

Reading of the minutes last year's Annual Meeting, was waived.

Welcome remarks by Tom Ashford. There were no unexpected, major issues to deal with in the last year. It was noted that all neighbors were enjoying good health and continued life. Several properties have changed ownership and an updated membership listing is available. Get to know your neighbors! We are a unique Island community; interaction with one another is encouraged.

Tom Ashford discussed a recent Fort Myers Beach (FMB) Town Meeting and our possible exposure to intrusion by the city into our property rights regarding the Beach and Bay Parks. Tom reviewed a chronological series of events that essentially guarantee our, GIMA, undisputable rights to those properties. Special thanks to neighbor and Gulf Island Drive resident, Charles Meador, for spearheading the GIMA response to this assault by FMB against our property rights. The culmination of this effort is a letter from the FMB Town Attorney, stating that FMB has no legal interest in our park properties. Thanks also to Deborah Groll and Tom Ashford for their diligent response in this matter.

Tom Ashford then noted that similar legal questions are being raised about our rights pursuant to our fishing/boat dock on the Bay and our need for a current lease for the land under the dock with the State of Florida. Be advised that we have a letter from the State of Florida dated 8/06/2010, cancelling our then existing sovereignty submerged lands lease and authorizing the current configuration of the docking facility pursuant to rule.

Copies of these documents are maintained by the GIMA Board and are available to you through mailed hard copies or through email. Please advise the Board if you would like any copies for your personal files.

Please note that the GIMA is a voluntary organization. Participation and dues are voluntary. Compliance with our Rules and Regulations is voluntary. The Board and Committee Chairs do countless hours of mental and physical work for NO compensation. BUT, without a strong community working together for the common good, we could very well lose or property rights to the Parks or at best be in a situation where we would collectively or separately need to hire legal representation. We certainly would not have the two beautiful, well maintained parks that we have now. The community properties add considerable value to our individual homes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Gulf Park – Robin Gornto, Chair

It was noted that there is an overabundance of sand around the benches. It is believed that mother nature will eventually resolve that problem. If it becomes necessary, we will redistribute the sand. It was proposed that the benches be marked private. After discussion, we will move the professional, Private Cabana, sign closer to the benches to heighten awareness of the facilities being for private use only. It was noted that the bike rack is in need of repair. Tom committed to having it replaced. The fence at the entrance is rotting away. Robin and Mary Gail have made extensive stop gap repairs and repainted. Thanks to them for all of their hard work. They will get estimates for repair/replacement for a future budget. It was noted that the Cabana needs to be professionally painted with top quality paint. Discussion to follow in the budget review.

Bay Park – Mary Gail Wilson, Chair

The dock and benches have been freshly painted and look great ! Thanks AGAIN to Mary Gail and Robin for much hard work. There has been a fish line disposal container mounted on the dock and a garbage can has been placed under the Tiki Hut. This is in direct response to enforcement of the laws by the Florida Department of Resources, FDR. BE ADVISED that the FDR is periodically checking our dock and the people fishing there for compliance of Florida Law. Make sure that your family and renters know the laws if they are going to fish from our dock. The dock is private but that does not exempt anyone from obeying the law. As a matter of courtesy to others and common sense, DO NOT cut bait on the benches or use excessive amounts of fishing poles. Other people want to fish too or just enjoy sitting on the docks. Be courteous and respect others !

The thatched roof on the Tiki Hut is in need of replacement. Repair estimates are \$2343 for a natural replacement that would last another 6-7 years or \$5200 for a n artificial thatch that should last in excess of 20 years. Discussion to follow in budget review.

Dock - Harold Engle, Chair

Some of the pilings are deteriorating. A couple are getting in pretty bad shape. We will get estimates on possible repair or replacement for review in next years meeting. If it is determined by experts that something needs to be done sooner, the Board will address appropriately.

Historical – Sharon Jamieson, Chair

Please send pictures of the people who live in or own the houses so she can update and make the records more complete.

Picnic – Steve Pieratt

Dogs and Burgers are ready. Bring something to share and Let's Do It!

GIMA Website – Robert Goodykoontz, Webmaster

Robert was unable to attend the Annual Meeting but wants everyone to check the GIMA Website for periodic updates.

Treasurer – Tom Stull

Please see attached budget printout. All but four households paid their dues for 2015-2016. Discussion ensued regarding budget expenses for the Tiki roof, painting the Cabana and the need for professional landscape companies to do some of the work at both parks. Our budget is increasing for several reasons. There are less full time residents around to do the volunteer work. Our volunteers are aging and are not able to do the breadth and scope of work they did in the past. More homes are being rented and the owners do not generally contribute to the volunteer needs of the association. Our reserve funds are declining and there is concern that we may not have enough funds to meet emergency expenses.

The following were voted on and passed, \$1500 to repaint the Cabana, \$5200 for the artificial thatch for the Tiki Hut. It was also voted and passed that annual dues be raised to \$300 for the 2016-2017 budget.

Elections

All current Board and Committee Chairs agreed to serve for another term. No new names were put into nomination. All voted on and passed.

President – Tom Ashford

Vice President – Steve Pieratt

Treasurer – Tom Stull

Secretary – Rocky Steimle

Gulf Park – Robin Gronto

Bay Park – Mary Gail Wilson

Dock – Harold Engle

Historical – Sharon Jamieson

Picnic – Steve Pieratt

Meeting adjourned – 11:08 am.