

**ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947**

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 21, 2020 – 2:00PM**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Patricia Aho, David Kelly, Sam Besase, Patti Cowin,  
Jerry Eldred and (via Zoom) Peter Traverso, Stephen Froggatt

**Management:** Derrick Hedges, Interim Manager; Claudette Romano, Lead Administrator

**Guests:** Robert Berntsson, ESQ. - Big W Law Firm; Geoff Lorah, CPA - Webb, Lorah, & McMillan

**Members:** Cari Hale, Hank Killion, Dale Jensen, Maureen McDowell, Karen Harvey, Anne-Marie Hunter, George Sutherland

Via Zoom

Diane Shaw, Barb Peszko, Allyson Eakin, Ruthann Brown, Andrew Leonard, Jack Horner, Linda & Bob Bondeson, Claudine Hoffer, Debbie Yeager, Susan Superak, Gwen Grace, Maria Jussiere, Bernie Schmelz, Ellen Cassanos, David Burton, Nicho, Anton Klarich, Ginni Mahon, Cliff Albright, Tom, joe, jim1v, rick allio, lowje, Steve's iPad, Linda's iPad, Csmi, iPad, Nancy Ward-Snyder, Frederick Kirsch, and 1 other.

The Meeting was called to order by President Aho at 2:02 PM. The meeting was properly noticed and a quorum was present.

Director Besase moved the Board to approve the Meeting Minutes for the May14, 2020 BOD Meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Eldred. Motion passed unanimously. See attached.

**MEMBERS INPUT** (Agenda Items)

Hank Killion – Spoke regarding the Storm Water MSBU, which he chairs, and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Charlotte County, Rotonda Golf Partners, and the RWA. He indicated that the County (via MSBU) appears to have the funding needed to accomplish the goals of the MOU.

Director Kelly inquired as to whether the \$2.5 million set aside was just the Storm Water MSBU budget. Mr. Killion indicated that it was.

## Committee Reports

Election Committee – Dale Jensen (Chair) see attached.

Mr. Jensen announced that one change to the newest version of the Election Committee Guidelines is the opportunity for Candidates to make corrections to their packets at the opening of the packets on the second Friday of August.

Director Traverso inquired as to whether section III CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS, which states that a convicted felon may not run for a Director position unless their rights have been restored for at least 5 years, is in violation of the new Florida Felon's rights law. President Aho clarified that the section in question follows FL Statute 720.306 (9)(b) which is the governing document for Homeowner's Associations.

Director Traverso then questioned the language in section XII which, per state statute, provides the RWA with the "right but not the obligation, to cast votes...based on the number of lots owned by the RWA". His opinion was that this should not be done as the 19 votes held by the RWA could be enough to swing an election. Mr. Jensen explained that one of the changes recommended by the Election Committee is to codify that the RWA will NOT vote their lots.

The final change recommended by the Election Committee is that if there is a margin of 20 votes or less between Candidates then a recount is automatically triggered.

Director Traverso motioned to default that the RWA may NOT vote its lots. 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Cowin. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Traverso motioned to add language to V.7 of the Election Guidelines that triggers and automatic recount for margins of 20 or fewer votes. 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Eldred. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Kelly questioned Geoff Lorah on the number of times votes are normally counted for an election. Mr. Lorah explained that the process of vote counting consists of numerous 2 person teams of vote counters, one tallies the votes while the other records. Then they swap and the other counts and the first records. If the counts match then the packet is moved forward.

Director Eldred motioned to approve Karen Harvey being added to the Election Committee. 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Traverso. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Besase motioned to adopt V.7 of the Election Guideline with the two changes previously approved. 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Eldred. Motion passed unanimously.

## **MEMBERS INPUT**

Hank Killion – Complemented Dale Jensen and the new Election Committee members on the work they have accomplished on the new Election Guidelines. He agrees with their recommendation to NOT allow the RWA to vote the lots. He further explained that, although authorized to do so, he did not vote the RWA 19 lots as he felt that would be immoral.

Diane Shaw – read a statement. see attached

She questioned why members who previously requested to be on the Election Committee were not contacted when the new committee was established. She also requested that, in future, ALL meetings, BOD and Committees, be zoomed to allow all members to participate without worrying about being exposed to COVID19.

Frederick Kirsch – Thanked the Board and Admin staff for the work they do. He is concerned with the enforcement of Deed Restrictions violations, specifically the number of cars parked overnight on lawns and vacant lots. He bought in RWA because of the Deed Restrictions and is disappointed that despite 4 calls to the office to report violations, it seems nothing has been done to remedy the situation. He is concerned seeing the continued violations in Broadmoor and Long Meadow and counted 18 cars parked in violation of the Deed Restrictions. It seems to be out of control with the parking of boats, RVs consistently in violation. He would like consistent enforcement of violations and suggested publicizing them to help with enforcement.

Bob Bondeson – Agreed with Diane Shaw’s statement regarding the Election Committee.

Andrew Leon – Would like more information about the MSBU bridge study and what it is going to cost the community. He is also concerned with the amount of money being spent on Broadmoor Park. Is it justified based on the 200 or so people that use it? President Aho stated that this issue will be addressed at a future meeting. Director Besase indicated that the last meeting of the MSBU was canceled due to the COVID19 crisis so they are no further along regarding this issue. He further stated that when the MSBU next meets the bridge study will be “front and center” of the discussions.

Barb Peszko – Wanted to acknowledge the American flags all the way down Sportsman Road. She would like to see more of that, and wanted to say thank you to those residents.

## **Directors Input**

Director Kelly – Wanted to respond to Mr. Kirsch regarding the response of the office regarding the Deed Restrictions violations he reported. Interim Manager Hedges replied that we will look into the situation.