



**“Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world.
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”**

Margaret Mead

Island of Key Largo Federation of Homeowners Association

November 9, 2016 General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dottie Moses at 7:00 PM at the Key Largo Library Community Room. The following Directors were in attendance: Burke Cannon, David Leahy, Steve Gibbs, Ann Nickerson, Pauline Klein, Laura Heinrich, Linda Perloff,

Dottie led the Pledge of Allegiance

Treasurer’s Report - \$3254.05 Approved

President Dottie Moses introduced the **guest speaker:**
Anissah Tomas, the Guardian ad Litem Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator
305-295-3920, www.Guardianadlitem.org

The Guardian ad Litem Program (GAL) is a state government nonprofit agency. The Program is in need of volunteers. Citizens who volunteer become part of the court program to represent the best interest of an assigned child. Many abused, abandoned, or neglected children in the welfare system are in need of an advocate that will look after their interests. Citizens who volunteer are certified and act under the supervision of program personnel. It can be a very rewarding experience but requires commitment. Program information handouts were made available to the members.

President’s Report: (from General Meeting Agenda)

- The **Candidate Forum** was well attended
- IKLFHA.org **Website** back up and working
- **Rowell’s** Selection committee chose a company to move forward with improvements funded by FDOT
- **KL Stone Crab Festival** has been rescheduled to take place in November next year instead of Jan.
- **Canal Restoration Workshop** on Nov 14 in Marathon. BOCC to discuss potential funding sources for Operation & Maintenance of restored canals and restoration of additional canals. Can watch on MCTV.
- **Community Rating System** (CRS) is part of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). It is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages

community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements.

As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from these community actions. Monroe County was just given a rating of 6 which can allow a 10-20% discount. (1 being the best rating and 10 being the worst)

- **Short Term Rentals** – Code Compliance has brought about 37 violations before the Special Magistrate over the past 2 months and will hear 20 more at Nov 17 hearing.
- **New Noise Ordinance Code** - a noise code case was heard before the Special Magistrate on Oct 27 and the violator was fined and ordered to cease and desist.
- **KL Fire & EMS** - county turned down their request for \$300,000 of Infrastructure Sales Tax (IST) for the purchase of a Fire Truck. Approval to send a letter from Federation in support of IST use for a new fire truck.
- **Flood Improvement Pilot Project** – Workshop held tonight at Government Center.

Announcements:

- Audubon Everglades Science Center in Tavernier is planning a dinner to raise funds to help support their research in the Florida Bay. **Forks, Knives, & Spoonbills** on Dec 9. Contact Victoria Johnston vjohnston@audubon.org 305-371-6396 Tickets are \$150. Donations and auction items appreciated.
- Friends of the Key Largo Cultural Center – **FIU Lecture Series** – FREE - Friday – Nov 18- 7 PM – Algae Crisis: From Toledo, Ohio to Martin County, Florida Lessons we should be Learning. Kathleen Rein, PhD
- Nov. 19, 2016 **Crocodile Nest Enhancement Volunteer Workday** (9 AM – 12 PM) Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Join Refuge staff and volunteers to help enhance American crocodile nesting areas by adding sand to nesting areas impacted by sea level rise and coastal erosion. Volunteers must be comfortable working on boats and in good physical condition. Please contact crocodilelake@fws.gov to participate. Bring gloves, sunscreen, bug spray. Meet at Refuge Headquarters.
- Elk's Lodge next Friday is having a flag retirement
- American Legion is holding Marine Party on Nov 10.

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- **Next Meeting** – December 14 - Speaker : Mike Guarino - Manager of the Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail, the ocean side path in Key