



**“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

December 13 2017 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, Ann Nickerson, Laura Heinrich, Pauline Klein, Lee Huenniger, Richard Prentiss, Janet Coplan, Raymond Reigadas, Stuart Smith,

Dottie led the Pledge of Allegiance

Treasurers Report - Ann Nickerson - \$3,138.98

President Dottie Moses was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a \$100 gift certificate for her service to the Federation. She was also given a letter of appreciation from Silver Shores for her assistance after Irma.

SPEAKER

Betsy Baste and Cathy Bosworth – Upper Keys Life Enrichment Coalition.

The county is planning on relocating the Senior Center from the Plantation Key Government Center to the abandoned old school house in Tavernier. Both locations are inadequate for a facility to meet the needs of a robust community center. In other communities, such as Homestead, there are modern inviting centers.

The UKLEC plans to provide a free pop-up Community Center from Jan 3 to April 11 at 161 Pearl Ave. They will hold a variety of activities including a coffee social hour, exercise, crafts, tech classes, lectures, and movies. Bring your lunch. Donations and volunteers needed.

For donations go to www.keystopeace.org or Volunteers can contact uklecinc@gmail.com

Bill Hunter, President of the Upper Keys Alliance, gave an update on the county's activities for replacing the 4,000 displaced households from Hurricane Irma. FEMA trailers are not to be provided in any significant numbers.

The county is moving towards large multi-family projects. The lower keys are rural with mostly single-family homes. The residents there would like to keep it that way as is

expressed in the Livable Communikeys Plan. There is a proposal to the Comp Plan to raise heights and increase density in Suburban Commercial zones. This would turn these zones into large housing projects. These zones need to be maintained as commercial centers for nearby rural residents. Workforce housing should be located closer to the employment centers.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- The BOCC approved the use of a Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) to assess property owners for the O & M costs of restored canals. Who will pay and how much will be determined later with additional public hearings. The weed gates that were to be the recipients of this assessment were all destroyed during Irma.
- The BOCC approved a demonstration project to use a skimmer boat in Key Largo to remove floating weeds in canals. The MSBU may be used to fund the boat in the future.
- The BOCC approved reimbursement of the No Wake markers on Duck Key. If any other HOAs have a need to replace their No Wake markers they should consider submitting a request for reimbursement as well. It's only fair.
- A special magistrate denied the request of a SFR in Riviera Village zoned IS to be exempt from VR rules as the SFR say they are gated community of one in an HOA of one. The BOCC upheld the denial.
- The BOCC is considering an ordinance to require damaged roofs be replaced with metal or maybe concrete to be more robust against storms. This would open the way for insurance companies to pay for the upgrade.
- The BOCC gave their final approval to a comp plan change allowing Duck Key to dredge seagrass and benthic resources within their manmade canals.
- A cell tower is being installed at Key Lime Product MM 95.
- The county has resumed regular solid waste services. Dumping on the side of the road is now prohibited. The transfer stations continue to accept residential debris for free.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Tavernier Community Association is holding a meeting on the future of Harry Harris Park which is being used to store derelict vessels. Dec 14 -Tavernier Fire House – 7 PM
- A donation of \$250 was given by Steve and Jan Hartz to the Federation.

Next Meeting – Jan 10 2017 – Speaker – TBA