

Approved March 25, 2011

Committee of the Islands
Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting
March 31, 2010
Sanibel Community House

President Jim LaVelle greeted guests at 9:30 AM. He introduced and acknowledged Melana Eskew as a founding member of COTI.

After opening remarks, President LaVelle introduced guest speaker Maggie Feiner, president of Friends In Service Here (FISH), a 30 year old Island organization of "neighbors helping neighbors". After Maggie recounted the 2009 activities, Jim LaVelle presented her with COTI's Citizen of the Year Award for her dedication and service to island residents in need.

Following an intermission, President La Velle called the Business Meeting to order at 10:15 AM.

The minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting were approved as submitted.

Jane Picker reported a Sanibel-Captiva Community Bank account balance of \$10710.59. Her report will be filed for audit.

Following an audit of the books, David Bath reported that all records and monthly reports were accurate.

Nominating Committee: Dick Calkins presented the nominated slate of prospective Directors for membership approval.

Candidates for a first 2 year term: Barbara Cooley, Mike Gillespie, Susie Marks, Mickie Kaplan, Claire Mallon, Larry Schopp, and Carl Reinhold

Candidate for a second 2 year term: Allan Silberman

Secretary, Susie Marks reported that 47 proxies representing 70 members have been received. Forty three (43) members in attendance voted affirmatively for the slate bringing the total to 113. The slate was approved.

Points made during the membership discussion:

- begin search for City Council candidates to run in March election. Must be committed to represent general interests of the island instead of special interests.
- create avenues for more membership involvement - more meetings with general membership attendance - step up efforts for increased member communication - update membership email addresses - solicit emails from members before making formal policy.

- revisit COTI bylaws requirement for voting members' nomination by petition. More membership awareness is needed.
- need more good PR for COTI.
- suggestion to use "Committee of the Islands" instead of the acronym COTI which, for some, conveys negativity.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Susie Marks

Secretary