

**MINUTES  
MANASOTA LEAGUE OF CITIES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 12, 2016**

**Present:** President Linda Yates (North Port), Vice President Brian Williams (Palmetto), Treasurer Kit McKeon (Venice), Councilman Patrick Roff (Bradenton), Commissioner Carol Soustek (Holmes Beach), Commissioner Irwin Pastor (Longboat Key), Mayor Willie Shaw (Sarasota), Mayor William Shearon (Bradenton Beach)

**Absent:** Commissioner Carol Carter (Anna Maria)

**Also Present:** Administrative Coordinator Trish Granger and Assistant Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Yates called the May 12, 2016, Regular Meeting of the Manasota League of Cities (MSLC) to order at 10:02 a.m. in the Town of Longboat Key Commission Chamber, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the audience were recognized and Board members introduced themselves.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**1. Opportunity for Public to Address Board:** No items were presented.  
At each meeting, time is set aside for the public to comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10, 2016**

**Member Shearon moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10, 2016. The motion, seconded by Member Shaw, carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**3. Representative Greg Steube, Florida House of Representatives, District 73**

Representative Steube provided an overview of the 2016 Florida Legislative Session and House Bill (HB) 1021- Public Records/Attorney Fees, which he sponsored.

Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- the legislative process whereby HB 1021 died in Committee and Senate Bill (SB) version CS/SB 1120 died awaiting action by the House
- joint efforts between Representative Steube and Florida League of Cities (FLC) in support of HB 1021
- prospect of filing a bill similar to HB 1021 in the 2017 legislative session
- Home Rule and establishing relationships with legislators
- Tourist Development Tax legislation relating to funding of public safety services.

President Yates and members thanked Representative Steube for his support of local governments and for his success in getting bills passed in the legislature.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS** - Continued

**4. Lynn Tipton, Director, Florida League of Cities (FLC) University**

Ms. Tipton presented a slide show that detailed the history of FLC and FLC University, and she provided information about educational opportunities. Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- FLC classes and training opportunities
- holding classes locally in Manatee and Sarasota County
- FLC Institute for Elected Municipal Officials (IEMO)
- Florida Redevelopment Association (FRA) Academy classes.

Ms. Tipton showed a slide presentation entitled "Local and Regional Leagues and the FLC" and explained the relationship of the FLC with its regional and local leagues. Information was also provided about a strategic team formed by Kathy Till that would put together advocacy teams to focus on lobbying legislative leaders.

**Discussion was held and there was consensus to place a discussion on the July 14, 2016, MSLC (ManaSota League of Cities) agenda relating to holding educational opportunities locally.**

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**5. Reports**

**A. Associate Members or Ex-Officio Members:** No items were presented.

**B. President's Report**

President Yates reported on the following topics:

- FLC (Florida League of Cities) Policy Committee meetings scheduled for August 2016 for the purpose of reviewing legislative activity in the 2016 session and identifying 2017 priorities
- need to establish relationships with legislators prior to session
- Members Shaw and Roff recognized as recipients of a FLC Home Rule Award.

**C. Vice President's Report**

Vice President Williams reported he would be attending the FLC Nominating Committee meeting in Jupiter, Florida, in June 2016.

**D. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer McKeon referred to reports that provided a financial overview of the MSLC (ManaSota League of Cities) and discussed the following topics/issues:

- Edward Jones account balance
- MSLC financial report through April 30, 2016
- MSLC revenue report for last three years
- payment schedule for Associate Member dues
- 2013 through 2015 - income versus expenses
- travel expense reimbursements
- minimum balance for Edward Jones account.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS** - Continued

5. Reports - Continued

D. Treasurer's Report - Continued

Discussion regarding the budget, dues, and minimum account balance was deferred to agenda item 8.

E. Administrative Coordinator's Report

MSLC Administrative Coordinator and Longboat Key Town Clerk Trish Granger reviewed the Administrative Coordinator Report and requested an item be placed on the July 14, 2016, agenda to discuss distributing MSLC agenda packets electronically in lieu of mailing.

Administrative Coordinator Granger commented that, if requested, Manatee County would provide a recording of the Ethics, Public Records, and Sunshine Law seminar scheduled for May 16, 2016, that could be used to meet State education requirements.

**President Yates commented that discussion of electronic distribution of agenda packets would be placed on the July 14, 2016, agenda.**

F. Florida League of Cities' (FLC) Board of Directors

District Director Roff reported that he would be participating in the following:

- FLC FAST Fly-In to Washington, D.C., on May 24-25, 2016
- FLC Board of Directors meeting June 2016.

Member Roff commented Congressman Vern Buchanan should be commended for supporting H.R.2901 - Flood Insurance Market Parity and Modernization Act, recently passed in the U.S. House of Representatives.

G. Advocacy Report

President Yates commented the Advocacy Report would be combined with agenda item 6.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6. Preliminary discussion to begin the process of identifying Legislative Priorities for 2017

President Yates reviewed a summary she had prepared and distributed to members detailing legislative actions in 2016 relative to MSLC (ManaSota League of Cities) legislative priorities. Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- need to identify 2017 legislative priorities and begin lobbying efforts early
- FLC (Florida League of Cities) Policy Committee and Legislative Conference process
- legislation passed and failed in 2016 relative to FLC and MSLC priorities
- legislative preemptions and erosion of Home Rule
- local regulation and revenue loss caused by internet based transportation services and vacation rental companies such as Airbnb
- drafting a resolution to legislators requesting support to protect Home Rule
- need for a specific definition of "affordable housing"
- back-up data and economic impact information when lobbying
- garner support of FLC on MSLC legislative issues
- process to determine MSLC legislative priorities for 2017
- expand lobbying efforts in Tallahassee during legislative session.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - Continued

**6. Preliminary discussion to begin the process of identifying Legislative Priorities for 2017**  
- Continued

**Subsequent to discussion, there was consensus to request a member of the FLC legislative/advocacy team to attend the MSLC July 14, 2016, meeting to assist with development of 2017 legislative priorities and suggest a strategy for advocacy efforts, and to extend an invitation to Representative Julio Gonzalez to make a presentation and provide a legislative update on July 14, 2016.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**7. Nomination for Tenth District Director, Board of Directors, Florida League of Cities (FLC)**

President Yates and District Director Roff explained the nominating process for election of District Directors to the FLC Board of Directors.

President Yates opened the floor for nominations for the FLC Tenth District Director seat.

**Member Roff nominated Linda Yates and seconded by Member Williams. There being no other nominations, Linda Yates was selected by voice vote.**

President Yates commented the nomination would be provided to the FLC as a recommendation to the FLC Nominating Committee and that District Directors were elected during the FLC Annual Conference each year.

**8. Discussion Re: Budget, Membership Dues, Minimum Bank Balance**

Treasurer McKeon reviewed the MSLC Financial Overview report and history of 2013-2014 revenue and expenses. Discussions were held on the following topics/issues:

- MSLC sponsorship of educational classes
- ability to maintain a budget due to legislative items that could arise unexpectedly
- set dollar amount for budget line items
- MSLC accountability of expenditures to membership
- amount for yearly membership dues
- travel policy related to members attending FLC events
- MSLC administrative expenses.

**Subsequent to discussion, there was consensus that the goal of a budget would be to break even each year and not to build a balance.**

**(Note: Member Shaw left the meeting at 10:50 a.m.)**

Discussion ensued concerning the Travel Policy relative to travel expenses for members to attend FLC events.

**Subsequent to discussion, Treasurer McKeon moved to amend the Travel Policy to state expenses “may” be reimbursed for members to attend the FLC Annual Conference and Legislative Action Days. The motion was seconded by Member Shearon. Following discussion, the motion and second were withdrawn.**

8. Discussion Re: Budget, Membership Dues, Minimum Bank Balance - Continued  
**There was consensus to place a discussion regarding revisions to the MSLC Travel Policy on the July 14, 2016, agenda.**

Discussion ensued concerning setting the membership dues for next year.

**Subsequent to discussion, Member Roff moved that all membership dues remain at the current rate. The motion, seconded by Vice President Williams, carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

Discussion ensued concerning billing of Associate Membership dues.

**Subsequent to discussion, there was consensus that Associate Member dues would be billed annually based on the month membership began.**

**MEMBER COMMENTS**

9. Member Comments

President Yates opened the floor for comments by members on topics of interest.

- President Yates thanked members for their participation and patience in the meeting.
- The Board congratulated Ken Small on his upcoming retirement and thanked him for his service to the FLC (Florida League of Cities) and their membership.

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

10. Next Meeting date July 14, 2016, Discussion of Starting Time for Future Meetings  
The Board considered a list of proposed meeting dates for 2017.

**Subsequent to discussion, Vice President Williams moved to accept the meeting dates and times proposed for 2017. The motion, seconded by Treasurer McKeon, carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**President Yates adjourned the May 12, 2016, meeting at 11:39 a.m.**

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Linda Yates, President

Submitted by: Gail Loeffler, Assistant Administrative Coordinator

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINUTES**  
**MANASOTA LEAGUE OF CITIES**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**June 16, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**(Via Telephone Conference Call)**

**Present:** President Linda Yates (North Port), Vice President Brian Williams (Palmetto), Treasurer Kit McKeon (Venice), Commissioner Carol Carter (Anna Maria), Mayor Bill Shearon (Bradenton Beach), Commissioner Jean Peelen (Holmes Beach), Commissioner Irwin Pastor (Longboat Key)

**Also Present:** Assistant Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler, Longboat Key Deputy Town Clerk Jo Ann Mixon, and Megan Sirjane-Samples, FLC Legislative Advocate

**Not Present:** Councilman Patrick Roff (Bradenton) and Mayor Willie Shaw (Sarasota)

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Yates called the June 16, 2016, Special Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The Special Meeting was held via telephone conference call from the Town of Longboat Key Commission Chamber, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion Re: ManaSota League of Cities (MSLC) sponsorship of a Candidate Forum for individuals running for local Florida Senate and House seats

President Yates commented a request was received from Florida League of Cities (FLC) for MSLC to sponsor a public forum to interview local candidates running for the Florida Legislature.

Megan Sirjane-Samples, FLC Legislative Advocate, who participated via telephone, explained the event would consist of individual interviews to address and educate candidates about issues important to local governments.

Discussion ensued on the following items/topics:

- focus on Senate District 23 candidates
- candidates would be interviewed separately for 30 minutes each
- FLC staff facilitate interviews
- questions focus on general topics
- elected officials of member municipalities and Manatee, Sarasota and Charlotte - County Commissioners would be invited
- refreshments supplied by FLC
- forum entitled would be entitled "Legislative Candidate Interviews"
- hold event during daytime hours
- preferred locations (1) City of Sarasota and (2)Town of Longboat Key
- member municipalities may submit 3 questions each to FLC in advance
- week of July 18-23, 2016, the preferred dates
- candidates would not see questions in advance
- FLC to send notices and invitations to elected officials and candidates.

**NEW BUSINESS** - Continued

Discussion Re: ManaSota League of Cities (MSLC) sponsorship of a Candidate Forum for individuals running for local Florida Senate and House seats - - Continued

**Subsequent to discussion, Member Shearon moved to authorize the MSLC to host Legislative Candidate Interviews with associated costs and approval of expenditures at the discretion of President Yates. The motion, seconded by Vice President Williams, carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

**Member Shearon moved to schedule the Legislative Candidate Interviews event in conjunction with the FLC as discussed. The motion, seconded by Treasurer McKeon, carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**President Yates adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.**

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Linda Yates, President

Submitted by: Gail Loeffler, Assistant Administrative Coordinator

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes in draft form and are not official until approved by the ManaSota League of Cities.



**End of Agenda Item**