

UCCA General Meeting January 5, 2014  
11:00am at SH Clubhouse

Meeting called to order by President Jackie Byrnes

Board members present: Treasurer FranDeTure, Steve Muse, Helen Justice, Vice-President Jackie Byrnes, Jo Ann Beiermeister, Arthur Mason, Secretary Sue Ann Cousar. Katie phoned in. Absent was Ann Murphy.

Also present Dave Tompkins, Marcia Andrews, John Otis, Linda DeTure, Sandra & Dean Richardson, Dave Justice, Jeanne & David Walsh, Bob & Cindy Maynard, John & Roseanne Loesch, A.J. & Erin LaVallie, Bob Maynard, Richard Pepper, Bill Byrnes, Beverly & Sam Horsley, Andrew Anderson, Lucas Warrelmann, Tom Jenkins, L.A. Brickner,

Officers elected for 2014: President Jackie Byrnes, Vice-President Jo Ann Beiermeister, Treasurer Fran DeTure, Recording Secretary Ann Murphy, Communications Secretary Sue Ann Cousar.

Election of Directors to the Board - Arthur Mason: Since there were only three nominations to fill the three seats up for election, the slate presented by the Nominations Committee was elected by acclamation: Fran DeTure, Jackie Byrnes, and Helen Justice. Note: since the last UCCA meeting of October 27, 2013, Jo Ann Beiermeister was unanimously approved and appointed by the Board to fill the remaining one year of the unexpired term of Vicki Kirsh.

Minutes of October 27, 2013, approved and distributed.

Treasurer's report - Fran Deture: Checking acct. at beginning of 2013: \$14,424.09; deposits \$39,711.81; debits \$40,602.91 = end balance \$13,532.99. Outstanding obligation to UCFRD for Fishkind study \$5,000.

Fran explained how, after an Island survey was done, money was set aside for the possible purchase of an Island landing site. From 2013 through 2017, 50% of UCCA income will be placed in a money market fund named Island Access Acquisition Fund.

Fran also talked about the non-profit status of the Upper Captiva Community Center Foundation. Because of the politicizing of the IRS-Cincinnati office, they are unresponsive to our communications to verify our non-profit status.

Chief Pepper: 5-K Fun-Run a great event and UCFRD will clear \$4,100 from Fun-Run. Basic call volume record was exceeded in 2013: 56 trauma calls, 33 medical calls, 11 fires, 22 general assistance. Of those calls 21 people transported off Island by boat, 9 by air. UCFRD assisted Lee Co. Sheriff 10 times, US Coast Guard 6 times. 61 medical calls were property owners, 69 visitors & 22 others [workers or who show up by boat].

ISO inspection was done in October and we are now a Class 10. Our homeowners insurance will go up because of lack of four qualified firefighters. ISO is giving us a year to comply and we responded with a plan to hold a referendum. 2003 inspection rated 36 points or Protection Class 7. This inspection 61 points giving us a Class 4 rating; overall a 70% improvement from ISO inspection of ten years ago. Water capabilities were increased greatly, as was radio communication. Station now has a generator, the addition of forestry brush truck, the "beast", and turbo-draft capabilities, improved hoses, upgraded out-of-date air packs (100% points). Bonus points for community outreach: researched old Newsletters and UCCA Minutes showing information given to property owners, like policy of no charcoal grills permitted on porch decks. Road trimming for access earned points, as did Code Red program in case of Island emergency. Exterior alarms at SHC townhouses so everyone can hear gave extra points. Inspectors impressed with our FD connections to hook up FD hoses to sprinkler system of

houses after power shut off in case of fire. No open fires or fireworks gave us extra points. But in spite of all this, we are Protection Class 10. [ISO report can be found on our website [www.ucca1.com](http://www.ucca1.com).] UCCA provided \$5,000 for Fishkind study on referendum basis; it will be non-ad valorem assessment. Some residents are being trained to help fight fires, but the problem is being on duty all the time - they cannot. Homeowners' insurance premiums would increase on average 99% at Class 10. Class 4 would put us in the top 10% of the nation.

Chief Pepper is in conversation with county about certificate of need for ALS [Advanced Life Support] out here. Basic start-up cost would be \$70,000 - based on the County's reduced price. Question about helicopter situation: The company in Alaska, Apollo Medi Transport, is not writing any new policies to cover medical transport. The new company that took over helicopter service in Lee County is Air Methods and were approved by FL Insurance Commission to provide their own insurance with rates about \$50 a year. They will give us info as soon as they have it. Currently emergency flight is \$17,000. Flight crews and paramedics of Air Methods are very competent, and for the first time ever Air Methods gave a report back to us re. trauma patient. Medical director of Lee Co. is arranging a meeting for us. Air Methods is building a new helicopter for Lee County currently.

Tom Jenkins - 5K Fun-Run: Tom thanked everyone that helped, the sponsors, Dave's design of shirt and posters. The 14 sponsors were Barnacle's, Beach Vacation Rentals, Boats and Fun, Bob & Annie's Boatyard, Island Girl Charters, Islander Realty, North Captiva Island Club, Newbold Advisors, Over the Waterfront Restaurant, Pineland Marina, Resort Properties Internationale, Safety Harbor Club, Team Davenport, and Upper Captiva Civic Association. Maybe 209 runners participated. Winning time was 15min.14sec. [Applause for Tom.]

Missing house numbers - Bill Byrnes: Bill passed out list of houses that are missing address street numbers. Street number should be visible from the street for safety sake. Lee Co. code enforcement could force compliance.

Beach signs prohibiting golf carts on beach have been put up in the three places where most offenses occur: Gulf end of Butterfly Shell Dr., end of Nighthawk Dr., and State property on the Gulf near the end of Bartlett Pky.

It was also mentioned that dog owners are not leashing their dogs as required by law both on and off the beach.

Andrew Anderson: Monday, March 17, is the date for St. Pat's Party and Fund Raiser. Carnival will be the theme, at Barnacle's, with 3-5 games available to play. He is talking to Cindy if she will lower her price for her band to play, otherwise there is Barnacle's guitarist, Steve. An email can go out asking for volunteers for party. What is the purpose of the funds raised? Half of profits will go to an escrow account for an Island landing site. There was discussion about how the money would be used. Last year we netted \$16,000 but \$8,000 is typical. Could some money be used for signs re. gopher tortoises? Deb Skinner said that was the next project for the North Captiva Conservation Fund.

Deb Skinner: North Captiva Conservation Fund produced a 2014 calendar with many beautiful nature photos and good information. For sale at Barnacle's.

Fran attended LPA meeting on Dec.11 where Panel's four proposals were considered. Lee Co. staff recommended and LPA agreed that golf cart question was not a land use question so they would not consider it. Goal 25 land use plan says that there are no internal combustion engines - could we not restrict age of drivers, and size or HP of electric cars? County attorney reluctantly

said maybe that could be done. Fran made the point that we have no law enforcement out here on the Island - sheriff response time is 30 min. at best. Deb reported that we should talk to Comm. Manning, esp. about golf carts. Bill Byrnes reported that NCIC has on first page of rental contract the restrictions on age of golf cart drivers.

Fire Break - A.J. LaVallie: Last Tuesday, January 28, 9:00am volunteers meet at gate with chain saws or loppers; a job for everybody. [Arthur arranged for SHC to donate use of a chipper and employees to operate it.]

Island Clean-up: Bill & Jackie Byrnes and Karen Sirabian are in charge. Date set for February 15 Saturday, meet at Fire Station at 9:00am. [Date changed to Sunday, Feb.16.]

Question about roads: No one from the UC Road Commission was able to be here to explain where they stand. There are too many phone and electric lines crossing under the roads so we can't dig down to put a good foundation, to then add fill. Fran will talk to Peter Aldrian, their president, about the condition of the roads and the UCRC.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Sue Ann Cousar, communications secretary