

**ST. ARMANDS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
Held at Bird Key Yacht Club
January 15, 2009**

DIRECTORS PRESENT – Tom Blake, President, Manuel Chepote, Buck Fry, Jim Grace, Jan Michele Haynes, Judy Heath, Earl Scott, Martin Wiheim

DIRECTORS ABSENT – Hytham Bakr, David Day, Bob Gustafson, Marlene Lancaster, Jenny Mitchell, Ed Pinto, Kenneth Pippin and Bill Rex.

GUESTS PRESENT – Mayor Lou Ann Palmer, Commissioners, Richard Clapp, Ken Shelin, and Commission nominee, Terry Turner, Officer Donzia Franklin and St. Armands Circle Association President, Martin Rappaport and Executive Director Diana Corrigan.

Following the cocktail reception and dinner at 8:00 P.M., President Chepote welcomed residents and introduced guests. He also announced the absence of Bill Rex from the program due to the death of his mother-in-law and extended the Board's condolences. He introduced Mayor Lou Ann Palmer and requested her comments to the group.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS – Earl Scott recognized the present Board members and thanked outgoing Treasurer Buck Fry for his contributions.

TREASURY REPORT –Treasurer Buck Fry gave a final annual report.

INTRODUCTION OF NOMINEES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – , Nominating Committee Chairman Earl Scott, presented the following for new positions on the board: Janette Lange, Dina Malloch and Jay Sparr. He also proposed the re-election of Tom Blake and himself to new terms. Placed into nomination was the following slate of officers for 2009:

**President – Earl Scott
1st. V.P. – Bill Rex
2nd V.P. – Ken Pippin
Secretary – Jenny Mitchell
Treasurer – David Day**

ELECTION OF NOMINEES – Jim Grace motioned, with a second from Tom Blake, a vote for the nominated members. Approval was unanimous.

PROGRAM— A summary of Board activity was presented by Manuel Chepote, Earl Scott and Jim Grace addressing prior year accomplishments and issues of importance for the coming year. Manuel commented on the conclusion of the Save Our Statues Program, the Tree Canopy Program and coordination of activities with other community organizations. Earl discussed issues that could affect residents as a result of the Downtown Connectivity Project. He urged all to watch Ch. 19 to obtain information and become involved in the process since a vote will be taken by City Council in the near future. Jim Grace presented updates on the Master Plan for St. Armands and hopefully soon to be realized burying of the power lines on the Ringling median. He explained how these factors must work together to put an end to overflow parking on the median so that the work can be done and the areas landscaped to make for an attractive approach to St. Armands from the causeway. Earl finished the program with a discussion of safety items that included the nearly completed Traffic Calming Project and continued signage efforts to route emergency evacuation and truck traffic. He also commented on future potential activities regarding sidewalks, moorings, and the residential phone book.

RECOGNITION OF ANNUAL DINNER COMMITTEE – 2009 President Earl Scott recognized Manuel for

his service the past year, though unable to accept in person, Bill Rex was recognized for his outstanding leadership and community service while on the Board and Judy Heath and her committee helpers Buck and Vicki Fry and Barb and Larry Shapiro whose efforts have turned this into a very enjoyable evening for everyone.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:15 P.M.

**Respectfully submitted,
Jan Michele Haynes, Acting Secretary**