

**Regular Session Board Minutes for June 6, 2023**

**STAR ISLAND CORPORATION**

**Regular Session Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**June 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. EDT via Zoom**

**Members Present**

Joni Abbadessa, Treasurer  
Kyle Belmont  
Tricia Coleman (President, ISA UU)  
Debbie Duval, President  
Elizabeth Erickson  
Lucia Green-Weiskel  
Tom Kennedy, Vice President  
Caroline Quijada  
April Rosario  
Arlyn Weeks, Clerk

**Members Absent**

Cary Cuiccio (President, SIUCC)  
Leon Dunkley  
Topher Soltys

**Other**

Sabine Michaud, Pelican Liaison  
Joe Watts, CEO

**Opening Words** were offered by Kyle Belmont.

Debbie Duval called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

**Minutes of May 2, 2023 Meeting**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board  
VOTED to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2023 Regular Session meeting of the Board.

**CEO Report**

Joe Watts amended page 2 of his written report to state 19,406 as the bed night goal for this season. The final number for 2022 was 17,047. There is still a pathway to this year's goal, although a more conservative estimate would be about 18,600. Currently, the following projections of conferences' registrations are lower than we hope: Building Bridges and Faith Development by 260, Star Gathering 1 by 100, Star Gathering 2 by 200, and LOAS 2 by 250. The Annual Fund is doing well. Figures from the spring appeal will appear in next month's report. Members should be familiar with the Donor Bill of Rights and Confidentiality Agreement that is

included in this month's packet.

A contract was signed with Luciano Excavation, the contractor for the breakwater project, last Friday. Each employee will sign a letter of understanding. There will be some income for SIC from the contract, up to \$30,000. The crane and RV s for the employees are expected to arrive on-Island on June 8. On June 9 a barge will be bringing a truck and removing debris.

### **Beloved Community Project Report**

April Rosario reported that the educational panel for Tucke Monument will be put up soon. She and Christana Wille McKnight are working on an adult workshop and youth programming for conferences. Members of the Task Force are brainstorming ideas for the direction of the Task Force for next year. Meetings will resume this fall.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Joni Abbadessa reported that revenue is ahead of budget, mostly due to Annual Fund receipts and lower personnel benefit costs. The Finance Committee has reviewed the format of our financial statements and made no large changes. David Yermack made a presentation to the Committee on the Permanent Trust. Laurie and Joe are working on ways to raise awareness of the Trust.

### **Pel Report**

Making her final report, Sabine Michaud, now a member of senior on-Island staff, noted that it has been a bumpy road for the past few weeks on the Island. There have been two medical emergencies, a broken ankle and food poisoning that originated off-Island. It is unusual to have medical evacuations during open-up. Sabine urged that Island staff receive first aid training. Joe Watts noted that there were no applicants for the Island Nurse position, but there will be two part-time First Aid Station coordinators and we will be relying on medical volunteers, as we have done in the past. In the future we will recruit medical volunteers for open-up and also make it clear that we cannot guarantee that we will have providers on-Island during off-season.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board  
VOTED to accept the foregoing reports.

### **Conflict of Interest Form Reminder**

Debbie Duval noted that four Board members still had not given her their completed conflict of interest forms and asked that they do so by the next day.

### **Board Liaisons**

An updated list was included in the meeting packet; anyone who wants a change should contact Debbie by the end of this week.

### **Committee Charge Template Approval**

Lucia Green-Weiskel noted that the template was put together by Roger Kellman and Nick Dempsey in 2019 but never approved by the Board. It presents a standard format for committee charges. The governance review will be looking at possible changes in more depth, including bringing in elements of the Beloved Community Project and the strategic plan.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board  
VOTED to approve the committee charge template.

### **Landscape Task Force Membership**

Joe Watts reminded the members that the Board approved the formation of the Task Force at its April meeting. Everyone listed on page 1 of his memo on this subject would be asked to join the Task Force, the work of which will extend beyond the work of any single existing committee.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED to direct the CEO to invite the people listed on page 1 of his memo to serve on the Task Force with discretion to invite one or more of those listed on page 2 of the memo should any of the initial group decline.

### **Council of Conferences Liaison Report**

This report was deferred due to the absence of Leon Dunkley.

### **Membership Committee Liaison Report**

Lucia Green-Weiskel reported that all of the committee's recommended new members were voted in at the Annual Meeting and that the committee's new chair is Candace Erickson.

### **Financial Grants Report**

Kyle Belmont reported that applications for financial grants have been divided into two groups: for conferences through LOAS 2 and for conferences thereafter. The deadline for application for the first group was April 15 and the deadline for the second group is July 1. Bill Knox communicates with the conferences and those who receive awards. In Group 1 there were requests for \$160,939, of which the conferences covered \$72,435. The SIC budget for the season was \$76,000. The financial grants group wants to support the bed night goal, and full support of these requests would enable that. Increased funding for financial grants is included in the projections included in the April financials. Bill has asked recipients of awards to let him know by June 7 whether they will be attending the conferences for which they applied.

### **Board Calendar**

Debbie Duval asked members to save the date of July 18 should a Board meeting be needed. There were no questions about the draft calendar that had been distributed although two members indicated that they would not be available for November 18 for Starry Night. Joe Watts will look into the possibility of moving Starry Night to November 11.

### **Summer Board Meeting & Retreat**

Joe Watts informed members that they would be taking the Lighthouse at 2:20 on Sunday August 27 and departing at 2:15 on Tuesday August 29. Topics suggested for the retreat included how staff changes have worked, strategic plan metrics, the First Aid Station staffing and training plan for 2024, effects of climate change, and financial aid. There was a request for fewer topics than in the past, to allow time for deeper conversation, and for a retreat without a Board meeting.

### **Strategic Plan Working Group Update**

Caroline Quijada reported that a lot of good feedback was obtained at the breakout session at the Annual Meeting. The working group met two weeks ago and agreed on what to address now and what to address after receiving feedback over the summer. They have tweaked the language in the draft to be more inclusive and make hospitality more explicit. The Outreach and Engagement Committee has created a survey to go out to those attending conferences this summer that will include a check on the vision statement. The working group will make final changes after the conference season and anticipates Board approval at the October meeting. The term of the plan will likely be shifted from 2023-2027 to 2024-2028.

**Governance Task Force Update**

Tom Kennedy reported that the task force will meet on July 6 and that the subgroups will have preliminary reports by November 1.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED to enter into Executive Session at 8:44 p.m. The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

All votes were unanimous.

Submitted by  
Arlyn Weeks, Clerk