



Board of Directors Meeting

Sept 18th at 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Russell, John LaCivita, Tim Self, Susie Bowie, Stacey Corley, Comm. Ron Cutsinger, Mark Gordon, Kara Morgan, Mike Quillen, and Jason Samson

STAFF PRESENT:

Erin Duggan, Andrea Hunt, Kelly Harb, Pete Harvey, Suzanne Hackman, Hunter Carpenter, Jess Bertolini, Sam Warner, and Camille Seabrook

Board Meeting called to order at 8:33 a.m. by Chair Richard Russell

Consent Agenda

RR called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mike Quillen moved to approve the motion. Wes Santos seconded the motion. All agreed; the motion passed. Erin Duggan noted to the Board Members that per the County Contract, a minimum 3day notice is required for meetings/conversations between Board Members

Financials

Director of Finance, Andrea Hunt reviewed the July 2025 financial statements. Andrea added the notes below:

- A lot going on right now, not much change
- Net income- July \$3400, YTD \$208,000
- Payroll expenses under budget (\$145k)
- 3 payrolls in Aug – big accrual at end of July
- Partner revenue is under \$22,000
- Cash flows are really good going into year end
- AR collections are current
- County Packets are being reimbursed timely
- Busy working on FY26 Contracts for County
- Audit scheduled to start November 17th
- Preparing for County deadline October 15th

RR called for a motion to approve the July 2025 Financials. Jason Samson moved to approve the motion. Mike Quillen seconded the motion. All agreed; the motion passed.

Election of FY 2026 VSC Board of Directors Officers and Board

RR called for a motion to approve the FY26 Board Officers. Ron Cutsinger moved to approve the motion. Mike Quillen seconded the motion. All agreed; the motion passed

RR called for a motion to approve the FY26 Board of Directors, including 3 new members. Tim Self moved to approve the motion. Jason Samson seconded the motion. All agreed; the motion passed

FY25 VSC Board of Directors Recognition- Outgoing Members

Nick Mavrikas, Kara Morgan, and Mark Gordon were recognized for their years of service on the VSC Board.

Sarasota County, Board of County Commissioners Update

Hon. Ron Cutsinger invited Bruce Patneade, COO of Nathan Benderson Park to present an update on the Indoor Sports Complex and Boathouse Project.

- Stacey Corley inquired about the cost breakdown. Bruce referred to slides presented.
- Tim Self asked about the tent area and will there be paved parking; Bruce noted that the tent area may be eliminated to create space for parking, some of which will be paved.
- Jason Samson inquired about the parking shifts. Bruce advised that solutions are in the works (possible use of Trams)
- John LaCivita asked what the expected SqFt for the project is. 90ksqft -100k sqft
- Susie Bowie asked if there have been any inquiries from local foundations to assist with costs.
- Jason S inquired about the impact of other events in the area. Bruce noted that the Indoor Complex will be a much smaller scale of Wide World of Sports in Orlando.
- Other notes: NBP Complex will have possibly 16 basketball courts; closest indoor facility is located in Tampa; 17th St Complex is an outdoor facility, where this will be indoors.
- Comm. Cutsinger closed by noting that the County Commissioners are taking a fiscally conservative approach to provide services to Sarasota, despite legislative efforts targeting TDT funding, economic forecasts rough year; emphasizing the need for lobbying to keep reserved high and spending low.

VSC Sales Presentation

Suzanne Hackman, Director of Sales & Industry Relations gave an update on the VSC Sales Team's recently attended conferences and trade shows. The Board was told about the positive reception of AVA and the plans to have the mobile visitor center at future engagements- if feasible. VSC Staff explained the costs of attending shows and the ROI from having a presence at said shows. The continual collaborations between VSC/EDC/Art Alliance helps build awareness of Sarasota as being a vital part of Florida's Cultural Coast.

President & CEO Report

Erin Duggan reviewed slides for the July Staff Report, Partner Dashboard, and Miles Sales Report with Board Members. She also went over the FY25 Board Survey Results and provided the Summary of Insurance for their review. It was noted during the report that there needs to be a conversation had about the conditions and hardships happening for local businesses at St Armands Circle.

Approval of New Partners

RR called for a motion to approve the August 2025 New Partners. Kara Morgan moved to approve the motion. Susie Bowie seconded the motion. All agreed; the motion passed.

President's FY2025 Evaluation

Non-Board Member attendees were asked to leave the room, so the Board could discuss the President's Evaluation.

VSC Board Meeting ended at approximately 9:45AM.