

Highlights of HOA Board Meeting – August 12, 2026

The “highlights” listed below are NOT THE OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES. Official minutes will come out in a few weeks and require a vote of approval by the Board before they are posted on the website. The HIGHLIGHTS are a quick synopsis of what took place, and they are not intended to be all-inclusive or in any way replace the official meeting minutes.

President’s Remarks: Laurie M.

1. The pool is closed until August 13 due to a chemical treatment. Do not ignore the “Pool Closed” signs and jump in.
2. The Landscape Contract RFP Task Force has met multiple times. Most recently they reviewed bids and presented their recommendations to Board members along with copies of the RFP responses. We will have a Town Hall-style meeting on August 19 at 2 pm where the Task Force will explain their selection process and present their recommendation to the community with an opportunity to ask questions. The Board is expected to then vote on how to proceed. Once a vendor is chosen, the contract must be drafted and negotiated. The proposal will be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval. The final contract will be approved at a Board meeting on August 26 or perhaps a later meeting. Meanwhile the current contract continues until the end of December 2026, so we have time.

Committee Reports

Landscape: Rosemary Hamtil reported that the grass in many communities in southwest Florida has been infected by the Sugarcane Mosaic Virus. Island Walk has not yet been infected. The virus spreads through aphids and infected material transferred through shoes or lawn equipment. Some forms of St. Augustine grass, including Island Walk’s Floratam variety, are vulnerable to the virus.

Juniper uses dedicated Island Walk equipment which reduces the risk of the virus spreading at Island Walk. However many residents use private landscapers or service providers who bring in equipment from outside. We will post a notice in the Island Walk Business Weekly to encourage owners to alert their outside service providers to this issue

and ensure they are taking adequate precautions to prevent the spread of the virus at Island Walk.

Should Island Walk become infected, the infected grass will need to be replaced. The Landscape Committee has selected St. Augustine Cobalt as a shade-tolerant, disease-resistant replacement that needs less water than Floratam, to use as a replacement as needed.

Becky LaMael reported for three committees:

Fitness Center: Frances Bussing joined the Fitness Center Committee. She is a Certified Trainer and wellness coach.

Racket Sports: There is a racket sports charity event beginning at 8:30 a.m. on September 13 at the Island Walk tennis courts to celebrate the life of Jerry “Burly” Burlingame who passed away recently. Proceeds will go to the Collier County chapter of Wounded Warriors, Warrior Homes of Collier, a favorite charity of Jerry. Cost is \$15 for lunch and tennis (or lunch alone).

Lakes: The Lake Erosion Prevention Task Force continues its work. They will present at the August 26, 2026 Board meeting on erosion issues and solutions. Erosion is a common problem this year in southwest Florida, but the Task Force is working on solutions.

Owner Comments

Scott Ventura of Zanzibar addressed concerns about youths allegedly from the neighboring Raffia Preserve community who are cutting through the east-side fence, bringing in their bikes, and using Island Walk amenities such as green spaces and lakes (for fishing). He asked them to leave but was met with profanity. He suggested next steps including posting No Trespassing signs, repairing the fences, filing a police report, and sending Raffia a written request to take steps to prevent the trespassing.

Lauri M. noted that the prior Board President, Anne Golino, sent a letter to Raffia about this issue over a year ago. Raffia asserted in response that Island Walk youths were trespassing on their property. Island Walk installed cameras to monitor the fence. It is a long fence with landscaping that blocks the view, making monitoring difficult. Lauri will check with Dion about how the video is being used. Gus S. and Jim V. suggested other solutions such as repairing fencing with equipment more resistant to trespassing, and planting thorny plants near the entry points. The issue will be reviewed.

New Business

A new Lifestyle Activities Committee Charter was presented by Louise G. Overall the Charter was fine. Some questions were raised about the process of selecting co-chairs. It was noted that there is significant variation among Island Walk committees with respect to common issues like how committee members and chairs are selected and stated insurance coverage of committee members and/or committee chairs. It was suggested that the common issues be reviewed, perhaps by committee chairs, so that treatment of common issues becomes standardized among the committees. Louise will re-present the charter at a future meeting with minor modifications.

Kirk Bonner from the Infrastructure Committee and Lake Erosion Prevention Task Force presented a recommendation that the Board approve up to \$10,000 for an engineering study on the feasibility and cost of installing water recharge wells. The purpose of recharge wells is to replace lake water used for irrigation purposes to help avoid excess drops in lake levels. Earlier this year lake levels dropped so low that the pumping equipment was nearly exposed above water, which would be a significant problem. Another potential benefit of the wells is that erosion near lakes may be significantly reduced if we can maintain irrigation of erosion-prone areas during dry season. The study would include testing a dormant existing well which taps an aquifer about 80 feet deep. Water flow and quality would be assessed. A permit from the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) would be required to build the wells. SWFWMD recharge well permits typically limit the permitted water withdrawals to the amount used for irrigation. Our current SWFWMD irrigation budget is about 292 million gallons/year. It is expected that we will need four wells. The preliminary cost estimate for digging wells and installing the necessary equipment is about \$200,000 - \$250,000.

Bill C. reported on the work of the strategic planning/five-year plan task force which he chairs. The task force has about eight members. Its goal is to present a draft plan to the board by October. The task force would present the draft plan for community feedback at a workshop or town hall meeting to as well. The ultimate goal is a final board vote by the end of the year. Once approved, the plan would be subject to updates in future years.

The Board approved orders for several irrigation wet check and other repairs, removals of dead and dying palms, installation of rocks bordering the lap pool, transplanting three powder puff trees at Town Center, phase six plant removals and replacements, and Nora Grant Ixora installations. Erosion repair on Futuna Lane was also approved.

Laurie M. reported on interim approvals of several irrigation repairs, some due to lightning strikes, sod installations from Martinique to Prescott, and Veransa sod refreshes from Drummond to Maupiti per our budgeted plan. Kirk Bonner agreed to ask Juniper to explain

why lightning continues to damage irrigation control equipment despite the installation last year of additional grounding rods meant to curb such damage.

The next special board meeting is August 19, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. regarding the landscaping RFP. The next regular meeting is August 26 at 2 p.m.

Submitted 8.13.2026

Daniel McDonald, Secretary