



# Kiwanis Florida District

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**MINUTES OF THE FINAL OFFICIAL MEETING OF THE 2021-2022 BOARD  
OF THE FLORIDA DISTRICT OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL  
NAPLES GRANDE BEACH RESORT – 475 SEAGATE DR, NAPLES FL  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2022**

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**Call to Order:**

Governor Harvey White called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**Invocation:**

Vice-Governor Prairy Riehl gave the invocation

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Governor-elect Sharon Moody led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Acknowledgement of Guests and Opening Comments:**

**Roll Call:**

Executive Director Winternheimer's roll call recorded the 2021-22 District Board Members' attendance:

**2021-22 Board Members Present:**

Governor Harvey White

Governor-Elect Sharon Moody

Vice-Governor Prairy Riehl

Immediate Past Governor Mary-Lynn Desjarlais

Executive Director Melanie Winternheimer

Division 3 Lt. Governor Sue Shoemaker

Division 8 Lt. Governor Dennis Harmon

Division 9 Lt. Governor Lucy Hage

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Division 10 Lt. Governor Samantha Sanders  
Division 11 Lt. Governor L. George Leonard  
Division 12 Lt. Governor Mark Lightsey  
Division 14 Lt. Governor Karla Nielsen  
Division 15 Lt. Governor Savannah Cerullo-Young  
Division 17 Lt. Governor Xavier Colon  
Division 18 Lt. Governor Linda Martin  
Division 19 Lt. Governor Sandy Lepley  
Division 21 Lt. Governor Tom Ramiccio  
Division 23 Lt. Governor Kerri Gordon  
Division 24 Lt. Governor Rae Levenson  
2021-22 Florida Kiwanis Foundation President Dan Borba  
2021-22 Florida Kiwanis Foundation President-Elect Tommy Mills

**Also at the Board Table:**

Florida CKI Governor Anthony Perez  
Florida Key Club Governor Gabriel Villar  
Kiwanis International Trustee & Florida Board Counselor Chuck Fletcher (KT District)  
Parliamentarian Elizabeth Wulff

**2021-22 Trustees Absent:**

Division 1 Lt. Governor Craig McDonnell  
Division 2 VACANT  
Division 4 Lt. Governor Monja Slater  
Division 5 Steve Arrington  
Division 6 Lt. Governor Jeff Ruttenber  
Division 7 Les Lohnes  
Division 13 Tom Hession  
Division 16 Al Sammartino  
Division 20 Karen Brooks  
Division 22 Bill Ricigliano  
Division 25 Kellie Gayoso

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Division 26 Erica Avila

Division 27 Tom Freiwald

**Quorum:**

Executive Director Winternheimer confirmed the presence of a quorum for the 2021-22 Kiwanis Board to conduct the business of the Florida District.

**Governor's Opening Remarks:**

Governor White opened by acknowledging the guests in the gallery.

The Florida District is currently the seventh largest district in Kiwanis International out of 62 districts. As of the last figures we are up 328 members. Plus, we have gotten 157 membership inquiries. These people are looking for Kiwanis. The top four divisions in Florida are Division 23 with 55 new members, Division 9 with 53 new members, Division 19 with 47 new members, and Division 16 with 37 new members. The top three clubs, membership-wise are Bradenton who has 167 members (12 new this year), Little Havana who has 141 members (no new members this year), and Lakeland with 136 members (28 new this year). We are doing something right! Let's not wait until October for the slashing. If clubs have lost members, delete them now so they can be replaced before September 31<sup>st</sup>. Think positive, be positive. It will take all of us.

**Consent Agenda**

The board voted by unanimous consent to approve the items included in the consent agenda without objection, as moved by Lt. Governor Sue Shoemaker and seconded by Lt. Governor Linda Martin:

- Approval of March 5, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- Ratification of October 6, 2021 and April 28, 2022 Executive Committee Minutes
- Approval of 2022-23 Kiwanis Budget as recommended by the Long-Range Finance Committee
- 2022-23 Florida Aktion Club budget
- 2022-23 Florida Circle K (CKI) budget
- 2022-23 Florida Key Club budgets
- Key Club Bylaw amendments

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**Third Quarter Financials**

Executive Director Winternheimer presented the district financials for the period ending June 30, 2022. While things may appear grim, this is based on the economy and not on our careful management of expenses. As you will hear from our investment counselor, Terry Carr, our investment accounts have already started to turn around and he expects that this will continue throughout the end of the year. She closed by reminding the board that we operate on a modified cash basis and all requests for reimbursement must be received by the close of business on September 10, 2022.

**Investment Report**

Investment Counselor Terry Carr provided a report as of June 30, 2022. Although we are in a topsy-turvy market, he feels that in the long haul the accounts are beginning to rebound and we should see evidence of this through the end of the year.

**Old Business**

There was no old business to address.

**New Business**

Past Michigan Governor Liz Wilson recently approached Governor White with plans to open a new club on the island of St. Croix in the US Virgin Islands, which does not currently have any Kiwanis clubs. In accordance with Section 202 of the Kiwanis International Bylaws, this club could be organized as a remotely attached club to the Florida District giving the St. Croix club all of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of other clubs in the Florida District. Lieutenant Governor Colon made a motion to support the opening of a new club in St. Croix and petitioning Kiwanis International for the administrative responsibilities of this new club. The motion was seconded by Lieutenant Governor Samantha Sanders and it carried with unanimous consent.

Governor White will now send a formal request to Kiwanis International to allow the Florida District to honor the commitment demonstrated by the Florida District Board and officially recognize the attachment of this club to the Florida District.

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**Membership Update:**

Membership Coordinator Tommy Mills provided an update on the membership efforts of the Florida District. He asked everyone to give themselves a hand for the job they have done, with the understanding that their job isn't done yet. We still have work to do and this work doesn't stop on September 30<sup>th</sup>. We need to continue to set lofty goals because if you don't have a goal, you'll never reach them. Mills closed by saying we have 58 days. Let's make those 58 days count. We can have a positive number because we are positive people. But we have to work together because it takes teamwork to make the dream work.

**Past Lieutenant Governors Association (PLGA):**

PLGA incoming president Caroll Neita spoke to the group to encourage them to join the Florida District's largest mentoring and support group, the Past Lieutenant Governors Association. This organization can be contacted to get the past lieutenant governors in your division, and other divisions, to come to your division council meetings or speak at your club meetings. If you don't have an active association in your division they can help you get started. Their experience is very valuable and they are willing to share it to help divisions be stronger and more productive.

**Remarks by the 2022-23 Florida Circle K Governor:**

Circle K Governor Anthony Perez introduced himself and thanked the board for their unwavering support of all of the Service Leadership Programs, but especially CKI. While his term is already a third of the way through, there is still plenty of time to get things done. One of the things that he has been doing so far is an archive project. Once in place, CKI's history will be available to all, including pictures, schedules, archived issues of the magazine and newsletters, etc. His Governor's Project "Connecting All Through Service" (CATS) is comprised of three parts 1) doing service with other organizations on campus, 2) doing service with other CKI organizations, and 3) Kiwanis family service projects and events. Governor Perez closed by saying that CKI clubs should be reaching out to multiple Kiwanis clubs to be a part of as many projects as possible.

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**Remarks by the 2022-23 Florida Key Club Governor:**

Key Club Governor Gabriel Villar opened by thanking the board for inviting him to be a part of the convention. Key Club recently approved their 2022-23 goals which include increasing membership within the district and chartering eight new Key Clubs before their DCON in 2023. Each year the governor decides on a Governor's Project which is a specific service goal that the district focuses on. Governor Villar's project will focus on the environment, mental health and relationships. He closed by thanking the Kiwanis board, and all Kiwanians, for everything that they do. Knowing that the Kiwanis family is always there to support Key Club is truly inspirational. Key Club appreciates nothing more, not only as Key Clubbers but as young adults, the genuine and unwavering support. When Kiwanians attend their various Key Club endeavors, whether virtual or in person, they know they always have someone to rely on and they are glad it is Kiwanis.

**Remarks by Florida Kiwanis Foundation President**

Foundation President Dan Borba started by saying that in his early days of Kiwanis, back in the 1970's, he had the opportunity to work with a group of dynamic young people that are even more dynamic today, and that is Key Club and Circle K. Hats off to them for making this a better world. Someday he expects to see up on the stage is Oslo, Norway a former Key Clubber, a CKler, or Builders Club member receiving the Nobel Peace Prize because of the work they have done through the Service Leadership Program. He brought greetings from the Florida Kiwanis Foundation board and thanked the Florida Kiwanis board for volunteering because if you don't volunteer, nothing is going to happen. It's because of their efforts of saying "yes, I volunteer" that the divisions and the district are stronger. To date they have awarded over \$50,000 to the Service Leadership Programs, and that is not including the funds that are available through the Dave and Donna Batelaan Fund which, as of this moment, is over \$12,000. Additionally, with the support of many generous donations they have awarded over \$152,000 in grants to 42 clubs. Mini-grants of \$31,500 have also been awarded to clubs in the district. He thanked donors; past, present, and future stating that without those donors, these great things could not happen. He closed by saying to remember their year of service and leadership by bringing along those who follow. If you bring your successor along with you it will be much easier to pass the baton come midnight on September 30<sup>th</sup> because a child in

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need doesn't know the difference between September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>. Our work never ends.

**Remarks by Kiwanis Children's Fund District Chair**

Kiwanis Children's Fund District Chair Allen Yergovich reminded the group that the Florida Kiwanis Foundation should always be at the forefront of our minds but that doesn't mean we can forget about the Kiwanis Children's Fund. He advised the board that there was a resource table in the exhibit area with a wealth of information and that Pam Norman, Chief Philanthropic Officer of the Children's Fund would be onsite and willing to answer any questions, for the remainder of the weekend. He asked the officers to thank their clubs for their generous donations to the Children's Fund throughout the year and reminded them that, if they have not donated yet, it is not too late. On behalf of the Florida District, he gave thanks to the Children's Fund for the grant that they provided which will enable us to pack 70,000+ meals on Sunday at our Large-Scale Service Project.

**Remarks from Kiwanis International Trustee/Florida Board Counselor:**

The Kiwanis International Board was represented by the Board Counselor assigned to the Florida District, Chuck Fletcher from the Kentucky-Tennessee District. Fletcher began his remarks by thanking the Florida District for their hospitality and acknowledged that Florida does a great job with their convention. He continued by saying that we need to pay close attention to the fact that when the district officers leave their positions this year, it is not time to give up because Kiwanis needs you! As Kiwanians we seem to have forgotten what the future is all about. When he worked with Key Club last year as their counselor, they completed all of their goals. We complain about the pandemic but now it's time to move on. It didn't stop Key Club from meeting their goals. They did it without complaint in spite of the pandemic. They also thought about their friends that might not be able to join them at any future events. They wanted to be able to have money to include their friends who might not otherwise be able to afford it. We need that mindset. We have to look at how we can be better mentors and to become invested in the next generation. The world is in this place right now because we are not the people who will stand up and be a family together, walk together, and say we are going to make a difference in the world. We talk about it in a room but we need to start doing it outside of four walls. We need to tell the world that we are here to make a difference and that

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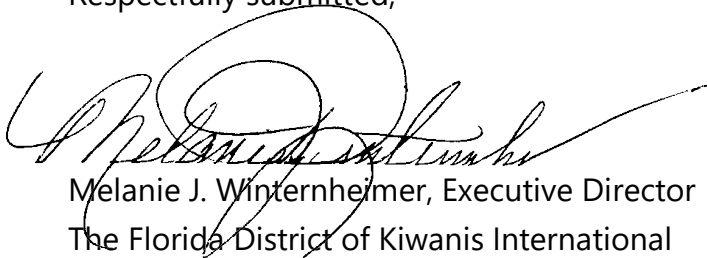
we are here to love each other. That's what we are all about as Kiwanians. That's what he wants to see in this district. Fletcher closed by saying that he believes with all his heart that we can make a difference in the time remaining in the year but we can't keep the story in this room. We need to share it with others. We need to tell the story. And we need to be accountable. He then challenged us to make a difference and be willing to sacrifice to see our young people become leaders and serving in the world that we live in.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Governor White adjourned the meeting at 2:32 pm.

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Respectfully submitted,



Melanie J. Winternheimer, Executive Director  
The Florida District of Kiwanis International

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**Certification:**

A copy of these Minutes will be provided to the Florida Kiwanis District Board of Trustees at their next official meeting for approval. Once approved, copies of these Minutes will be forwarded to Kiwanis International Executive Director Stan Soderstrom; Kiwanis International Governance Specialist, Diana Rader O'Brien; Thomas Tschopp, Schafer, Tschopp, Whitcomb, Mitchell & Sheridan, LLP., Kiwanis' officially designated Auditor; and permanently filed in the Official Records of the Florida District of Kiwanis International, Inc., at its headquarters at 1205 W. Airport, Sanford, FL 32773.