



**Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations  
Zoom General Meeting MINUTES – COVID-19  
May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Please log on early at: 6:15 pm, Meeting Start: 6:30 pm**

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER @ 630** (Colleen Lockwood and CFLCA Board and co-host Keith Farrell, Neighbor Support, City of Fort Lauderdale) instructions on q's via chat or email to Mary Peloquin. 33 participants

- **BOARD ATTENDANCE:** Colleen Lockwood, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Vacant, Luis Castillo, Christina Currie, Mary Peloquin, Melinda Bowker, Marilyn Mammano, Dennis Ulmer, Jim Concannon, Michael Albetta, Cathy Stubbs, Kelly Manning
- **818 CONFIRM QUORUM**

**ROLL CALL** via Zoom Chat (22 associations in full compliance w/ bylaw quorum will be 5)

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS TO DISCUSS RE-OPEN PLANS:** county general vote 5/18/20 Monday is okay open date working on 25% vs 50% restaurants, no bars, no beaches, pending Desantis approval

- **State Representative Chip LaMarca** – Statewide perspective on our economy, re-open plans and unemployment.
  - Background non COVID-19- 2019 a key focus was telemedicine learning now this was key. 2020 legislation expansion of scope for RNs passed was really for areas with limited Dr availability. 2020 \$370 million funding of affordable housing. Gov. hasn't signed budget yet but seeming like will stay as is (unless line item). Alyssa's Law panic alarms @ k-12 schools. Shark finning ban passed.
  - COVID-19- Since 3/19/20 \$53.5 general fund budget set aside for COVID-19 AND then \$300 million & \$4billion in reserves (got \$4.3billion) Estimate by end of year @ \$8.1 billion impact to budget which would have if goes through June next year will need to make cuts to cover. Numerous taxes/filings/etc have been extended to aid Floridians. Broward & Miami-Dade aiming to coordinate. 50% is what Broward is talking about on restaurants. Coastal cities 5-6 seem to be moving to open beaches. Expressing frustration w/ the unemployment system which will be reconstructed post COVID. Under new leadership in last 2 weeks: \$4.5billion and 650,000-750,000 Floridians getting payment modified to retroactive to 3/9 or when separated from employment. Glassman thanks LaMarca for his work/accessibility. No q's from participants.
- **JJ Rajter, MD** – Healthcare perspective on our health systems capacity, testing, treatment and potential vaccines.
  - Abundance of beds, city/county shutdown helped prevent getting to disaster could have been, HIS BIG CONCERN TODAY: problem nursing homes 3-4 weeks w/ Sorensen & increasing concerns. Not getting handle on this will rapidly overwhelm healthcare system.
  - Testing & antibody- multiple on market not all are equal & some have 20% false negative rate. Now working through what are best. Multiple issues w/ the antibody test CDC as of 5/11/20 doesn't recommend as diagnostic tool ex: Other types of coronavirus show up, don't know about reactivation/reinfection.
  - **Pursuit of treatment/vaccines-** Ivermectin worldwide data positive/effective but red tape w/ IRB on releasing data so it can be published. Current over 200 teams working on worldwide reservations on them due to mutations don't believe available b4 2<sup>nd</sup> flare up.
  - Contact tracing- works best when few cases health dept. can have adequate resources to track contacts. Nearly impossible here.
  - Swindell- barrier reduction & offer to aid



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- Advice: good health, social distance, okay w/ beach/parks reopening now but understand as exercise not group leisure, masks, mental health.
- Messages: can't have phobia of going to hospital, wear mask to cover nose/mouth properly don't touch front & inside, suggestion for government message on this.
- Q- estimate on 2<sup>nd</sup> wave- this doesn't behave like seasonal flu so as reopening roles out and comfort level raises 3-4 week will see it (reminder of 5-12 day delay of contract & see symptoms)
- **Tim Petrillo, Co-Founder/CEO, The Restaurant People and Michael Weymouth, President, The Las Olas Company** – Preparations underway for re-opening within the local business community
  - PETRILLO: Mask/gloves nightly sanitization, single use menus, sanitizer stations, employee temps & health logs 2x daily, if employee has symptom home and then testing, anticipate 4 days after allowed to open they will do so b/c will train all employees on this & new service methods. Concern is guests acting responsibly went to Atlantic last night & few had masks AND alcohol. extra staffing @ “pinch points” pull tables to eliminate confusion on seating. Impact- employ 700 and furlough approx. 600. \$9million in sales tax in FTL stores only. Concern of restarting after shutdown so key to open cautiously/effectively. They have larger patios & hope sidewalks/parking for others.
  - Weymouth on Las Olas- embrace Petrillo adding clear shields, disposable menus, temps @ entrance, no contact service option, lanes for seating to maximize access/distancing. Hotels only for essential and then when can re-open will depend on locals to sustain. Testing all hotel/restaurant employees. Sanitizing (electrostatic sterilization) 70% lay off in 1 day. Conversion of parking during phase 1 & 2 to allow for expanded access/seating area in off peak.
    - Q- very long time to recover clarification- closed @ peak time, group business impact, projecting balance of 2020 50-60% occupancy @ his locations. Hope to see 12 month rebound.
  - Q- expansion of temp. open streets @ other locations possible, social distancing @ Boat Yard 340 seats from when was Bimini so see no issue distancing here problem will be success if @ 25%, TRB rear space reorg. To social distance. Petrillo- take out is a money loser but willing to do it to give folks jobs. Hotel- kept all management and they are in other positions so they can stay employed and have served essential workers since closing. Partnering w/ bigger businesses to share w/ smaller businesses on Las Olas.
- **Chris Lagerbloom, City Manager** – Updates of the City Re-Open Plans
  - Colleen: see resource list and support to resource drives and aiding homeless.
  - Enforcement plan? Balance & maintaining education campaign was deliberate choice. In effective citations b/c court system is closed. Concern of issues arising if have some days open/closed.
  - Regional consistency? Striving to be in concert w/ Dade county but being mindful that needs/environment are not same. 28/31 Broward mayors on call yesterday and FTL & Sunrise were selected to review the executive order/provide feedback. Thinks important to be on same page w/ beaches to make sure issues are not passed from 1 city to another. Memorial Day key to be all on same page b/c of crowds that will result.
  - Open street locations @ places other than Las Olas- Glassman suggested trying at beach and it's worked. Parttime b/c that made for less blockades required between cars/sidewalk. MOT plans have been designed for different areas but then will be commission policy decision on what happens w/ reopening & distancing. Yes, other places can benefit around the City not just Las Olas.
  - Internet access “COW”- think they found something better & can put industry back to work. “Kajeet” normally wifi on school buses so working with them to put wifi into community. Days away from the agreement.
  - Homeless- 2,500 point in time count in Broward. Funding has been made available and city will seek to be reimbursed for \$ spent. Have not used general funds. Distributed vouchers to in need and clear out



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encampments b/c hard to move once set up. 109 provided shelter to b/c some families & more coming.  
Work on re-entry to help when this ends.

- Police bond- moving forward contract for architect moving forward and looking for construction manager which in about 2 days will go live. AECOM hired to manage bond
- How are city finances and can we survive this? in sound place compared to many and managing conservatively on behalf of residents.
- Educational campaigns- masks/distancing PSA's this needs to start tomorrow as communication.
- Help on spreading word on Census response. Asking neighborhoods to share this
- Bob Swindell- [www.ilovelocal2020.com](http://www.ilovelocal2020.com) encouraging responsible responses, education, enforcement will be hard.
- POLL- taken overview of poll but not all taken at that time so not noting responses here. Keith has in file.

**TREASURER'S REPORT- ATTACHED**

- Q reminder to membership renewals needed will cover at BOD and yes needs to be done.

**ELECTION 1<sup>ST</sup> VP-** Mary Peloquin nominated and voted in with no opposition. Web site is updated.

**REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** – April 2020 General Meeting \* (if quorum requirement are met) approved w/ no opposition

Q FROM FLOOR: can we explore free parking city wide? CL will followup Q on guidance on screening employees/patrons & enforcement there (remarks on when people say it is something else) use best judgment.

CENSUS materials from past speaker are on website for sharing.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Next Board Meeting is 5/26
- Next General Meeting is 6/9; as we are entering hurricane season we are honored to be hosting Fort Lauderdale Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr

ADJOURN 827 SUBMITTED BY CHRISTINA CURRIE