



*Englewood Chamber Mission Statement:*

***“Dedicated to Leading Economic Growth with a Balanced Voice between Local Businesses, Residents and Tourism that Creates Opportunities for our Community.”***

Board Meeting ... Wednesday ... February 12, 2025

## **Minutes**

Attending: Jessica Souza, Erin Halstead, Kris Hartley, Peter Jennings, Joe Cataldo, Julie Beatty, Kathleen Callahan, Shane Whitmore, Janae Boyer, Francine Finucan, Lori Wellbaum,

Staff: Doug Izzo - Executive Director

Absent: Chris Anders, Chris Porter

1. **Call To Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:02 am. President Souza welcomed everyone. A quorum was present. A few moments were taken to introduce one another as we had a few new Board members at their first BOD meeting.
2. **Approval of the January minutes: Motion:** by Halstead, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beatty, **Motion Carried.**
  - a. **President’s Report:** Souza reviewed prior issues/items discussed; bringing new Board Members up to speed. These included increasing brand awareness; Chamber Kiosk at Wellen Park; increase retention of current members; a “drop & go” station at the Chamber for those members that do not have a physical location; Fun After 5 Co-Sponsors; Chamber Flag design competition, New Member Welcome Kits, and a Leadership Alumni Prom: Just to name a few.

### **Committee Reports:**

- i. **Leadership:** Jennings reported that Healthcare Day was a great success. Julie Beatty did a wonderful job organizing a fantastic tour and hands on experience at HCA Englewood.
- ii. **Ambassador Program:** Izzo reiterated the Ambassador meetings start back up this month. Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at 10am. 2/14/25. FAM tours will start back in March.
- iii. **Government:** Izzo updated the Board of his trip to the State Capitol meeting with legislators, department heads and Florida Cabinet members advocating on behalf of the Englewood Community.
- iv. **Fundraising/Events:** No report; more to come in March
- v. **Leads Group:** Cataldo reported over 20+ referrals YTD, with 6 closings totaling over \$8,500 in business. Proving to be a success.

3. **Financial Update:** Cataldo reviewed the financials with Izzo and is now Treasurer\* His update was we are financially fit, and he looks forward to fulfilling his new role.
4. **Executive Director's Report, Doug Izzo:**
  - a. **Facebook Post:** Izzo reminded everyone to share Chamber posts on Facebook.
  - b. **Members:** 10 New members in January, 17 drops, total membership 825
  - c. **New Member Cards** Signed by BOD attendees
  - d. **Upcoming Events**
5. **Old Business:** None
6. **New Business:**
  - a. **Bank Signers**  
**Discussion:** To change signers on bank accounts (**TABLED**) \* Waiting for specific verbiage to vote on a motion, as one is a BOD member, and an employee of the bank.
  - b. **Motion:** by Whitmore (2<sup>nd</sup> by Wellbaum) to rollover the current Crews Bank CD for another 1yr term (Cataldo to return us a rate on the % yield) **Motion Carried**
  - c. **Motion:** by Callahan (2<sup>nd</sup> by Hartley) To send a Letter of Interest to the CRA. **Motion Carried**
  - d. **Leadership 2025 Legacy Presentation** (by Dickie Jean, VP & Kalehli Hesse, Secretary) They presented their class proposal, which is to help bring awareness to the community the needs and benefits of all the non-profits we have in the region. Part of their proposal is to host an event on Dearborn Street: " Wine Walk For Awareness" April 26<sup>th</sup> 2025 in the late afternoon/early evening. More details to follow, but the Board gave them kudos, and blessing, to announce their plan at Fun After 5 at Xpertech 2/12/25

**Meeting adjourned at 9:12 am. (Motion: by Whitmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Callahan) Motion Carried**