



*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 ... November 12, 2025

## **Minutes**

Attending: Jessica Souza, Kris Hartley, Peter Jennings, Julie Beatty, Shane Whitmore, Janae Boyer, Chris Porter, Joe Cataldo, Erin Halstead, Lori Wellbaum, Francine Finucan (via Zoom) and Kathleen Callahan.

Staff: Doug Izzo - Executive Director

Absent: Chris Anders.

1. **Call To Order:** 8:02 am

President’s Report: Update from Attorney Christine Sensenig. Chamber member Keith Farlow scheduled for a hearing today at 8:45 am, is still planning to activate a vote from the Board to terminate the Executive Director of the Chamber. It was noted that a non-Board member may not bring a motion to the floor.

Attorney Sensenig advised the Board, based on conversations with Member’s counsel, to “strip down” the October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes to include only motions: No discussions, No Notes. Also attach to the minutes the notice rescinding the members’ suspension, and the letter of apology sent out to the entire membership.

**MOTION:** Callahan. 2<sup>nd</sup> Halstead. To accept the minutes as a stripped-down version to include only motions, no notes, and no discussions, as well as attach the Notice rescinding the suspension, and letter of apology sent to the membership. **MOTION:** TABLED until the regularly scheduled December Board meeting.

1. **Committee Reports:**

**Leadership:** The Leadership Class of 2026 completed their Non-Profit Day with some new twists on the schedule as well as new destinations. A great day was had by all. They're asking members to bring non-perishable items for donations to St David's Jubilee to Fun After 5 tonight at WENG Talk Radio.

**Junior Leadership:** Junior Leadership had their Government & Justice Day on Monday October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber. Many local speakers came to chat with the students. Most seemed to enjoy learning about their local governments.

2. **Ambassador Program:** the Ambassadors enjoyed another FAM Day last Friday November 7<sup>th</sup> starting at the BIPS Lighthouse Museum for a short presentation. They visited many local Chamber members on the island, had lunch at Smokin' Jerry's, and finished with a tour of the renovated Lemon Bay Golf Club. Our island members greatly appreciated our interest in their businesses.
3. **Government/Advocacy:** Izzo stated there were no new Advocacy items to report.
4. **Fundraising/Events:** Upcoming events include the Christmas Tree Lighting at the Chamber building on December 4<sup>th</sup> 5-7 pm., and the Booze Wagon raffle will be offered again. Stay tuned for news on that.
5. **Leads Group:** Cataldo updated the Board that the Power Partners Group will have new leadership as James Jerome & Kati Hays are stepping back from their roles. Krista Jennings and Nicole Killian will be taking their places. Cataldo didn't have an exact number, but referral activity continues and is in the mid \$800k range YTD. They meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month.
6. **Financial Updates.** Cataldo gave his financial report. Although income is down YTD it was noted that both the 2024 & 2025 Manasota Mystique venue costs were both accounted for during this year.
7. **Executive Director's Report, Doug Izzo:**
  - a. **Facebook Post:** Izzo reminded everyone to share Chamber posts on Facebook.
  - b. **Member Dashboard:** October saw a slight spike in dropped members and a few new ones added; 6 added, and 22 dropped. Total active members 836, down from 852.
  - c. **New Member Cards:** Signed by BOD attendees
  - d. **Upcoming Events:** Fun After 5 tonight happening at WENG Talk Radio. Biz@Noon Wednesday 11/19 at Paraiso Mexican Grill. Still a couple openings

left. **Ribbon Cutting** 11/18 at Sierra's Integrative Bodyworx 4-6pm 3217 S Access Rd. 11/25 A Tri-Chamber 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ribbon Cutting with Charlotte Players located at 1182 Market Circle Port Charlotte 4-6 pm

8. **Old Business:** BOD nominations due on November 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be two open board seats. So far two have been nominated. Possibly more to come.  
**MOTION:** Jennings. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hartley. For Izzo to gather quote(s) to make the Men's Room urinal a water flush system as opposed to the current waterless system. MOTION PASSED.

9. **New Business:** No owners from Farlow's On The Water appeared at the scheduled hearing set for 8:45 am.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:02 am.** Motion to Adjourn: Whitmore. 2<sup>nd</sup> Porter