

**Committee of the Islands
Minutes of the Annual Meeting
March 30, 2016 - Sanibel Community House**

President David Bath opened the meeting at 9:30 AM. He welcomed members and guests with an overview of COTI's activities and accomplishments during the past year. David recognized members of the Board of Directors.

Joe Salatino announced Linda and Tom Uhler as COTI's Citizens of the Year; David presented Linda and Tom with a vase commemorating the award.

Stu Langton introduced the keynote speaker, John Cassani of Caloosahatchee Riverwatch. Mr. Cassani spoke about the water quality issues associated with the Caloosahatchee River estuary including the adverse effects on the estuary of nutrients, suspended solids and tannins in the water being discharged from Lake Okeechobee. He talked about some water-related projects under construction including the C-43 Reservoir.

Mr. Cassani summarized this year's water-related Florida legislation commenting that certain provisions will make regulatory oversight of bad water practices more difficult.

Mr. Cassani concluded by talking about the importance of civic involvement. He then answered questions from members.

Following the keynote speech, vice president Mike Gillespie thanked retiring president David Bath for his years of service to COTI and presented him with a vase to commemorate the event.

President David Bath recessed the meeting at 10:40 AM.

President David Bath reconvened the meeting at 10:55 AM.

Secretary Mike Miller reported that 76 proxies had been received and that a quorum was present.

The minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting were approved.

Treasurer Carolyn Swiney reported that the organization's revenue was \$21,253; expenses were \$23,203 and the cash balance at December 31, 2015 was \$12,858. The accounts had been audited and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Mike Gillespie, chair of the Community Outreach Committee, reported that since the program began six years ago, COTI has been covered in 135 local media articles representing 175 pages of coverage.

David read a report from Jim Beauchamp of the Digital Outreach Committee indicating that 23 news messages had been sent in the past year and the organization's email list had grown by 25 percent to over 1200 Sanibel households.

David, in his capacity as chair of the Membership Committee, reported that membership for the 2015-2016 year was currently at an all time high of 696 members and growing.

Mike Miller, chair of the Traffic Committee, reported on various Committee initiatives including its participation in the Mayor's working group on traffic congestion.

Mike Gillespie, chair of the Nominating Committee announced the nominees for election to the Board of Directors. Upon motion and duly seconded, Linda Robison, Susan Tucker, Bob Holder and Martin Packard were elected to first terms; Stuart Langton and Peter Pappas were elected to second terms; David Bath was elected to a one-year term as past president.

Following an opportunity for member comments, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Mike Miller, Secretary