BOARD MEETING MINUTES 9-15-2026

A FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT 501(c)4 CORPORATION

1. Introductions and Attendance: Elaine Miller, Leslie Brown, J.P. Eason, Allan Nobles and Taylor Meals. Jim Schepers attended by phone. Also in attendance were Kelly and Brian Pardee, Keith Rowley, and Michael Looney new candidates for the Board, who were approved. Each candidate gave a brief recap of their experience and a common desire for aa successful Dearborn Street. Seat and term assignment to be determined by the President. Regina Kowalski, Debbie Marks and Eric Wickson were excused.
2. Call to Order: President Miller called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.
3. Approval of the August Board Meeting minutes (8-18-2026). The minutes were sent previously by email. Allan Nobles made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Leslie Brown. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Officer Reports:

   Vice President Report: J.P. Eason was elected to the position last month. He will provide update next month.
   Treasurer Report: Secretary Schepers had previously emailed the report for the month of September. There was some brief discussion about the completion of the report and the various accounts involved, including the effort by J.P. Eason on an institution with more local emphasis. Keith Rowley made a motion to accept, and it was seconded by Brian Pardee. Passed unanimously.
   Secretary Report: Secretary Schepers indicated his past concern on filling board positions had been satisfied. He offered no further report.
   President Report: President Miller said she wanted to turn everyone's attention to the upcoming Halloween Safe Walk. She started by focusing on our co-sponsor and partner, the Sunset Rotary Club. The association with the Rotary will be a great boost to this event. They bring multiple resources that OEVA needed. This will be a great partnership and will have a huge impact on the event now and in the future.
   Allan Nobles reported that he had made progress on the Temporary Use Permit (TUP) but was lacking the final details on insurance. There was brief discussion about some participants and their location. Allan volunteered to reach out to one business to see if we might arrange a mutual benefit for both parties.

The President then turned her attention to the overall theme of being the 31st year of the event on the 31st of October. She provided several examples of how we could capitalize on the theme, both though donations of $31for money, candy, or both. The Corner Market will be one location for the collection of both.

The subject of volunteers came up and there was brief discussion as to how many would be needed for the event to ensure we had adequate coverage at every intersection of Dearborn Street. Leslie Brown said she could begin focusing on the volunteer needs for the event.

The President then went though the checklist that was provided by Director Kowalski prior to the meeting. Elaine will contact the sheriff's office for security. Regina will work with our marketing representative for Facebook, our website, and other media. Regina will also handle applications for participants from last year. Elaine will reach out to the DJ from last year. The Flamingo ladies will participate this year, and Allan said he would reach out to them.

There was brief discussion about a costume contest. The Secretary reported that this was a requirement for insurance last year but may not be necessary with the Rotary involvement. Some felt the costume contest was a good event regardless and we should probably keep it.

Garbage bags, boxes and receptacles were next subject. Allan thought he could work with Eric Wickson on these. Allan will also reach out to Englewood Fence for the street fences.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

   A. Holiday Decoration Contest. Board member Leslie Brown elaborated on the proposed contest. There would be a Holiday Passport that will highlight participating businesses on Dearborn and surrounding streets. Public participants would visit the business participants and receive an acknowledgement from them. There would be an overall award for the public participant and one for the business participant.

   This led to a brief discussion about CRA Storefront Improvement funds and whether this might be a source of funding for participating businesses. This would need clarification from the Englewood CRA representatives.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The President polled individual board members for announcements.

J.P. Eason invited everyone to his Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting from 4 to 6 p.m., on Thursday 9/17/2026 at Bayside Builders on McCall.

Both Leslie and Allan thanked the new board members for their service to the Board.

Keith Rowley volunteered to review the organization's insurance policies.

Elaine thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting.

7. **ADJOURN:** Keith Rowley _____

   Seconded by: _Taylor Meals_____

   Time of Adjournment: 5:11 EDT__