



January 2021

REPORT

The Village of Islamorada presently shows they have the following “standing committees” on the Village website, with appointees coming from each Council Member, and a Village Staff liaison assigned to each Committee responsible for Agendas, Minutes, Calendaring, etc.

Local Planning Agency/as of 2003/7 members/meets monthly at 5:30 p.m./Liaison Anita Muxo

Historic Preservation/as of 2002/5 members/meets qtrly 2 pm/Liaison Hank Flores

Achievable Housing/as of 2004/10 members/meets qtrly 5 pm/Liaison Craig Southern

Landscaping/as of 2003/10 members/meets qtrly 2 pm/Liaison Darrel Parabok

Near Shore Waters/as of 2001/10 members/meets qtrly 5:15 p.m./Liaison Mark Thomasson

Parks and Recs/as of 2000/10 members/meets qtrly 4 pm/Liaison Maria Bagiotti

Water Quality/as of 2000/10 members/meets qtrly 5:30 pm/Liaison Peter Frezza

Youth/8 members/meets qtrly 4 pm 4th Tuesday/Liaison Ann Anagard

CONCERNS

- Please note that this information listed above cannot be “seen” until after clicking on the name of each individual committee one at a time, and cannot be viewed in it’s entirety as to the agenda, minutes, and calendar meetings booked of all the committees readily accessible in one place for the public.
- Also note that when a citizen goes to the Village website to learn about past, present, and future agendas, minutes, and calendaring of meetings, this information is not archived in a readily accessible format. Citizens are given information as to another step that needs to be taken in the form of a phone call or e mail to Village Staff to request items one by one. Agendas, and minutes are not available when clicking on “further information” about the work of the Committee. Only the names of the committees appear and a brief history about the committee’s initiation.
- There are no archived agendas, minutes and calendars available readily to the public to peruse, with the exception of the LPA, which posts the next agenda. The latest agenda posted as of 20 Dec. 2020 for the LPA is Aug. 2020.
- It does not state where the committees meet, but should, and agendas are only available 1-3 days prior to a meeting.
- There is no information as to which Council person appointed each individual, the date of their initial appointment, or how many times they have been “renewed” to continue to serve under the next Councilor.
- Minutes are only available a few days before the next meeting, which means waiting months for draft Minutes.

These concerns are illustrated on the Village website at

https://www.islamorada.fl.us/village_council/boards_and_committees/historic_preservation_commission.php

SOLUTIONS

- 1) The Village website should show agendas, minutes, and calendaring of ALL standing committees “for the year” on the Village Council Calendar so citizens who wish to participate in any of the meetings can plan ahead, and reference previous agendas and minutes. The website should archive these items so they are “one click away” for each citizen seeking information about the Council work or any committee work without having to call or e mail a staff member as a liaison to provide it.

- 2) For each committee appointee, next to their name should be the name of the Council person who appointed them, when their initial term started, and dates of renewal. There should also be term limits considered connected to, and in sync to the staggered terms of the incoming and out-going elected Councilpersons.
- 3) Draft Minutes should be available online and easily "click-able" within 2-3 days after all committee meetings for the public to peruse.
- 4) Where the meeting will take place should be available at least 5-7 working days prior to the meeting, along with how a citizen can participate published proactively like the Village Council agenda and minutes.
- 5) Parks and Recs should be shown live on tv/computer since they are dealing with so many large scale issues for the multiple parks now in the Village accessible to the public.