

# City of Marco Island Florida

*51 Bald Eagle Drive  
Marco Island, Florida  
cityofmarcoisland.com*



## Meeting Minutes - Final

**Monday, April 8, 2024**

**4:00 PM**

**WORKSHOP - Marco Island Model Yacht Club / Parking**

**Community Meeting Room**

### **City Council**

*Chair: Jared Grifoni  
Vice-Chair: Erik Brechnitz*

*City Council: Rich Blonna,  
Greg Folley, Becky Irwin,  
Darrin Palumbo, Joe Rola*

*City Manager: Mike McNees  
Assistant City Manager: Casey Lucius  
City Attorney: Alan L. Gabriel  
City Clerk: Joan Taylor*

## 1. Call to Order

*Chair Grifoni called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.*

## 2. Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Councilor Blonna, Vice-Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Folley, Councilor Irwin, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Rola and Chair Grifoni

### Also Present

*Michael McNees, City Manager  
Casey Lucius, Assistant City Manager  
Joan Taylor, City Clerk  
Alan L. Gabriel, City Attorney  
Tracy Frazzano, Police Chief  
Chris Byrne, Fire Chief  
Daniel J. Smith, Community Affairs Director  
Justin Martin, Public Works Director  
Samantha Malloy, Parks, Culture & Recreation Manager  
Martin Luna, Video/Broadcast Technician  
Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist  
Citizens and Visitors*

## 3. Business

[ID 24-3522](#) Workshop - Marco Island Model Yacht Club Parking - Daniel J. Smith, AICP, Director - Community Affairs

*Chair Jared Grifoni briefly introduced the purpose of the Workshop, and he invited City Community Affairs Director Daniel Smith to review the City's existing ordinances regarding parking, and the rules and regulations for the public's use of City parks. Mr. Smith also shared photographs and aerial views of the area in question at Mackle Park, as well as a letter from the owner of the adjacent vacant residential property bordering that area, and the most recent 18 months of police report data regarding single-vehicle accidents in parking lots/areas on the Island. Mr. Smith addressed a number of questions from members of the Council.*

## 4. Public Comment

*Ms. Carla Masse (S. Heathwood Ave.), the owner of the adjacent vacant residential property, indicated her intention to begin obtaining permits to build a home on the property, and she requested that the Council pursue alternatives to the current non-compliant parking solution.*

*Ms. Suzanne LeVan (Peacock Lane, Naples) noted the need for remote-controlled model yacht owners to transport a great deal of gear, and she asked the Council to consider the ability and convenience of Club's elderly owners to successfully traverse the distance from their cars to the water.*

*Mr. Don Armstrong (Beach Resort Dr., Naples), Commodore of the Marco Island Model Yacht Club, presented a number of reasons why the current parking situation is the best solution for the Model Yacht Club members.*

*Mr. Rocky Cale (Beachcomber St.) pointed to the advanced age of many of the Club's members, and he indicated that the needs of the members could be accommodated with as few as eight parking spots in the existing location.*

*Mr. Antonio Waring (S. Collier Blvd.) spoke of the best intentions, respectfulness, and integrity of the Club's members.*

*Mr. Paul Zeller (Yellowbird St.) thanked the Council for conducting a Workshop on this issue, and he encouraged the Council to consider the mobility limitations of some of the Club's members.*

*Ms. Valerie DeMartino (S. Heathwood Ave.) shared her enjoyment of watching the Club's activities, but, as a property owner adjacent to the currently-vacant residential lot, she would like to see a solution that does not require the establishment of a designated parking lot next to her residential property.*

*Following considerable Council discussion, Chair Grifoni solicited and obtained Council consensus instructing the City to: 1) continue to proceed with the current Special Event temporary parking provision at Mackle Park for the Marco Island Model Yacht Club until approved residential building permits have been issued to the property owner at 351 S. Heathwood Ave., and; 2) once the building permits for 351 S. Heathwood Ave. have been issued, evaluate alternative parking/transportation arrangements for the Marco Island Model Yacht Club events.*

## **5. Adjournment**

*There being no further business before the Council, Chair Grifoni adjourned the Workshop at 5:11 P.M.*

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*Jared Grifoni, Council Chair*

ATTEST:

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*Joan Taylor, City Clerk*

PREPARED BY:

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*Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist*