

Next Meeting: **LOCATION:** Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room **TIME:** 7:00 p.m. **DATE:** Monday, **January 9, 2017** **PARKING:** Please park behind the Fire Station next to the water tank

### IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- ◆ Message from the President – **David Hancock**
- ◆ Fire Department Report for Nov 2016
- ◆ Street Light Out? – Who to Call!
- ◆ Draft Minutes- Dec 12, 2016 Meeting
- ◆ Christmas Caroling Photos
- ◆ OILA Donation to Food Pantry
- ◆ Architectural Committee and Rainfall Reports for December 2016
- ◆ Wuzzle Puzzles
- ◆ Winners – Island Decorating Contest
- ◆ Can You Drive a Golf Cart on Okaloosa Island Streets?
- ◆ Yes, Virginia. OILA Has a Website & A Facebook Page – Web Wizard – **Bob Seitz**

**14<sup>th</sup> Annual Mardi Gras  
Parade @ 1 pm  
Saturday, January 21**

**YES, VIRGINIA, OILA  
HAS A WEBSITE AND  
A FACEBOOK PAGE!**

- OILA Web Master – **Bob Seitz**



I was recently talking with a very nice lady about the OILA Christmas Decorations. We both agreed how amazing they were and we were thankful for the hard work done by Nancy Hunt and her Christmas elves. I mentioned that pictures of the decorations were on the OILA website in a slideshow format. “We have a website”, she exclaimed. “Yes, Virginia, (not her real name due to U.S. Privacy Laws), we have a website, and have had one for over ten years” I replied.

“Well tell me where it is” she said as she pulled out her smart phone. “It’s [www.oilaweb.com](http://www.oilaweb.com)” I said as she quickly type in the letters on her phone. “Well, I’ll be, there it is” she said as the website began to display on her phone. “Now, where are those Christmas pictures” she said in a somewhat demanding voice. I explained that the website has a slightly different format on a mobile device than it does on a regular computer. “Scroll down to the bottom of the page, and then click on Sitemap and you will see a list of the pages on the website” I said. “Then, click on the Christmas Photos page” I added. “Scrolling, yes, click on Sitemap, yes, click on Christmas Photos, and there they are, well I’ll be” she said. “Most of them are in a slideshow format and there are more pictures if you scroll down the page” I added. There’s also a page with Mardi Gras photos for the last several years.

“What else is on ‘OUR’ website” she said. I explained there was lots of information about OILA. The first page, or Home page, has News and Alerts. There are several years of Newsletters with the most current one at the top of the list. There is information about how to contact OILA, make a Complaint, learn about Streetlights, pumps and sprinklers, and learn about OILA’s position about various issues. There is also a page of “Podcasts” from the OILA meetings. “What’s a podcast” she asked. A podcast is an audio recording of an OILA meeting. There are over two years of podcasts on the website. “If you missed a meeting for some reason, or just want to listen again to what happened, you can listen to the podcast of that meeting” I explained. “That sounds interesting” she said. I encouraged her to browse around the website when she had some time.

“Do you use Facebook” I asked? “You mean ‘The’ Facebook” she replied. Up to this moment in time I did not know there was a “The Facebook”. “Yes, I use it to talk with some of my friends and see pictures of my grandchildren” she said. “Well, OILA has a page on The Facebook” I said. “You can find it by searching for Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association, and then when the page comes up, click on the ‘Like’ button” I said. “We use The Facebook page to create events for meetings and other activities, make announcements, and display items of interest on the Island” I added. “Well, I’ll be!” she exclaimed. “Once you ‘Like’ our page, you see the postings on your timeline” I added. “This is all so amazing, thank you for explaining it to me” she said. “Your welcome, Virginia, and tell all of your friends what you learned today” I said. OILA has a Website and a page on ‘The Facebook’. Take a look, and do a ‘Like’.



# The OIL Lantern



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc

P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549,

Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116

Association Website: [www.oilaweb.com](http://www.oilaweb.com)



## JANUARY 2017

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## Meeting Agenda

**DATE:** Monday, **January 9, 2017**

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room

### I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### II. ROLL

### III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you speak, please state your name, address and if you are a member.

### IV. MINUTES

December 12, 2016 Meeting Minutes (Draft)

### V. TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer, **Jim Simpson**

### VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Architectural
- C. Membership Liaison: **Jim Simpson**
- D. WebSite: **Bob Seitz**
- E. Boat Basin: **Carol Edlund**
- F. Street Lighting MSBU: **Paula Hudson**

### VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Final Report - OILA 2016 Island Christmas Festivities – **Nancy Hunt**

### VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Mardi Gras 2017 – Saturday, January 21 – **Jim Simpson**
- B. Follow up: Golf Carts on the streets of Okaloosa Island – **Jim Simpson**

### IX. ADJOURNMENT



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT – David Hancock

For starters I want to express thanks to everyone who made OILA's Christmas Holiday events a spectacular success. OILA to my recollection has not attempted anything like this and we did not know what to expect; we were overwhelmed by the response from OILA members and the public. And the support by Okaloosa County employees and Okaloosa Island firemen was critical for the success experienced. Letters were read to the Okaloosa County Commissioners and the Okaloosa Island Fire Board (**see below**) thanking employees for their help. Finally a special thanks is needed for the committee headed up by Nancy Hunt back in October to implement OILA's Christmas plans. This committee was only set up in October and they ran themselves ragged getting it done!

2017 is upon us so it's time to start getting ready for Mardi Gras on the Island on January 21. In this newsletter there is an article by Jim Simpson detailing what OILA will be doing and when and where help is needed. Please read this carefully and also please plan to participate.

Remember the National Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) grant for the Okaloosa Island Beach Access Ways that the TDC applied for last month? A NRDA grant for funding construction of the Bridge to Bridge Pathway was applied for in December; the TDC rendered valuable assistance to OILA for this.

## OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS PRESIDENT, DAVE HANNOCK, PRESENTS A LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO CATHY JONES, PRESIDENT OF THE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD



(left to right) Okaloosa Island Fire Chief, **Bob Tilley**, Okaloosa Island Leaseholders President, **Dave Hancock**, President of the Okaloosa Island Fire District Board of Commissioners, **Cathy Jones**

## ISLAND RAINFALL FOR DEC 2016:

**6.4 Inches**

Dec 4.....**1.4** inches  
 Dec 5.....**2.9** inches  
 Dec 6.....**0.3** inches  
 Dec 12...**0.3** inches  
 Dec 13...**0.9** inches  
 Dec 18...**0.4** inches  
 Dec 19...**0.2** inches



Average Rainfall for December...**4.8** inches  
 Variance to Average.....**+1.6** inches

### 2016 Totals:

YTD Variance to Avg.....**- 11.1** inches  
 Rainfall Year-to-Date.....**54.0** inches  
 Avg Annual Rainfall .....**65.1** inches

### 2017

Avg Rainfall for January.....**5.0** inches  
 January Record High.....**80° F** (1957)  
 January Record Low .....**4° F** (1985)  
 Jan Avg Water Temperature.....**64° F**

February Avg Rainfall.....**5.8** inches  
 February Record High.....**80° F** (1980)  
 February Record Low .....**11° F** (1951)  
 Feb Avg Water Temperature. ....**64° F**

Avg Annual Rainfall .....**65.1** inches

## OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT RESPONDS TO **82** FIRE CALLS IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER



Fire Calls.....**5**  
 EMS/Rescue/MVA..... **37**  
 Alarm Activations.....**11**  
 Other.....**29**

(72 calls were responded to in Nov 2015)

# Streetlight out?

To report a Street Light damaged or burned out on Okaloosa Island use any of the following means to contact Gulf Power:

Phone: 1-800-487-7937

Web: [www.gulfpower.com](http://www.gulfpower.com)

Email: [lightout@gulfpower.com](mailto:lightout@gulfpower.com)

Go to the interactive Street Light map at Gulf Power by clicking on:

[http://www.gulfpower.com/business/outdoorlighting/streetlightout.cshtml?ghp=bm ma streetlight outage](http://www.gulfpower.com/business/outdoorlighting/streetlightout.cshtml?ghp=bm%20ma%20streetlight%20outage)

Give your name, contact information, the malfunction of the light, and the specific location. A pole number is very helpful if available.

Also, state that the light is paid by the Okaloosa Island MSBU. This ensures that repair orders are issued from the correct account.

## JOIN THE LEASEHOLDERS! LET YOUR OPINIONS BE HEARD!

FOR A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION CLICK ON THE ASSOCIATION'S

WEBPAGE: [WWW.OILAWEB.COM](http://WWW.OILAWEB.COM),

or

CONTACT JIM SIMPSON AT

(850) 585-2116

OR BY EMAIL AT [SANLEANNA@COX.NET](mailto:SANLEANNA@COX.NET).



**ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR DECEMBER 2016** for permits submitted to them for consideration. The following information provided by the Architectural Committee.

**SPECIAL NOTICES:** 1) The Committee meets every Thursday from 9:00 am to 9:30 am at the Tourist Development Center building. 2) ASK BEFORE YOU ACT.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot(s)</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Owner/Contractor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Dec 8	7	433	780 Sundial Court	Emerald Towers West	Repair & Replace Existing Balconies	Approved
Dec 8	6	321	631 Pelican Drive	Zandra Wolfgram	Occupational License for Wordplay Inc.	Approved
Dec 15	15	Partial	1306 Miracle Strip Parkway	Wild Willy's Adventure Zone	Construction of Maintenance Buildings	Approved
Dec 22	5	247	540 Dorado Ave	Luis Marcial	Extend Existing Fence	Approved

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING ON THE ISLAND BIG SUCCESS! 60 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED!

By 7 pm on Friday, December 16 a group of 60 volunteers had showed up at the Okaloosa Fire Station. They boarded two Okaloosa Island Transit trolleys and proceeded to sing Christmas carols for Island residents on Caviar Dr, Dorado Ave, Pelican Dr, Sailfish Dr and Tarpon Dr. Spirits were high and all had a great experience. After the caroling, the group came back to the Fire Station for hot chocolate, juice and cookies. All in all, a very successful "First Time". Looking forward to Christmas 2017!



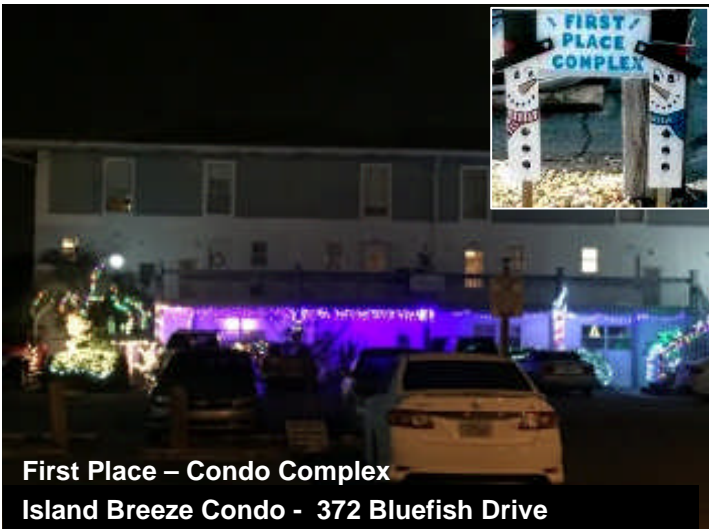
## WINNERS OF THE 2016 ISLAND CHRISTMAS PROJECT DECORATING CONTESTS



First Place - House: 438 Cardinal Drive



First Place – Business: The Boardwalk



First Place – Condo Complex  
Island Breeze Condo - 372 Bluefish Drive

ON DECEMBER 23 THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS DELIVERED 210 POUNDS OF DONATED FOOD TO THE SHARING & CARING FOOD PANTRY. THE FOOD WAS DONATED BY ISLAND RESIDENTS AND BY THOSE WHO TOOK PART IN THE ISLAND CAROLING EVENT.

## THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!



**Nancy Hunt** and her son-in-law **Robert Young** Deliver 210 Pounds of Food to Sharing & Caring

On December 23, a total of 210 pounds of food which was collected during the Leaseholders Okaloosa Island 2016 Christmas Festivities was delivered to Sharing & Caring, a charity food pantry, in Fort Walton Beach. The Sharing and Caring volunteers were thrilled to receive this delivery of food in that they were low on inventory. The food, which was collected at the Okaloosa Island Fire Station, was loaded and delivered in Oil Lantern Editor, Jim Simpson's truck (Miss Daisy), with the assistance of the OILA Chair for the 2016 Christmas Project, Nancy Hunt, and her son-in-law, Robert Young (yes, the same as the actor).

A special thanks to Nancy for being the "spark" which started the Okaloosa Island Christmas Decoration Project and all of the volunteers and donors who helped. Hopefully, we have started a new annual tradition - Christmas on Okaloosa Island.



126 Beal Street  
Ft Walton Beach,  
FL 32548  
(850) 244-0778



LSV

**DRIVING LOW SPEED VEHICLES (LSV'S) AND GOLF CARTS ON OKALOOSA ISLAND'S STREETS**



Golf Cart

By Captain Ted C. Pecot, Special Operations Commander  
Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, 850-613-2342  
[tpecot@sheriff-okaloosa.org](mailto:tpecot@sheriff-okaloosa.org)

There may be some confusion over "Golf Carts" vs. "LSV" Low Speed Vehicles. They look similar, however a Golf Cart cannot be tagged (State Registration) or operated on a roadway. What differentiates a Golf Cart from an LSV is the LSV has been modified to allow speeds over 25 mph along with other safety equipment including seatbelts, windshield with wipers, safety triangle, brake and turn signals, headlights and rearview mirrors. An LSV must be inspected by DMSMV and a tag issued before it can be operated on the roadways. An LSV can be operated on any roadway where the speeds are 35 MPH or less. They can also cross a roadway where the speeds are higher than 35 MPH if at an intersection. I have included the Florida State Statute below.

**Golf Carts may only be operated on the roadways where the local government has enacted ordinances to allow them. Okaloosa Island is not one of those areas.**

**Florida State Statute:** FSS Operation 316.2122 of a low-speed vehicle or mini truck on certain roadways.—The operation of a low-speed vehicle as defined in s. 320.01 or a mini truck as defined in s. 320.01 on any road is authorized with the following restrictions: (1) Low-speed vehicle or mini truck may be operated only on streets where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. This does not prohibit a low-speed vehicle or mini truck from crossing a road or street at an intersection where the road or street has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour. (2) Low-speed vehicle must be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, seat belts, and vehicle identification numbers. (3) Low-speed vehicle or mini truck must be registered and insured in accordance with s. 320.02 and titled pursuant to chapter 319. Any (4) person operating a low-speed vehicle or mini truck must have in his or her possession a valid driver license. (5) County or municipality may prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles or mini trucks on any road under its jurisdiction if the governing body of the county or municipality determines that such prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.



**14<sup>th</sup> Annual Mardi Gras Parade on the Island Saturday, January 21 @ 1 pm**

**Volunteers (walkers, throwers, decorators) are needed to decorate and staff the OILA Float!!!! If you can help, sign up at the Jan 9, 2017 OILA meeting or call Jim Simpson @ 850.585.2116 or email him @ [sanleanna@cox.net](mailto:sanleanna@cox.net).**

**We will decorate the float on the Island starting at 12:00 noon on Friday, Jan 20 at 625 Pelican Dr. All volunteers and walk-ins are needed for this task. More details to follow. P.S. IT'S A LOT OF FUN!! Also, OILA – BY TRADITION - will be the lead float!**

**WUZZLE PUZZLES**

What is a Wuzzle Puzzle?  
It is a puzzle consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures, or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, etc. Are you ready to take the challenge and figure out the "disguised" meaning of these wuzzles? Good luck. The answers are at the bottom of the last page of this newsletter.

<b>No. 1</b>	<b>No. 2</b>
Little Did I No	HAND IT NOW
<b>No. 3</b>	<b>No. 4</b>
I poise V	DR. OP DR. OP DR. OP DR. OP GOOD DR. OP

**MINUTES (DRAFT) Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association - Membership Meeting December 12, 2016**

Meeting Location: Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room    Call to Order: 7:00 pm  
Board Members Present: Dave Hancock, Jim Hendricks & Dean Hanson  
Draft Minutes of the November 14, 2016 meeting as printed in the November 2016 OIL Lantern were approved.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer's Report: December 12, 2016**

**November 14, 2016 Total Balance: \$38,012.29**

Continued on next page

**MINUTES (DRAFT) Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association – Treasurer’s Report (continued)**

<b>ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF November 14, 2016</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>36,591.01</b>
<b>RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT:</b> .....		
Membership Dues	<b>\$</b>	<b>152.00</b>
Newsletter Fees.....	<b>\$</b>	<b>10.50</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>162.50</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT:</b>		
From the \$400 Appropriated at the October 10, 2016 OILA Meeting to Provide Funds for the 2016 OILA Christmas Decoration Project:		
- Payment to Jim Hendricks for paint, plywood, wood, screws and paint buckets.....	<b>\$</b>	<b>322.47</b>
- Partial Payment of \$77.53 from a total expense of \$259.89 to Kathy Foster for bows used on the Median palm trees (Balance of \$182.66 reimbursed from Donations from Contributors).....	<b>\$</b>	<b>77.53</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>400.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT:</b>		
Reimburse Jim Simpson for stamps to mail the December 2016 OIL Lantern.....	<b>\$</b>	<b>20.68</b>
<b>ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AFTER RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES &amp; EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT AS OF December 12, 2016</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>36,332.83</b>
<b>BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF Nov 14, 2016</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,421.28</b>
<b>BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT</b>		<b>No Expenditures</b>
<b>BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF Dec 12, 2016</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,421.28</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS DECORATING PROJECT 2016 FUND DONATIONS</b>		
<b>Receipts:</b> Donations Received from Contributors.....	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,620.00</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS DECORATING PROJECT 2016 EXPENDITURES</b>		
Balance of Payment (\$182.66) to Kathy Foster for Bows used on the Median Palm Trees.....	<b>\$</b>	<b>182.66</b>
<b>Christmas Decorating Project Balance (Donations) as of December 12, 2016</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,437.34</b>
<b>SUMMARY: December 12, 2016 Fund Balances</b>		
-- Association’s Discretionary Fund Balance.....	<b>\$</b>	<b>36,332.83</b>
-- Beautification Fund Balance.....	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,421.28</b>
-- Christmas Decorating Fund Balance (Donations).....	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,437.34</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>41,191.45</b>

**Architectural Report:** The Architectural Committee Report for the month of Nov 2016 published in the Dec 12, 2016 OIL Lantern.

**Membership Report** – Jim Simpson: Jim advised that the membership drive to renew memberships for 2016-2017 was just about complete and would close at the end of the year. In September 2016 at the start of membership renewal drive membership was 249. To date approximately 240 have renewed which is a 96% renewal percentage

**Website** – Bob Seitz: Bob reported that he had added a new page on the OILA Website ([www.oilaweb.com](http://www.oilaweb.com)) titled “Christmas Photos”. It contains several entries showing various Christmas Decorations on the Island. The pictures are in a slideshow format. The first entry shows the amazing OILA decorations in both daylight and nighttime photos along with some candid photos of the OILA Elves. The other slideshows show houses, condos, businesses, and some special neighborhood decorations. Photos are being added all the time and you are encouraged to submit any photos you would like to include in the slideshows.

**Boat Basin** - Carol Edlund: Carol advised that everything was good with the Boat Basin. They recently rented out two slips and presently have two slips open

**MINUTES (DRAFT) – Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association – Committee Reports (continued)**

**Street Lighting MSBU – Paula Hudson:**

**Island Lights MSBU - Dept 1602 Revenues & Expenditures - 11/30/2016**

Revenues:	Expenditures	
Street Lighting Fees \$4,838.72	Electrical Services \$2,054.58	Estimated Net Change..... <b>(\$2,494.53)</b>
Interest.....\$ 0.00	Legal Advertising \$ 0.00	2016 Fund Balance ..... <b>\$247,063.13</b>
Total Revenue ..... <b>\$4,838.72</b>	Lighting Services \$5,036.42	Year-to-Date Fund Balance..... <b>\$244,568.60</b>
	Billing Charges \$ 242.25	
	Total Expenditures <b>\$7,333.25</b>	

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Update - OILA Island Christmas Decorations Festivities – Nancy Hunt**

Nancy advised that everything was falling into place and that she had noticed that more residents, businesses and condos were decorating this year. She mentioned that a flyer advertising the Caroling Event was passed out in the residential neighborhood. Dave Hancock suggested sending out the flyer to all OILA members via email blast. Jim Simpson advised he would send it. Dave Hancock noted that carolers were coming from St Simon’s and St Mary’s. Jim Hendricks had good news – his next door neighbor on Tropic Ave has offered his garage to store our Christmas decorations and supplies for next year!

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Resolution to Support the Establishment of the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program – Dave Hancock**

Dave presented a request from the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Council for OILA to approve a resolution expressing our support for the Northwest Florida Estuaries and Watersheds Project Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program that will establish the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program for the comprehensive management, restoration, and protection to the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program. The funds for this project will be requested from the BP National Resource Damage Assessment. This project would include Walton County which together with Okaloosa County comprises the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary. The Okaloosa County Board of Commissioners has already resolved to support this program. Being no further discussion Dave made a motion for OILA to support this program. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

**B. Status of the Derelict Property Committee:** Committee member Dave Miller advised that Kathy Foster, who is out of town, is spearheading the effort and will provide specifics when she returns. Committee member Paula Hudson commented that they will definitely meet on a yet to be determined day in January.

**C. Golf Carts on the streets of Okaloosa Island – Jim Simpson**

Jim reported that he had attempted to get a statement for the Sheriff’s office about the legal status of operating golf carts on island streets. As of this meeting he had not received a response. He will follow-up and hopefully will have this information by the next meeting (January 9, 2017).

**D. Mardi Gras on the Island – Jim Simpson** announced that 2017 Mardi Gras on the Island will be held on Saturday, January 21. OILA will be participating with a float. Paula Hudson made a motion to appropriate \$500 for expenses related to the float (moon pies, beads, decorations, etc). The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8 pm. (Editor’s note: These minutes extracted from the December 12, 2016 podcast of this meeting)

**WUZZLE PUZZLE ANSWERS**

**Wuzzle No. 1**



**“LITTLE” DID I KNOW**

**Wuzzle No. 2**



**HAND IT OVER! NOW!**

**Wuzzle No. 3**



**POISON IVY**

**Wuzzle No. 4**



**GOOD UNTIL THE LAST DROP**