

America First SWFLC Membership Meeting Minutes 326 Nokomis Ave. S., Venice FL 34285 - July 09, 2025

Officers Present: Terry Angley - President; Mike Stephenson - Vice President; Donna DeFiore -

Treasurer; Luke OBrien - Secretary

Opening Ceremonies: Invocation - Barbara Vaughn; Pledge of Allegiance - John Hallowell

Call to Order: President Terry Angley called the meeting to order at 11:48 am.

Approval of Minutes: General Membership Minutes for June 11, 2025 were moved to file by Barbara Vaughn, seconded by Tamzin Rosenwasser, and approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Donna DeFiore reported that for June 2025, the <u>beginning balance</u> was \$6,423.00; <u>total receipts</u> were \$1,024.97; and <u>total expenses</u> were \$2,184.51 - which includes VCC rent until November and deposit for our Christmas lunch, leaving an <u>ending balance</u> of \$5,296.98.

The General Treasury is still owed \$1400 to the legal fund. During the month there was due a third retainer fee for legal services of \$5,000, which was covered by an anonymous donor. There was a separate anonymous donation for legal fees of \$1000 in June. Further contributions are needed as considerable legal fees are anticipated. Submit your donation at: https://americafirstswflc.org/donate

The Treasurer's Report was approved for audit.

Elected Officials:

Robyn Marinelli - Sarasota County School Board, District 4, thanked the members as living proof of the success of <u>grassroots</u> community involvement. Robyn pledged to provide details as to School Board accomplishments at a future meeting. The 2026 election will be critical again to hold on to a conservative majority.

President's Report:

<u>Depositions</u> are ongoing individually, for the four defendants: James Hoel, Terry Angley, Donna DeFiore, and Mary Germani - and collectively for America First (AFSWFLC). The trial is set for October. America First is now considering <u>initiating a lawsuit</u> against their current litigants for 'malicious prosecution', reversing the club's current position as defendant.

On Monday, July 14, Sarasota MAGA Patriots, in leiu of their regular meeting, are hosting an <u>ice</u> <u>cream social</u> at 6:30pm at Covenant Life Church on 8490 McIntosh Rd. in Sarasota. We are all invited.

AFSWFLC is hosting a buffet <u>Christmas party</u> for our group *and* Sarasota MAGA Patriots at Hotel Venezia, 425 US Highway 41 Bypass N, Venice, FL 34285-6038. Price is expected to be about \$55.

The keynote <u>speaker</u> for August will be <u>Jenna Ryan</u>. Jenna was encarcerated for participating in the January 6 protest at the U.S. Capitol. She was likely targeted as host of an influential radio show.

New Business:

The Bylaws Committee - produced the first set of Bylaws for our recently formed group. Without changing the intent of the predecessor group's document, the current proposal: reaffirms the 2 year election cycle for alternating offices; adds verbiage on how members can be removed; and reorganizes the bylaws format to be more consistent with the published documentation of Roberts Rules of Order. In addition, the Standing Committees were edited to be more consistent with actual operation. The Bylaws are only 4 pages. The membership has a month to review the printed or online Bylaws document and comment before they come up for a vote next month.



Guest Speakers:

Raj Doraisamy - from The <u>Reclaim Campaign</u> [https://reclaimcampaign.com/] is a current Venice resident of 30 years, a software developer, and owner of a digital marketing company.

On Jan 7, 2021, he came to realize that Washington DC was so corrupted and infiltrated by special interest groups that the only hope he could have for our country was to Defend our State of Florida, and Reclaim some influence in the system. That is how the 'Reclaim Campaign' came into being.

Although we are supposed to be able to elect representatives and have them represent us, that is not how it works. Instead, if you get your representative in office, once they arrive, the power brokers, the senior legislators, those that have access to PAC after PAC, and millions of dollars, will set the legislator down and rehearse what that legislator can, and cannot, do. In other words, if a bill is not popular with the power brokers, for any other legislation that a representative may want to enact, say a grant for a YMCA, or funding for a service in their County, that funding will mysteriously dry up.

Raj's Reclaim Campaign is a Florida Statewide conference, to be held at the Plantation Golf & Country Club, 500 Rockley Boulevard, in Venice, FL, on Saturday, July 26th, 9am to 2pm Eastern. Having worked with the establishment for years, only to experience massive in-fighting, and the establishment discarding the most vital issues - and then to be rebuffed, the goal is now to temporarily bring all of the freedom groups together, to Expose, Educate, and Execute - to shut down the establishment by replacing them.

The conference will explain: 1. How to get a higher level quality candidates to win - not just run; 2. How group members can raise up-front financing for signs, postcards, billboards, text messaging, etc. to compete with the establishment candidates; and 3. Once the first two steps are in place, how to approach the most qualified, capable, members of the community, offering them the ammunition to win.

Raj also shared a most inspirational analogy of building an organization of diverse leadership to Jesus' building His kingdom - with as diverse personality differences as existed between His Apostles. Conference participants will come away with a written blueprint that they can execute with their colleagues for massive political action.

Connie Brunni - announced the <u>Reclaim Sarasota</u> Meeting for Tuesday July 15, at the Selby Library Auditorium, from 5:00 to 7:30pm. The purpose is to convene various disparate groups and discuss our options for working together with each other on common ground, among County residents.

Conni mentioned the recent attack by the Republican Party of Sarasota against Raj Doraisamy, specifically naming Reclaim Florida in the RPOSC newsletter of July 9th, 2025. To be explicit, the Republican Party of Sarasota wants to 'coronate', or 'anoint' a candidate, rather than allow competition between candidates.

Using the Special Election in North Port on May 13th as an example, she emphasized the need for us all to become influencers - 'competent persuaders', by engaging *now* on social media groups - particularly Facebook and NextDoor.

Closing Remarks were made by Terry Angley on coming together, and working together; followed by singing God Bless America, led by Randy Wedin.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bill Dubrow. Adjournment at 1:11 pm.

Submitted by: Luke OBrien, Secretary

Motion to approve minutes by Rich Mazur, seconded by Rick Mikluscak; Approved - 13 Aug 2025