

EMICA MINUTES OF THE 5/12/26 MEETING

At this, the last meeting of the fiscal year, Rich began by introducing all of the current officers and asked for member approval to keep the same group. The officers were approved. He then stated that minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report were on our website and asked for member approval again. All agreed.

He then described wins we had fostered by working together as a group concerned about our environment. The success we had in eliminating the planned LNG plant and the denial of high-density apartment development along Pioneer and Courtenay show what we can do if we apply our membership and commitment to the tasks.

Lisa spoke about Lagoon Friendly updates and suggestions. Grasses are growing again in the northern and southern sections of the IRL, but pollution, though improving, is still a major problem in the central portion. She reminded us not to fertilize from June through September and to work within the ecological system, not against it. She also encouraged us to support the 1/2cent sales tax on our next ballot. Over 100 projects have been completed for the IRL thus far, and now all methods are being evaluated to determine which proved most valuable. Muck removal nearby is up next. Save Our Lagoon will probably have limited resources now. To save water, we are not to water between 10:00 and 4:00. We were admonished to keep storm drains clear of yard refuse and if tree removal companies removed trees, they are responsible for getting rid of the debris.

A member suggested using LMV411.org to learn more about items & candidates on the ballot, by inputting your address (or a friend's). Candidates will pop up to talk about what they plan to do.

Rich then fully described the origin, set-up, and purpose of Repair Café that began in Europe, but now has 303 entities in the U.S. Referring to the Reader's Digest article he supplied for everyone, he said that if you can get the item in a car, it can be brought to Repair Café for fixing. He would like to start this at the January 9, 2027, meeting. Two workshops, two times per month meetings for 2- 4 hours per meeting are needed in terms of time. The keys to success are: broad participation by using other organizations because the idea will grow more quickly with many buy-in groups. Currently, we are looking for coaches, a publicist, and a person in charge of set- up and clean-up of workshops. Only \$1100. is needed for start-up (N.C.). So far, CAMI, Merritt Island Senior Resource Center, and the Brevard Vets (Need to pay for space) are interested. Hopefully, Brevard Libraries will join up. House rules will be set-up according to the International Repair Café. We may need to supply specialized tools with that \$1100 budget. Sewing, tool sharpening, jewelry, and bicycle repairs are most in demand.

Rich then adjourned the meeting at 7:45!
Respectfully submitted, Laurie Crooks, 5/16/26