The AACA South Florida Region Board Meeting of October 6, 2026 was called to order by President Al Padilla at 7:32 p.m. at La Caretta Restaurant.

In Physical Attendance: Al, Manny, Millie, Junior, Jorge, Alex, Tony, Mike, Ira, Tom, and Ben
By Phone: Ed and Angel. President Padilla was able to establish a quorum with 13 members of the board present.

Executive Record: The board approved the prior meeting minutes, reviewed the August and September finances, reported 227 member families, and confirmed the fall event calendar. Planning advanced for the December Holiday Party and Art Deco Weekend, while permit, sponsorship, and participation issues remained active follow-ups.

Formal appointment: Alejandro Clay was unanimously appointed interim secretary and will be placed on the officer slate for the upcoming election of officers and board of directors.

Approvals and Officer Business:

Prior minutes: Approved following a motion and second.

Interim Secretary: Ed moved to appoint Alejandro Clay, Tony seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

One officer resigned for medical reasons, leaving two open positions on the published slate. The slate had been updated in *Sidelights*, by email, and on the club website. Alejandro will serve in the interim role until the membership election.

Financial and Membership Reports:

Financial: August reconciled balance- $32,958.01; September reconciled balance- $34,165.50
The treasurer presented two months of reporting because the prior month's report had not been ready.

Membership: The club has 227 member families. Renewals for 2027 are underway. Two families have confirmed that they will not renew because they moved away.

Participation: Low rally participation was raised as a concern. Approximately five board members had registered, and Generation Old School participation was limited.

Upcoming Events: General Meetings and Rally:

-October General Meeting
The next general meeting is scheduled for **October 15 at Frankie's Pizza**. The date falls immediately before the Lake Mirror event weekend; the board noted the scheduling issue but did not change the meeting date.
-November Meeting and Election
The November general meeting is scheduled for **November 21 at Guy Lewis's home**. The election of officers and board of directors will be held at that meeting.
-Naples Rally
The rally was scheduled for the coming weekend. At the time of the meeting, 26 members had responded and 28 hotel rooms had been reserved under the group code. The board requested a list of participating unit members and again encouraged stronger participation.
-Deering Estate Show
The show is scheduled for November 15. Thirty-four cars were registered at the time of the meeting, with registration still open. Registration did not guarantee acceptance; organizers were expected to prioritize pre-war vehicles over cars from the 1950s and 1960s.
-Holiday Party
The party is confirmed for December 12. The venue is set, while menu selections, event budget, and entertainment remain to be finalized. Ticket prices: $30 for members and $60 for non-members, unchanged from last year. Menu: The event lead will circulate menu choices and pricing to the board. Budget: Prior event

budgets will be shared so food, music, decor, and other expenses can be evaluated together. Entertainment: The committee will explore a DJ.

-National Election

The AACA ballot includes ten nominees, and seven must be selected for the ballot to count. Family memberships may include separate member and spouse ballots.

Club Business:

-**Art Deco Weekend layout requires agency review**. Meg, the Art Deco organizer, proposed placing vehicles on the 11th through 14th Streets of Ocean Drive, with the jazz stage near 12 th Street. The proposal could provide contiguous parking, but the board was concerned about reduced foot traffic and more difficult staging from Collins or Washington Avenues.

The club will raise the following points before agreeing to a layout:

- Approvals: Confirm police and fire department acceptance of the revised plan.
- Staging: Consider using 10th Street as a holding block to avoid traffic backup.
- Flow: Evaluate entering from the north and exiting south on Ocean Drive so an organized parade exit remains possible.
- Scale: Plan for approximately 160 cars across two days, with Sunday potentially exceeding 100 cars.
- Hours: Maintain the traditional 3:00 p.m. departure rather than extending to 4:00 PM.
- Volunteers: Set clear expectations for respectful communication and coordinated assignments. Jorge planned to meet with Meg before the end of the week if schedules permitted, then send the board a complete email update. The discussion was exploratory; no final layout decision was made.

-**Biltmore Way Show Permit Remains in Progress**. The permit application had been submitted. Ed and Ben were scheduled to meet by Zoom with the city director in the coming weeks, with other board members welcome to join. The remaining issues include parking dispensation, possible barrier charges, and the requested insurance addendum. Richard Heisenbottle was working through city contacts on parking. The board also noted that the annual judged show is among the club's most expensive events and would benefit from additional sponsors.

-**Sponsorship, Picnic, and Future Events**

- Sponsorship: John Kiskinis was pursuing several leads, but nothing was confirmed. The arrangement creates no cost to the club if no sponsor is secured.
- Picnic recap: The event was well received. Against a not-to-exceed budget of $1,500, spending totaled $1,326.20. The club collected $270, leaving net out-of-pocket expense of $1,056.20. Alternative venues and cooler timing were suggested for 2027.
- Cars in the Garden: No new information or date was available; the item was tabled.

Follow through Actions and Closing Record Action Items:

Action Items

1. **Jorge - Art Deco Weekend:** Review approvals, staging, flow, car count, volunteers, and the 3:00 p.m. departure with Meg; email the board afterward.
2. **Holiday Party Lead:** Circulate menu prices and explore a DJ within budget.
3. **Finance Support:** Share prior holiday party budgets.
4. **Ed and Ben - Show Permit:** Confirm the Zoom meeting and report on parking, barriers, and insurance.
5. **Membership and Board:** Encourage stronger event participation.
6. **Responsible Officer:** Pay outstanding national dues.
7. **Board/Website Team:** Continue evaluating low-maintenance member classifieds.

Member Classifieds Remain Under Study

The board discussed offering member vehicle listings through the website and *Sidelights*. Ideas included a free introductory period, paid placement, broader promotion through social media, and member-only access to seller contact information. Because the club website primarily serves current members, the board questioned likely reach and the workload required. No program or fee was approved. Any viable approach should allow members to upload their own photos and descriptions, with limited review by the website team.

Sunshine Report:
The board shared health updates concerning Cindy Goldsmith, Chico Goldsmith, Maurice Hawa and Ira Shapiro, and extended support and wishes for their recovery.

Adjournment:
A motion to adjourn was made, and the meeting concluded at 8:41 p.m. EDT

Respectfully submitted,
Millie Garcia, Substitute Secretary