The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the President. Theresa Schober, Director of The Mound House, gave a presentation about the historical significance of the Ft. Myers Beach site and some of the history of the Calusa Indians in this region. Following Ms. Schober's presentation, a quorum was present and the regular meeting began. The minutes of the previous meeting in October were read and approved.

Olga Williams, the treasurer, reported there were no expenses paid in October and multiple incomes for the month, including a gift from the Richland County Foundation and Bill North. The total balance at the end of October, including the checking account and both CD's was \$40,037.13. Of this money, sixteen thousand is committed to the State for the new Ranger's Station. As our past resident artist Bill North continues to make bi-monthly contributions, it was suggested that we reciprocate by visiting his store site at the Gannon Gallery on Route 41 in South Fort Myers.

Joan Erb reported that our membership now totals 86. New member Katherine Eastlake was introduced. Fred Eckert reported his flyer should be ready by the coming workday. The coming special art show for the current Resident Artist, Carol McArdle, is planned for December 6th. Information is available on the CSO website. A motion was made and passed that the CSO would fund refreshments for the event.

Jo Ann Linck gave a brief report on plans for Family Discovery Day, now with two participants committed. Letters have gone out for the January 17th Art in the Park; 15 artists have agreed and 5 more are sought. The annual Christmas picnic will be held on December 8th at 5:00 p.m. Bob and Jo Ann will bring turkeys and pot luck will be coordinated. The next work day will be the Friday following Thanksgiving. Carolyn reported one of our volunteers had put together scrapbooks for the Park.

Our Park Manager, Bob Steiger, gave his report, stating he had only been at the Park about a week during the month of October. There are two new hires beginning soon. The State budget will require closures of 19 parks for the 2009/2010 fiscal year with the 10% reduction in funding. Alicia Astorga is to put a link through the CSO website for members to learn more about the Wiggins Pass dredging project and information could be found in the Naples Daily News. On the matter of the proposed parking garage, letter writing to Mike Bullock, the State Director of the Park Service, was recommended as the situation is still unresolved. Bob reported he will be involved in a phone conference with Tallahassee at the end of the month. Funding of this is still not being discussed and permitting will be time consuming. As of today, the CSO could take a stand and our President is willing to go to Tallahassee to meet with the State on this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,