



MATLACHA HOOKERS
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 2023
DATE: October 9, 2023
American Legion Post 136, 4106 Stringfellow Rd., St. James City

Call to Order by Madam DJ at 6:34 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Madam DJ

Invocation by Tania Watkins

Guests – Larry Solinger- President of Greater PI Chamber of Commerce- Announcement – The Chamber has purchased their own trailer and will purchase their own table and chairs. They are donating all of the shared tables and tents, etc to the Matlacha Hookers.

Please turn cell phones off or put on silence.

Please be respectful of those who are speaking and refrain from sidebar conversations.

(These requests came from Members and they suggested a \$5 Penalty after one warning!)

BOARD REPORTS

Madam, DJ Ruscik

1. 50/50: Kiwanis Fall Festival; Tania Watkins made motion to give to Kiwanis; motion carried
2. Tents/Tables Update; we will no longer lend out our tables and/or chairs (only to the Chamber of Commerce).
3. Winn-Dixie Community Bags/Travel Raffle Tickets – Thank you to Kathy, Anna, Julia, Joy, and Sandy. More to follow. We were there for 6 hours; sold 20 Travel Raffle Tickets; We will do this again at Winn Dixie on Saturday, October 28 from 9:00-3:00; need volunteers.
4. Pine Island Elementary Community Round-up – Grade A School!!!; well received; the Lee County Superintendent of Schools was in attendance; he shared that when he attends other community round ups only 7-10 attendees; PIE had over 80 individuals representing numerous community organizations around the island.
5. NFM VFW – 2nd Annual Car & Bike Show to benefit Veterans and Family Services – Saturday, October 14th 11am – 3pm – Basket request – Done
6. Christmas Caroling in December!! We will have sign-up sheets at the November meeting; DJ will be in charge of Bokeelia; Tracy Chapple will reach out to bars and restaurants in SJC, and Boat Club; we have a volunteer for Matlacha
7. Please bring jewelry for the Chic Boutique to the November, December and January Meetings.

2. Financial Requests

- a. Fall Ball Sponsorship of all shirts for \$1,363 – 91 kids – Board Approved, but need membership approval. Motion made by Julia Gaylor; motion carried.

3.. Upcoming Events and Volunteers Needed:

- a. American Legion Auxiliary – Octoberfest at the Legion for their Scholarship Program on Saturday, October 14th 11:00-7:00. Basket donation or monetary donation to their scholarship program. Board approved a donation of \$500 to their scholarship fund.
- b. Pine Island Food Pantry Halloween Festival- Saturday, October 21st at OLMM; volunteers needed
- c. Kiwanis Fall Festival- location at P.I.E on October 27th, from 5:00-7:00; volunteers needed
- d. Stone Crab Festival- Volunteers needed Sunday, November 12th; location Publix on Pine Island– Checking IDs/wristbands from 10:30am – 8:00pm.; 2-hour shifts with 3-4 volunteers per shift;
- e. Holiday House at Tarpon Lodge- Sunday, December 3rd. Set up starts at noon. Event is from 1:00-4:00. Kids Crafts
- f. F.I.S.H Basket Brigade- Darcy and Carolyn- December 16, 2023 @ Fishers of Men Lutheran Church.
- g. 25th Anniversary Celebration Event- Date is Sunday, February 4, 2024 – DJ/Carolyn – Next meeting Tuesday, October 17th at 6pm Fine Swine
- h. Bag 'n Tag and Breakfast – Saturday, March 16th – Need storage location NOW; Theresa Shattuck and Carolyn Ryzanych are Co-Chairs; Julia and Tania will Co-Chair the pancake breakfast with Natalie as the cashier.
- i. Christmas Bazaar-Saturday, November 4, 9:00-1:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Catholic Church in Bokeelia; we will have our merchandise table at the event; need volunteers

4.. Fundraising:

- a. Travel Raffle - Darcy and DJ- Update on sales with community bags outside of Winn Dixie; Sold 20 tickets; received \$377 in donations and \$60.00 in membership; Want to sell tickets outside of Winn Dixie potentially on the 28th 9:00-3:00; the Hookers will raise \$4,000 from this fundraiser. Sign up information will be in the Hooker Herald.
- b. Merchandise Report-Linda 25th Anniversary t shirt only available to members;
- c. Island Luau- Joanne and Linda -Planning meetings update; meeting Monday, 23th of October at the SJCCA; looking for members to mentor to be a co-chair; this meeting is for “managers” of an area; meeting in November is for everyone. Look in the Herald for the dates.

5. Hooker Business:

- a. Hurricane Rebuilding Fund- Julia; Update on 2nd Round of Local Business Grants and Hurricane Preparedness kits. Presenting grants at November membership meeting. The meeting will start half an hour earlier. It will start at 6:00 p.m. Received 54 applications; In lieu of doing Hurricane Preparedness kits we will putting those funds business grants; we provided \$700 to the GPIA to purchase building supplies;

- b. Elections for 2024 Board – Julia- still accepting nominations; Elections will be at the November membership meeting;
- c. Trailer and Storage Unit- Friday, October 13th and Saturday, October 14th; Volunteers needed starting at 9am both days until completed – Linda/DJ
- d. 25th Anniversary T Shirt- Linda- you can pre order; only for current members

Vice Madam, Julia Gaylor

1. Membership Report: 225 for 2023 and 98 are new members
2. Meeting Attendance: 56 and 4 guests;
3. New member swear-in: Debra Barlow; Tammy Lynch; Lorie Mendocino; Angel Russell
4. Call Girls Thank You and next month's volunteers: Tracy Taylor and Theresa Shattuck
5. Birthday celebrations!

Secretary, Carolyn Ryzanych

1. Review and approval of general minutes Sandy Reynolds made motion to approve; motion carried.
2. Mail –read 3 thank you letters

Treasurer, Deb Syring

1. Review and approval of financial reports; August financials; Lisa Perry made motion to approve; motion carried

Chaplain, Tania Watkins

1. Outreach Report- 3 individuals; 1 did not qualify; 1 was a no show: \$539.36 was given to an individual
2. Joke read

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

1. Community Support

- a. Pine Island Food Pantry needs – Needs are: Hamburger helper, canned diced tomatoes, instant mashed potatoes, elbow macaroni, penne or ziti pasta, egg noodles, dried beans, saltine crackers. Check updates in Hooker Herald. Bring items to the General Membership Meetings. Every member is asked to bring two non-perishable items to each Meeting and a Donation Jar is available.
- b. Blood Drive – DJ- November, location TBD, probably Winn-Dixie
- c. Free the Girls- donate gently used bras; organization supports girls who were trafficked in third world countries. Bring bras to general membership meetings.
- d. Adopt a Road - Lorie – Next clean- up will be in mid-December or early January; more to follow.

OTHER:

50/50 collected \$ 250.00; Tonight's winners: 50/50 - Michelle and Volunteer - DJ
Tonight's donation to Food Pantry \$ 122.00

Next Board Meeting: November 6 at 6:00 p.m. @ Salty Girl Island Cafe

Next General Meeting: Monday, November 13, 2023, **6:00 p.m.** @ American Legion Post 136,
106, Stringfellow Rd., St. James City

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Darcy

Meeting adjourned @ 7:46 p.m.