



**MATLACHA HOOKERS**  
**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 10, 2021**

Call to Order by Madam DJ at 6:30pm  
Pledge of Allegiance led by Madam DJ  
Invocation by Madam DJ on behalf of Anita

Guests: Dr. Tom Millins, Principal of Pine Island Elementary. Larry Sollinger, President of the Greater Pine Island Chamber of Commerce. Scholarship recipients with guests

The Scholarship Committee joined Larry at the front of the room as he announced the Greater Pine Island Chamber of Commerce is giving the Matlacha Hookers \$500 towards a future scholarship.

Dr. Millins thanked all Hookers for what we do. He also gave an update on the school and its new playground. He also announced that the Matlacha Hookers is the business partner he selected to have breakfast with the Superintendent. Madam DJ will attend that breakfast on Friday on behalf of the entire organization.

**Scholarship Presentation:**

Chris Buntin introduced the scholarship committee and then presented the 2021 Scholarship awards. Six scholarships of \$2,000 each were awarded as the winner was called up and briefly told the group their future goals.

**BOARD REPORTS**

Madam DJ Ruscik

- a) 50/50: Madam DJ stated that the Board recommends this month's 50/50 recipient to be Museum of the Islands, Helping Paws Animal Sanctuary, or is open to nominations from the group. Cindy Walton motioned for the funds to be donated to Museum of the Islands. The motion carried.
- b) Hooker Business – Madam DJ completed the solicitation certificate, so we are good until 2022.
- c) Fundraising:
  - Pampered Chef. Julia gave an update on the fundraiser possibilities. We can either setup the event on our private Facebook page or we can do an event on our public page and invite whomever we want to. Donations back to the organization are based on tiers. If the party earns \$200-\$600, we would get 10% back, etc. The event will run for two weeks and the Pampered Chef host runs everything. Julia's thought is that the party runs June 15-30<sup>th</sup> with announcements in the Herald on June 10<sup>th</sup> and June

20<sup>th</sup>. All orders will ship directly to each buyer. Karen Durand made a motion to move forward with the fundraiser. The motion carried.

d) Financial Requests:

- We received a request to be a sponsor for the Kayak Camp. We have given before. The Board decided to sponsor two kids at \$225 each. A check has already been mailed.

e) Madam DJ called up Lorie Tidwell to present her with her Madam numbers as she had never received them. Lorie was Madam 11 - Oh thank heaven for Madam Eleven.

Vice Madam Julia Simpson, Membership

a) Membership Report: Celebrated that this was Julia's first meeting as Vice Madam! She announced that there are currently 137 Hookers.

b) Meeting Attendance: 37 with one online. At the Board meeting, the Board discussed recruiting and growing the membership. We need individuals that want to serve and be involved in events and would also appreciate new members that want to donate their \$20 to the community but will serve in a limited capacity.

c) New member swear-in: No new members at the meeting.

d) Call Girls Thank You and next month's volunteers: Julia thanked Jeannie Glenn for her help as Call Girl!

e) Birthday celebration! Sang happy birthday to all those celebrating a birthday in May.

f) Girls Night Follow Up – Julia stated that the Girls Night Out went really well and we look forward to doing that every year.

Secretary, Tara Efird

a) Review and approval of general minutes. Tara stated that the April General Meeting minutes were posted online for review. Theresa Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

b) Online Votes. No online votes.

c) Mail. We received a card with a new membership application thanking us for the prize she won at the Girls Night Out. We also received a card thanking us for our donation to the Beacon of Hope. Joanne Correia read the Beacon of Hope thank you to the group.

d) Hooker Heralds - Submission deadlines for committee chairs. May 18th and May 28th

Treasurer, Terry Batdorf

a) Review and approval of financial reports. Financial statements from March are posted online for review. Terry stated that at the end of March, we had just under \$80,000 in all accounts. Our total profit for March was \$25,000, but it's deceiving because a couple large payments were made in April. For example, \$10,000 was awarded in scholarships (the additional \$2,000 to be paid out at a later date) and \$8,000 was donated to the Beacon of Hope. Claudia Allene made a motion to approve the financials. The motion carried.

Chaplain, Anita Jannotti.

Anita was unable to attend the meeting so DJ presented the Outreach report and the joke.

a. Chaplin Report

b. Outreach Report. Madam DJ reported that we received financial requests to assist with rent and an electrical repair. Both were approved by the committee and paid.

c. DJ also reminded the group that a card shower request went out in the Herald for Sonya Leonard, who fell and hurt her shoulder. Please send her a card for well-wishes and humor.

## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

### 1. Fundraisers

a) Merchandise Report: In April, sales were \$689. The Merchandise committee has new products – table coasters and car coasters.

b) PIE Derby: The committee will now meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday starting in June. Madam DJ explained we are skipping May because of Memorial Day. Madam DJ has the Principal and Madam letters ready and she is working on updating forms. In June, DJ is going to work on the shirt design as the shirts are usually out by July. The next committee meeting is June 28<sup>th</sup> with time and location to TBD.

c) Christmas Caroling: Done in December to raise money for the FISH Christmas Basket Brigade. What we earn in 2021 is their budget for the event in 2022. FISH provides baskets and gifts for children and seniors of the island.

\*\* Don't forget about our annual events happening again in 2022: Art Fest Ft. Myers, the Wine Event, and the Bag 'n Tag. The next Wine Event committee meeting is June 21, 2021.

### 2. Community Support

a) Adopt-A-Road. The next clean-up is June 5<sup>th</sup> and another one will be done after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Clean up starts at 8:30am, but some women get together earlier for breakfast. Lorie said to bring water, sunscreen, and bug spray, and reminded the group that we are required to do a roadside clean up four times a year.

b) Blood Drive. Madam DJ stated the most recent blood drive was a success with a great turn out. Up to 69 people were helped with the blood given.

c) Mango Mania. No full event this year, but if the permit is approved, a Mini Mania will be held Saturday July 17<sup>th</sup> at the Fishers of Men Lutheran Church. The event will have music and kid's events, with Fruitscapes providing mango tasting. In exchange for the Hookers helping with the kid's events, we will get a booth to sell merchandise.

d) 4th of July parade. Madam DJ stated the permit has been submitted but a response is pending. Start thinking of ideas for floats, but "Shhhh... remember our theme will be a secret!" If you have a trailer, flatbed, or anything you are willing to let us decorate, please reach out.

e) School supply drive. Karen Durand gave an update stating that the school knows we would prefer to give supplies than cash. Karen was able to get a tax-free account at Sam's Club. She already has some volunteers and bins will be put at different businesses for June and July. A photo op will be done with Principal Tom when items are donated. Please bring school supplies to the next Hooker meeting.

f) F.I.S.H Clothes for Kids. Anita Jannotti and Tara Efird are buying the clothes. FISH asked for us to provide two complete outfits and we typically budget \$50 per kid. We are given a list of gender and size, etc. For many years we committed to donate \$50 per kid for twenty kids. Karen Durand made a motion to donate \$1,000 for us to be able to sponsor twenty kids again this year. The motion carried.

Karen also told the group that FISH is reestablishing their driving service. If you know anyone that could use help with transportation, reach out. Or if you want to be a driver, submit your application.

Pine Island Food Pantry needs. Karen also gave an update on the food pantry needs. As summer approaches, kid need snacks. The pantry also needs dog and cat food and feminine care items.

Chris Buntin presented an idea of purchasing Magnetic nametags to replace the current paper and plastic badges with pins. She received a quote of \$6.95 each. Chris stated that another island organization sells the nametags to their members for \$5.00 each. The manufacturer will send a color chart so we can pick any combo we want. Tara Efird made a motion to purchase magnetic nametags. The motion carried.

#### **OTHER:**

50/50 collected \$160. \$80 each Tonight's winner: Laura Vick

Tonight's donation to Food Pantry \$231

Next Board Meeting: Monday, June 7th

Next General Meeting: June 14<sup>th</sup>. Location TBD.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:46pm Motion to adjourn made by Julia Simpson. The motion carried.