



MATLACHA HOOKERS
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
September 13, 2021

Call to Order by Madam DJ at 6:30pm
Pledge of Allegiance led by Madam DJ
Invocation by Anita Jannotti, Chaplain

Guest: Dr. Tom Millins, Principal Pine Island Elementary. Presentation of a donation to the school for \$2,388. This is the amount of money raised during the school supply drive that did not go towards purchasing supplies. DJ reminded the group that we normally donate money to the school from the previous year's derby. Dr. Millins gave an update on the school, and DJ gave a shout out to Karen and her team for a fantastic school supply drive.

BOARD REPORTS

Treasurer, Terry Batdorf

a) Review and approval of financial reports. Terry gave an update on the general bank account as of the end of July. Natalie Gazda made a motion to approve the July Financial Report, motion carried.

Madam DJ Ruscik

- a) 50/50: Helping Paws Animal Sanctuary. DJ explained that the sanctuary lost their air conditioning system. At any given time, they have about 200 cats and kittens. Every single person that works there is a volunteer so they weren't eligible for government funding during COVID. Elida made a motion to give this month's 50/50 to Helping Paws. The motion carried.
- b) Hooker Business: No update from the IRS; The accountant did say it could be months before we hear back.
- c) Fundraising Opportunity: Goldy's Chicken Shack – Any Football and/or Cleveland fans? DJ received a call from Bob, who is the owner of Goldy's. He asked if the Hookers wanted to run a 50/50 during Cleveland Browns half-time. A few members went and we raised \$485. The winner of the first 50/50 was a member of the Legion Riders, and she donated her winnings to the Hookers. The 1st raffle was \$385, and the 2nd raffle raised another \$100. DJ asked for volunteers for this Sunday at 1pm. Julia will be there at noon to get a spot. Julia also mentioned that Bob would like to work with us for a Meat Raffle; more details to follow.

- d) Financial Requests: Elks Lodge Annual Golf Tournament, November 6th. We typically sponsor a hole. DJ explained all of the community projects the Elks support. Lorie Tidwell made a motion to give \$100. The motion carried.
- e) Online Payment System. Karen explained the difference between PayPal and Square. There would still be a link to pay for items online just like PayPal. Laura made a comment in favor of Square. A question was asked about the cost difference. It was explained that there is not much of a difference in cost because we applied for the non-profit cost. Cindy Walton made a motion to migrate to Square. The motion carried. We are not going to make the transition until after the PIE Derby.
- f) Volunteers to clean out Shed. Need representation from each committee. What date? The shed is a mess and we need an accurate count of supplies for upcoming events. We need a clean out - one person from each committee to know what to keep. The group agreed to meet at the shed on September 23rd at 9am.
- g) Julia announced that Pine Island Elementary is having a book fair and we have the opportunity to sponsor a classroom. Julia explained that anyone that wants to donate personally can call the school directly. Darcy made a motion to sponsor a 3rd grade class. The motion carried. Julia will call the school on Tuesday for more information.
- h) A Herald went out Saturday but then we had to switch meeting places on Sunday at the last minute. The House of Omelets needed a minimum of 50 people to host us because they are short staffed. We had to determine how to best reach the most members. We are currently limited to three mass emails each month through the free email option we are using. Karen researched the next level to be able to send additional messages, and it is only \$10 dollars. Joanne made a motion to spend the additional money per month to upgrade our membership. The motion carried.
- i) DJ asked if any members knows where the big check is located. The group believes the last we used it was at the House of Omelets or for the Beacon of Hope presentation.

Vice Madam, Julia Simpson

- a) Membership Report: Current membership is 147
- b) Meeting Attendance: 1 guest - Bobby Jo. She is new to the island. 35 physically in attendance and three online for a total of 38.
- c) New Member swear-in. Swore in two new members.
- d) Call Girls Thank You and next month's volunteers: Julia asked for two call girls.
- e) Birthday celebrations! Sang happy birthday.
- f) Elections – If you are interested in being on the committee, let Julia know. Every year three directors and all executives will be voted on. We will be doing nominations later this month. You'll see information in a Herald. We will start accepting nominations on Oct 15th. We'll host a meet the candidates at the November general meeting where nominees will tell you why you should vote for them. Then voting will be held in December. A discussion was had about why we were moving elections back to December. Terry will be stepping down as Treasurer, and Beth Jill Filgut and Chris Buntin will be stepping down as Directors as their term has expired. DJ announced she will be running again for Madam and Julia announced that she will be running for Vice Madam.

Secretary, Tara Efirid

- a) Review and approval of general minutes. Joanne Correia made a motion to approve the August general meeting minutes with one correction of Chris Buntin's name. The motion carried.
- b) Online Votes. Approved the board minutes.
- c) Mail. Thank you's. DJ read a thank you from the Beacon of Hope for our \$50 donation to their GED program. We also received a thank you for our donation to the Food Pantry.
- d) Hooker Heralds - Submission deadlines for committee chairs September 18th and 28th. DJ stated the next Herald deadlines will be listed in each issue.

Chaplain, Anita Jannotti

- a. Chaplin Report. No updates and no current requests. Anita read a joke.
- b. Outreach Report
- c. Card Shower – Ruth Sofranko. DJ asked the group to participate in card showers even if you don't know the person. Please send a short note or card.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

1. Fundraisers

- a) Merchandise Report: We have a sale going on for certain t-shirt colors and sizes. DJ explained that the Chamber started doing a Saturday market, and the merchandise crew was quite successful at the event. In the future, we will ask for additional people to help each weekend. If you want to help sell merchandise, please reach out. It is not a full day commitment. The market will start again in November. It is held the last Saturday of the month at the Fishers of Men. 9am - 1pm.
- b) PIE Derby: Next Committee Meeting on Monday, September 20th at Little Lilly's Deli or SJC Civic Association?? Will be meeting at Little Lilly's Deli. We are starting to build out the volunteer list for each area. Information will be included in the next Herald. There are two new t-shirt sponsors: Perfect Cup and the Williamson Brothers. Both are \$300 sponsors. DJ read the names of the existing sponsors. Sponsorship opportunities will be going out in the Herald soon. Chris Buntin stated she needs more information to apply for permitting, including information about port-a-potties. Janelle is checking on port-a-potties and Sandy is checking into tents. If you can help, please reach out. Julia discussed an app that will be used this year to help with the fishing tournament registration.
- c) Wine Event: Joanne – Next Committee Meeting postponed until November 15th at the SJC Civic Association. Joanne needs booze donations. Please bring donations to meetings. Chris is looking for designer bags and jewelry for the event.
- d) Bag 'n Tag: Donations can be dropped off in Bokeelia. DJ is not equipped to take donations at the meetings, but you can drop off donations in Bokeelia. Reach out to DJ to coordinate a drop off.
- d) Holiday Bazaar - We already have Christmas merchandise set aside. However, the Bazaar is the day before the Derby so many members will be busy preparing. If you want to volunteer at our booth at the Bazaar, please reach out.

e) The Chamber will be hosting a stone crab festival. We have been asked to participate to sell our merchandise and sell water at the event. It will be held the Saturday after the Derby. Please reach out if you would like to volunteer at this new island event.

2. Community Support

a) Adopt-A-Road. TBD.

b) Blood Drive: Next Drive in November. TBD.

c) Pine Island Food Pantry needs. In the Herald - please look for what is needed and bring the items to the meeting.

OTHER:

DJ told the group about a donation program for used bras. She will be putting information in a Herald.

Deb Syring stated that she has an entire house of items to be given away. She asked for members to reach out to her if they need items or know of anyone that needs items.

50/50 collected \$ Tonight's winner: \$170. Winner will get \$85. The winner is Deb Syring.

Tonight's donation to Food Pantry \$57

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 28th at Little Lilly's Deli

Next General Meeting: October 11th at the Elks

Meeting adjourned @ 8:02pm.