
St. Petersburg Civitan Club Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
May 11th, 2022

Call to order

The St. Petersburg Civitan Club Board of Directors held a meeting at the Beach House at 18604 Gulf Blvd, Indian Shores FL 33785 on May 11th, 2022. Board members present were Jan Ward, Norm Bungard, Lauren Heckert, Barbara Clark, Eddie Pringle, Karen Galinowski and Jeanne Davison (late arrivals). Pete Meydag was also in attendance. Jan opened the meeting with the Civitan Motto. Norm Bungard gave the invocation. He also spoke of the Parable of the Talents and encouraged the board to recognize and share their own gifts with others. He asked each member to recite a quote from the book "365 Ways to Live in Harmony". Norm also reiterated his recognition of the concerns brought forth from Jewish members about his message in the Florida District Sunbeam newsletter and pledged to be more inclusive in the future.

Reports

President – Jan presented to Pete Meydag a Civitan Club pin for bringing in 5 new members. She also had 1-year pins for Karen Higgins, Craig Jones, and Bob O’Neil. Jan said she planted flowers and placed a light in a front corner of the Beach House to highlight the brick pavers.

Secretary – Last month’s minutes were reviewed for omissions and updates. The number of voters was corrected and the Club’s obligation to PARC Challenge Club clarified. The minutes were approved. The club currently has forty-four members.

Treasurer – Lauren Heckert reported a current balance of \$12,896.17. Deposits were \$100 for Frank Kelly’s brick, \$5.35 reimbursement for bleach, \$48 member dues from Karen Higgins, and new member dues of \$223.38 to be deposited next day. One check for \$215 to Florida District for dues. Credit card charges were \$5.35 (bleach) and \$220 - the down payment for “That’s My Brick” brick order.

New Business

New Member Application-- Ellen Schellhause, sponsored by Karen Galinowski who says Ellen is very dependable, outgoing and a diligent worker whom she has known for several years. Valerie Sewell, sponsored by Barbara Clark, a 3-yr. volunteer at the Clearwater Aquarium, retired middle school principal and eager to be involved.

Robert Dietz Donation – Norm said Bonnie Ruth approached him about donating \$250 in the name of longtime Orlando Civitan Club member Robert Dietz, who recently passed away. Bob Dietz was the organizer of the annual Breakthru Golf Benefit 29 years ago that has raised money for the Civitan International Research Center. After discussion, the board chose to purchase a brick (\$100) in his name. Lauren will contact Gay Aaron, past FL Civitan Gov about the decision and Bob Dietz’s wife, Laura Dietz, for her input and preferred wording to be put on the brick.

Policy for Charitable Donations – Pete explained the Foundation’s evaluation process of charitable donation requests that involve collecting and analyzing information about a program's activities, characteristics, and outcomes, and if it is in harmony with the Civitan Mission Statement. He said case-by-case decisions are also based on budget & resource limitations. In recent years, the Foundation sustained large Beach House expenses/upgrades and low venue rental income due of Covid19. Occasionally the Foundation receives a direct request, but most come from the Civitan Club via the Club liaison. Lauren said the Civitan Club should have a formal written policy that establishes a central point of contact for requests, helps manage requests for donations and clarifies factors involved in donation decisions. Lauren said he would explore various donation policies and present to the board for review his suggestions for final adoption.

Voting Delegates – Jan reminded the board that Monday is the deadline to register to vote on changes to Civitan International by-laws. Registration is required to vote with a \$250 registration fee. In place of Jan Ward, Jeanne Davison is attending the International Convention in July and will vote on behalf of St. Pete Civitan Club.

Parking Lot Violation— Pete detailed his recent experience with cars in the lot without the proper member parking cards. Signs posted state unauthorized cars will be towed. One car only had a note asking not to be towed and included a phone number. Pete learned that car belonged to a former member with \$198 unpaid past dues. Lauren announced, and the board agreed, anyone wishing to reapply for membership must pay any unpaid past dues. Pete found 3 more illegally parked cars. He called the towing company & subsequently cancelled it when he discovered that a current member owned one car (2 other cars were his guests). Pete advised him to put notes or call ahead if needed. He said the entrance to the lot has also been blocked and is concerned that nonmembers use the parking lot far more often than we realize - regardless of the posted signs. He also said members are not displaying parking permits in their cars and former members do not return their permits. Jan will note in next newsletter that parking permits must be visible in windshield & guests of members must display note with member's name. Karen asked if nonmembers create a higher liability risk to the club in the event of issue/accident. Pete said installing a gate is an option but worried it could be a problem for the garbage company, caterers, rental clients, and others who repeatedly need access.

Public Parking— Lauren said the Foundation has blocked July 2 and 3 from event reservations so the Civitan Club can use the lot for public parking to raise money for the club. The board had previously chosen Memorial Day weekend to be public parking, but a client reserved the dates for an event. Jan will announce July public parking dates in the June newsletter. Parking sign will be on display on the sidewalk and Lauren will post dates on Facebook page.

Brick Project Update— Jan said she placed an order for 20 bricks for \$440 with 50% deposit (\$220) to be delivered to the Beach House May 12. Jan will schedule the installer and get prices for the installation of additional bricks as well as the historic plaque.

Open Discussion

Lauren gave an update on Beach House upkeep: All windows were cleaned for \$300; Lauren will determine how often they need cleaning and will also get a quote from window cleaner to clean the deck. Other repairs and upgrades include board approved \$1,000 barn door installation to be scheduled this week, replacement of men's room exterior door for \$600, new A/C in ladies' restroom (price to be determined), grate & ductwork repair in men's room, and front steps repair.

Motions

There was a motion to accept the last month's minutes. Approved with 5 Yes votes and 0 No votes.

There was a motion to accept Ellen Schellhause and Val Sewell as new members. Motion was accepted with 6 Yes votes and 0 No votes.

There was a motion to purchase a brick in Robert Dietz's name. Motion was accepted with 7 Yes votes and 0 No votes.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:38pm.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on June 7th, 2022, at 3:00pm at the Beach House. The Business Meeting is open to Club and Foundation Board members.

Secretary – Barbara Clark

Approval Date: