

St. Petersburg Civitan Club Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2024

Call to order

A meeting of the St. Petersburg Civitan Club Board of Directors was held at the Beach House at 18604 Gulf Blvd, Indian Shores FL on January 10th, 2024. Board members present were Jim Seymour, Jan Ward, Lauren Heckert, Norm Bungard, Barb Clark, Karen Galinowski, Jeanne Davison, and Eddie Pringle. Bonnie Ruth was also present. The board opened the meeting with the abbreviated Civitan Motto. Norm delivered the invocation. He also told the tale of a knight who came across a sparrow, its legs flailing in the air, trying to support the sky it believed was collapsing. The moral of the story is that even when a problem appears insurmountable or hopeless, we should persist, as every small effort can make a difference. Every little bit helps!

Reports

President – Club President, Jim Seymour addressed several items including an update on the Four Chaplains event. Barb stated that she had obtained the food prices, dispatched one invitation, and received 15 RSVPs. She required information about whether Rabbi Weintraub would be accompanied by guests. She also needed the program's agenda. The decision was made to print 50 programs. It was further decided to exclude the nomination form for the 2025 nominees from the invitations. Eddie Pringle was assigned the task of reaching out to Rabbi Weintraub for more information. Norm said he would provide Barb with the program's agenda.

Jim raised the topic of fundraising, expressing his desire to integrate it into all events, encompassing social gatherings and monthly membership meetings. Jan voiced her readiness to contribute. The social committee now comprises Maria Christiano, Jan Ward, Jim & Cindy Seymour, Barb Clark, Susan Lanson, and Bonnie Ruth.

Jim inquired about the progress of the forthcoming Fire and Police Awards. Bonnie proposed contacting Theresa Pinnix, who has a history of coordinating these events. Jim agreed to get in touch with her to gather more details.

Jim and Lauren will arrange their schedules to visit the bank together, with the aim of adding Jim's signature to the bank account.

Jim inquired about the St. Patrick's Party scheduled for March 17th. Following a discussion, several decisions were made: to cut down on the quantity of food and beer, to require guests to sign a sign-in sheet, to decrease the event's cost, and to incorporate a fundraising activity into the party. Barb said she has a bin of St Patrick's Day decorations from last year's event that can be used again this year.

Jim informed the board about the procurement of Adobe software through a monthly rental plan for the purpose of creating online and email forms.

Jim is keen on scheduling a membership meeting in February that includes either a guest speaker, a fun event or activity, a project, or an occasion related to environmental interests. The

aim is to appeal to younger members with initiatives like Tampa Bay Watch, sea turtle conservation, beach clean-up, and more.

Despite the chaplain's role being a non-voting position, the board chose to grant Norm Bungard voting rights at all times, instead of just when a tie needed to be broken. For further clarity, Lauren consulted the by-laws.

Jim asked Bonnie to put forth her nomination for the role of International Director of District 2 to the board. Bonnie sought the board's approval for her candidacy, which the board subsequently provided. This necessitated a formal motion.

Bonnie reported that Parc Civitan Club has received another generous donation from a Parc board member, and several St Pete Civitan Club members have also contributed via the Foundation. She has been in talks with the Foundation about establishing a system for directing donations to the Parc Civitan Club. These donations would be tracked separately and consolidated into a single check issued in January. Bonnie expressed her desire to highlight the Parc Civitan Club during meetings, as it is sponsored by the St. Pete Civitan Club. Bonnie wants to encourage St Pete Civitan Club members to attend a Parc Club meeting at least once a year. This is because they have activities that require hands-on participation. Notices are sent out for this purpose from the St Pete Civitan Club, which Bonnie appreciates. She says the Parc Civitan Club is doing well, with an average of 40 attendees per meeting.

Secretary – We now have 56 members.

Treasurer – The balance in the account is \$15,622.73. December deposits were \$1,120, \$804.48, and \$832 dues for membership renewal. There is a deficit of \$164.48 in the account due to a returned dues check, but the member has assured that it will be replenished. December credit card charge of \$81.30 for envelopes. January deposits of \$964.48 and \$192.96 for membership dues. January credit card charges included \$1,026 for International dues, \$256.50 for Regional dues, and \$427.50 for the annual insurance premium. Lauren stated that he will be in contact with the members who are yet to pay their membership dues for the 2023-24 period.

Open Discussion

During the Orientation, Norm says he always emphasizes that all tax-deductible contributions should be directed to the Foundation, a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization. He also took the opportunity to remind the board that Parc is continually in search of new volunteers.

The beach restoration efforts have hindered access to the beach from the Beach House. Lauren planned to discuss this with the county authorities who are supervising and financing the project.

Motions

There was a motion to accept the December meeting minutes that passed with 8 YES votes and 0 NO votes.

There was a motion to accept the Secretary's Report that passed with 8 YES votes and 0 NO votes.

There was a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report that passed with 8 YES votes and 0 NO votes.

There was a motion to approve Bonnie Ruth's candidacy for International Governor of District 2 position that passed with 7 YES votes and 0 NO votes.

There was a motion to make Norm Bungard a voting board member that passed with 6 YES votes and 0 NO votes.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting with 8 YES votes and 0 NO votes.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:16pm.

The next meeting will be February 14, 2024, at 3:00pm at the Beach House. The Business Meeting is open to Club and Foundation Board members.

Secretary – Barbara Clark

Approval Date: