

MINUTES
Fishing & Boating Club Meeting
Friday, December 6, 2024

The December meeting of the Fishing & Boating Club was called to order by Commodore Tim Husel at 6:02 pm at Marble Hall.

He asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tim stated the purpose of the Club is to promote fishing, boating and good fellowship among members.

Veterans and First Responders were asked to stand. Past Commodores Sue Redding, Tom Alferes, Chet Dunn and Joe Schmidt were recognized along with our solo charter member Chet Dunn. All received an overwhelming round of applause.

Tim announced the club now has 230 members and the board voted to increase the membership to 250. New members were asked to stand and met with applause.

Tim introduced his better half, Brenda Molofy, who has missed the last two seasons.

Tim brought Jim Figurado, a long time and valued sponsor, up to speak. Jim announced his plans to open a new restaurant on Key Colony Beach causeway.

The minutes of the November meeting were accepted on a motion by Chet Dunn which was seconded by Rick Quick and passed by the members.

Treasurer Tricia Evangelista read the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made to accept the report by Joe Schmidt and seconded by Denny McGill.

Recording Secretary Diane Slusher thanked the club for the opportunity to serve and noted it was great to be back.

Membership Secretary Pat Fischer announced she had a few New Years Eve tickets left and to see her if interested. She thanked new member Paul Kent for his help with the website. Paul stood and addressed the club in a lively fashion with details on the website changes made to date including the ability to submit fishing tournament entries online. He explained in detail what he would be adding going forward including Kids Fishing Derby photos and a listing of the charities we donate to. Visit the club site at keycolonyfishing.com

Director at Large Joe Schmidt announced the New Year's Eve setup will begin at Marble Hall at 9 am that day. Rick and Dayna will perform at 7PM. New decorations, including the traditional disco ball, have been purchased for the event. Those who come to help with the setup will have an opportunity to reserve their table in advance. The club will provide standard bar mixers, byob. Clean-up will take place the following morning at 10am. Joe asked that members clean up after themselves after tonight's meeting as well. Joe then reminded all to wear red on Fridays to support our deployed service members!

Past Commodore Tom Alferes announced Rick and Dayna have performed on New Years Eve for the club 14 of the last 15 years. Tom recalled one year when the ball dropped at 10 pm, there were four members left at the event.

Fundraising John Fruhmorgen thanked members for their donations to El Nino. He announced he has a Kodiak boat for sale if interested. John introduced Big Steve Sorbara who will be captaining the yard sale at the clam bake this year, taking the helm on the event from Recording Secretary Diane Slusher who captained the event for the last 3 years. He reminded members to save items for the event along with the silent auction.

Vice Commodore Carman Slusher thanked those in attendance from the city and community for their help restoring Marble Hall so that the club could hold the meeting here tonight. He gave a special shout out to new member Mike Guarino from Public Works who hosted us at the maintenance building while we were displaced. Carman asked for two volunteers, one to captain monthly meeting setups and one to manage the storage facility. He then requested those who are captains at the clam bake to start providing training to fellow members in case of any unexpected absences or turnover in the positions. Carman thanked the volunteers for tonight's meeting, 50/50 sales Kitty Sutton and Connie White, Greeters Annie and Mike Yunker, Cindy and Bill Catto with Cindy's sister and best friend as servers.

Boat Parade Chairman Steve DeCrow announced we have 13 boats signed up for the event to date and that a new prize structure is in place this year that favored all entries. He encouraged members to sign up for the event which is a long-standing community favorite.

Fundraising Freddie Foster asked members for prayers for fellow members Joey and Karen Raspe who are not in attendance tonight due to a family emergency. Freddie announced he has setup an effort to donate turkeys to those less fortunate and in need this Christmas. Publix has offered a discounted price, and he is coordinating efforts ahead of Christmas in conjunction with the El Nino toy drive to benefit those less fortunate and homeless vets. A basket was passed to the members for their donations.

Tournament Director Dean Williams introduced Greg Chorebanian of Wicked Tuna. Greg is once again donating a custom-built rod to the club which he has very generously done for some years. The rod and reel include a Rain Shadow Blank MB846 15/30lb. with Fuji Guides, 13-inch handle wrapped cork with shrink wrap, a Pac-Bay reel seat and a 5000 Battle Penn Reel donated by West Marine. A round of applause was given to Greg for his generosity! Dean thanked sponsor Wholesale Marine who provides a 10% discount to club members with code KCB25. Dean announced the two divisions in the fishing tournament, Champions and Tale Chasers, would be reinstated due to popular demand. Sign up for fishing tournaments at keycolonyfishing.com. Latest winners were announced with prizes awarded. For a complete list of winners, please visit the website.

Past Commodore Suzan Redding announce the annual Little Palm Island luncheon is scheduled for January 21st. The reservation is for 40 people.

Fundraising John Fruhmorgen announced sponsor benefits will be added to the website soon.

Fundraising Freddie Foster thanked members for their generous donations in the basket passed for the food donations which came in over \$1,015!!

Vice Commodore Carman Slusher thank David Ruthenberg for his contribution to the beer taps for the clam bake which was met with a round of applause.

Commodore Tim Husel thanked the KCB Community Association for their contributions to the Christmas Boat Parade.

With no further business, Commodore Tim Husel announced the next meeting will be the first Friday in January and wished all a safe and happy holiday.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM on a motion made by Sal Salavarria, which was seconded by Tom Casey and passed by the members.

Submitted by,
Diane Slusher, Recorder
December 12, 2024