



PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES – September 17, 2016  
Bay Harbor Hotel, 7700 Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa FL 33607

Meeting called to order at 4:37 p.m. by Mike Coffey (President).

**Attendees:**

Kelly Parthenais (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President), Patrick Smith (Director), Brittney Wilder (Director), Tom Wilder (Past President), James Beattie (Sergeant at Arms), Jacque Vowell (Editor), and Cheryl Williams (Office Manager), Noreen Hanson (Treasurer).

**Telephone Attendees:**

Ray Husum (Director–At-Large), Richard Grimison (Chaplin), Bill McLaughlin (Historian & Past President),

**Absent:** Kathy Malin, Lee Bentley and Shirley Avery

**Guest:** Betty LeDoux

**Location:** Bay Harbor Hotel, 7700 Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa FL 33607

**Membership:** There were no new members to vote on.

**Minutes:** Mike asked the board to motion to approve the August 20, 2016 minutes, but no one had read them so it will be put to an online vote. Cheryl will email the board for a vote this week.

**Expenditures:** Kelly motioned to approve the expenditures and Patrick seconded the motion and the remaining board approved.

**Betty LeDoux's Report:**

**Carnavalito:** Betty talked to the Double Tree which Richard Grimison said was nice and he will be attending a large event there in the fall. The rate is \$146.00 + tax, final price \$162.00 per night, their normal rate at this time is \$229.00-\$249.00 per night. The dates will be February 17-19, 2017 and she added February 16-18, 2018 pending the outcome of the event in 2017. January 17, 2017 will be the cutoff date for the blocked room price. This year it falls on Presidents Day weekend, for those who would like to make it a long weekend. Betty will inquire about extending the rate to Sunday night if any of our members would like to stay an additional day. Tom made a motion to approve signing a contract with Double Tree and Brittney seconded the motion the board all approved. A \$500.00 deposit is required by the Double Tree, Tom motioned to pay the deposit and Patrick seconded the motion and it was approved by the board present.

**Reunion 2020:** Betty and a few board members visited the JW Marriott in Orlando as a possibility for the 2020 Reunion. The Marriott had conference space issues and Bill McLaughlin spent many hours revising the space to make it work for our Reunion. The rate was \$149.00 + tax which brought it to \$168.00. The normal parking rate is \$30.00 per day, they hotel reduced that rate to \$15.00 but would not wave the parking fee. Which brought our price to \$183.00 per day. Restaurant discounts would be 10%.

The Rosen Shingle Creek rate would be \$131.00 + tax final price \$147.00 with free parking.

It was decided to table this decision to the next meeting and Betty will look into Safire Falls and get back to us.

**Carnavalito Decorations:** The Morrissey's had requested we ask Margaret McLaughlin to do the decorations once more. Bill asked her and she was happy to do it. Tom Wilder made a motion to give Margaret \$250.00 for Carnavalito decorations and Kelly seconded the motion and the motion was approved by all present.

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**Database Update:** James reported that is ready to start loading the new database and will come by the office sometime this week. It should be up and running by the end of October.

**Reunion Job Descriptions:** Bill is working on the job descriptions and hopes to be done in the future.

**Cultural Seminar:** Bill approached Sentimiento Panama if they would be willing to be guest speakers at the Cultural Seminar, discussing the various types of Panamanian folkloric dances. He also discussed them doing a Calle Arriba & Calle Abajo Murga for the Reunion in 2017. Bill asked them to send us a proposal.

**Thursday Night Dance:** There is no firm plans for the Thursday night Dance so this was tabled until the next meeting.

**Friday Night Dance:** There is still no music booked for this night. Richard talked to Shorty and Slim and they felt they were better suited for the pool party. Friday night is also tabled until the next meeting. Mike asked the board to come with some ideas for the next meeting.

**Display Case for the UF Corridor:** Mike will call Judy and find out if we can display our items that represent the Society in the case. This vote is tabled until our next meeting, when Mike can report back to us.

**Canal Record:** Is at the printers, as soon as they send the mock up Jacque will send a copy to Mike to proof for final approval.

**Update form the Board:** Kelly needs two more vendors at the Holiday Luncheon. She is going to reach out to Conan to see if he and Tom are interested.

Cheryl asked the board if they would waive the \$10.00 administration fee for new or members who are not current in their dues for the Party on the Causeway. Tom motioned that the \$10.00 be waived for anyone who joins and pays for their membership on September 17, 2017, Kelly seconded the motion and it was approved by the board present.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

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Mike Coffey, President

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Cheryl Williams, Office Manager/Secretary