



PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Holiday Inn, 8928 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL
February 16, 2019

The Board Meeting was called to order at 12:59 p.m. by Shirley Avery Bentley (President).

Attendees:

Richard Grimison (1st Vice President), Brittney Wilder (2nd Vice President), Lee Bentley (Director), Patrick Smith (Director), Mike Coffey (Immediate Past President), Carl Orvis (Chaplain), Bob Russell (Legislature Representative & Past President) Jacque Vowell (Editor).and Kathy Malin (Office Manager).

Telephone Attendees:

James Beattie (Director), Ray Husum (ByLaws), Laura Kosik (Sergeant of Arms), Bill McLaughlin (Reunion Coordinator & Past President), and Betty LeDoux (Past President),

Absent: Rod Snyder (Director-At-Large) and Noreen Hanson (Treasurer)

Mike motioned to approve the new members, Pat seconded, and the motion carried.

Mike motioned to approve to pay the Bills, Richard seconded, and the motion carried.

Reunion:

Bill explained the Pool Party expenses sheet which needs \$8,852.75 more in sponsorship. He explained about doubling up on the backline for setting up the sound and equipment both at the pool and the 2nd location. Last year the Hotel decided at 10:00 am to move the Pool Party thus we can make the decision again, this year. Bill is still working on a Plan B location between Atrium and Crystal Ballroom. Betty suggested North Tower since it is closer to the Pool and the other conference attendees will not be bothered if we did host it in the Atrium.

Richard stated his goal is \$7,500 because he didn't include the beer expense that is normally taken care of by the Society. Richard said if we can afford 2nd backline, let's plan on it otherwise, let's not. Richard has spoken to other classes for sponsorship plus he is talking to hotels/companies. He is heading to Panama on Monday and will seek out hotels/companies, i.e. Country Inn and Suites, etc. Richard believes he can raise \$7,500.

Bill will check with the Sound team on their 'drop dead' date. Mike motioned to proceed with the Pool Party without the backline but if sponsorship is met then add the 2nd setup. Pat seconded, and the motion carried.

Bill mentioned that Ricardo March has returned as a sponsor but not for bags. Shirley indicated the Bentleys will sponsor the bags again this year. Bill discussed the sponsor sheet. A discussion on bag colors ensued. Mike motioned to order the forest green bags with khaki logo, Richard seconded, and the motion carried. The Board decided on ordering 1400 bags.

The Cultural Seminar should be a great event to attend on Friday afternoon. UF will be filming the event.

Bill is worried about the Database reports. Kathy explained that Mark Liquorman is working on Access fixes and will get back to us on the status. James would like to speak to Mark to see if he has any questions. Kathy will pass on the information.

David Wright cannot be the photographer this year but recommended his friend, Barry Alsobrook, who has worked the Reunion with David over the years. Bill has sent the contract to Barry for same price and Barry also plans to bring the same crew. They are aware of the Class schedules. Bill has set aside a empty ballroom to take Class pictures. Jacque has sent the information to the Classes.

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Two Security companies have merged but all personnel and costs are the same and they are good to go.

Laura Kosik is finalizing the Volunteer Sign-up page and will send out an email blast with the schedule.

Bill mentioned Brian D'Haeseller, a professor from Lyon College who is writing a book on Just Cause. He will become an Associate Member plus sign up for the Reunion.

Bill has included Gator Tales for updates on the UF Panama Canal Gallery Museum.

The Board members received a decal that will be in the March Canal Record. Jacque showed all the first few pages of the Reunion Coloring Book that Ed Husum is developing along with Loreen Ridge-Husum.

Kathy shared the horizontal ribbons that could be printed for the Military members of PCS. The Board liked the idea and Carl suggested red/white/blue ribbons with Veteran vice ordering all the different military organizations. Kathy will get a quote and send out to Board.

Kathy asked Board for Volunteer ideas. Everyone agreed to the taller Water Koozies. Kathy will get pricing for these Koozies and leather business card holders.

Old Business:

Ray thanked Betty for handling the ByLaws ballots. He explained that the Office received 67 ballots but 2 were received after the deadline. 65 ballots were counted and all in favor of passing Amendment #39 which will take effect March 1, 2019. The vote will be announced at the General Membership Meeting tonight along with the destruction of ballots.

Kathy will email Chris Wilder on deleting CZ schools and adding under memberships: (1) Last school attended in the former Canal Zone and (2) Year last attended.

Kathy has been sharing documents with the Auditors. The President, Voting Board, and Kathy needs to fill out the Related Party Questionnaire and sign it. There is a 2nd letter on Fraud that the President and Treasurer needs to sign. Mike read to the Board, Noreen's responses to the Fraud Questionnaire and the Board agreed with it. Shirley signed the form.

Shirley discussed the 2019-2020 events and the importance that Board members show up at the meetings. If someone cannot handle their duties, please talk to Shirley privately. Bob Russell confirmed one change on the Der Dutchman is now scheduled for September 7th. Looking over the dates, most events all scheduled for the first weekend of the month.

Carnavalito was discussed. Richard stated the Space Coast has deep roots with the history of Carnavalito but are ready to 'pass on the torch'. Even if we are not breaking even on Carnavalito, the Board discussed the mission of the Society which is to bring the community and people together. Carl suggested the St Petersburg area for the next Carnavalito which might bring out a larger turnout. We will have Betty investigate Beach hotels. Mike suggested the St Pete Coliseum for the dinner/dance. Need a committee to work on this. Richard motioned to move Carnavalito to the Tampa Bay/St Pete area, Pat seconded, and the motion carried.

Richard gave a shout out to the Morrissey, Deakins, McConaugheys, and the rest of the Space Coast gang for all their support and guidance the last several years.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Richard suggested our website should be upgraded to a new look. If we don't update something, it should be removed. The Board suggested a simple committee should be formed with Chris Wilder on it. Ray suggested that his wife, Loreen would be interested. James would like to be on the committee, too. The committee should discuss the scope of work, designs, etc. Brittney indicated the potential of fraud if more than one person has the passwords. Kathy explained the system of on-line payments which cannot be connected to the present website. Frank Lee sends out the Email Blasts and is looking into a SQL system.

All motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:41 p.m.

Shirley Avery Bentley, President

Kathy Malin, Office Manager