

The Lodge Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2023

Meeting called to order at 5:08 PM

In attendance: Frank Miller, Judy Weichel, Deb Brewer, Vicki Burk, John Root, Marsha Walmer and Jazmine Snide Absent – Brenda Ries

Prior meeting minutes from October 2023 approved. All Aye's.

Treasurer's Report – Total cash in all Santander accounts as of 10/31/23 (including petty cash) is \$9,068.89. Payroll is still the outstanding line item for payables. Vicki will send September payroll to the office. October and November (which is not yet final) is still outstanding. The sales tax will now be required to be paid monthly beginning 2024. The lodge showed a profit in October in the amount of \$1,204.65 and the YTD P&L is (\$3,866.91) as of 10/31/23. Total Cash as of 11/13/23 is \$7,942.09. There was also a question about the cable bill. Wondering if this is something we still choose to have now that we are using YouTube TV for a lot. The answer at this time is we are grandfathered in regarding what we pay for and we should let it ride until we are certain we will not want cable anymore.

Kitchen Report – Staffing – There is still a shortage of volunteers and paid help in the kitchen. Once Marsha finishes the safe serve kitchen manager, she will begin doing the scheduling. Marsha will also receive a salary increase to go along with the increased responsibility. This is a good choice for Marsha to schedule because she has a more 'hands on' knowledge of everyone's abilities. Now that Frank will be unavailable to volunteer until early February, Karen Haldeman offered to step in occasionally, and John also has a line on a new person. He is pursuing her to cook, and offer specials on occasion as well as trying to get other help in the kitchen. Hopefully something pans out early in the new year. Meanwhile, we will do the best we can in December. Also in Franks absence, Marsha offered to handle the produce shopping through the end of the year. Something else will need to be figured out for January.

About this time 5 members of the community joined the meeting. John quickly briefed them on the beginning of the meeting, and let them know minutes are available at the office if they are interested in the financials and staffing. Then we continued on with the agenda.

Bar Report – Everyone is very pleased that the bar finally outsold food sales. This is a trend we all hope will continue since that is where the profits are.

There was discussion to open the lodge for other games besides the Eagles, as well as other sports. Jazmine and John are looking at the various schedules and working toward having the lodge open as much as possible in December. Jaz will now begin doing the bar schedule. John re-organized the liquor cabinet. He has good ideas about streamlining the offerings, and how to draw in the community.

John is working to figure out the best way for us to have all the mixers and additional condiments that are nice to have at the bar. Part of this is by learning what other local businesses are doing, and this is a good resource that John is developing.

Menu and Food Supplier – The Sysco rep and a chef met with us in the lodge. They cooked (among other items) roast beef with a giardiniera relish, beef brisket burnt end griller, shrimp with a garlic herb sauce. As a result, we plan to offer Turkey Burgers on the menu, and possibly grilled shrimp, and roast beef sandwiches as specials. Wings are still too challenging and pricey for us to offer. Deb will do a facebook survey to see if gluten free breads and rolls should be offered. John also introduced the possibility of PFG foods as a supplier and Deb will also research other food delivery options.

Deb prepared a new sample menu with removing the jalapeno poppers and switching up the sampler. There were some price increases, and lots of discussion (including the members who joined the meeting) regarding the offerings. It was noted we are not looking to make a large profit from the members of the community, but we would like to stay in the black, so to speak. There are a couple of items which should still be tweaked, it is not quite ready and we hope to have it finalized for January.

New Office Proposal - John is proposing the downstairs area be made into a proper office/meeting area for the lodge. This led to a lot of discussion on the upstairs area as well. There was a great deal of participation from the members who are not on the committee as to what could happen both downstairs and upstairs. Bottom line is no decision has been made. John will propose to the board for permission to get a couple proposals from professionals who do this and then he will have blueprints and some concrete information to bring to the board for the upgrades and improvements he is looking for. This includes not only making a proper office, but also to rearrange the bar area and open up the entrance. It is the committees hope that the upstairs can be utilized as well. Lots of ideas, but first he will propose it to the board for permission to explore.

Capital Improvements – The list we discussed includes 3 new tvs, surround sound in the lodge, a tap system (always on the list just in case) as well as provisions to outfit the upstairs as a lounge area. John asked everyone to think about it and email him their ideas to propose to the board.

Lodge Events – Trivia – none scheduled in December

Bingo – hopefully 2 Thursdays a month beginning January

Football/sports – December 3rd - Eagles at 4:25

December 17th – Eagles at 4:25.

Bar opens at 12:30 on Double Headers and at 4:00 for the later games.

Potentially lots of new dates on the calendar for the remainder of December and January pending office approval. BYO food to share works very well in this community, and John sees this as a big opportunity to increase activity and profits in the bar.

Karaoke – hopefully 1 Thursday a month beginning January. John had a conversation with the touch tunes people, and will follow up again with them. They are expected to provide us with a better unit which will include karaoke.

Paint n sip – Sunday Dec 10 - time to be determined.

A member of the community asked in advance to be on the meeting agenda regarding cleaning up, and beautifying the lodge, including the entranceway. This rolled into discussion on decorating for the holiday before the Hallmark Christmas event. It was decided we would meet on Sunday, at 4:00 to begin decorating for Christmas.

Members of Civic promised to help and the date to take down would be after Orthodox Christmas on January 7th. Another point brought up by the member is to make it policy to keep the lighting softer, and to possibly get sweatshirts for the servers so they more are easily identifiable. The servers already wear t-shirts, but with the weather changing, they often have a sweater or sweatshirt over it. Another member offered to reach out to someone who does screen-printing on sweatshirts. Deb will follow up with that too.

There will be another Murder mystery dinner in February for Valentines day. There was lots of discussion on the date since Superbowl is about the same time. Date decided will be Feb 17th Deb will confirm their availability. Other details to be worked out.

Civic proposed that they want to purchase the movie license to allow for a movie a month. Considering what they paid for 2 or 3 movies, if they purchase a whole year, it is cost effective for them, however, they need a physical address. So they asked if they could do it through the lodge and they would donate the rest of the monthly subscription for movies to be used by the lodge. This will need to have board approval before we can make any decision, primarily because the lodge is supported by the board, and civic is an independent organization.

Next meeting Monday Dec 12th at 5:00 pm. Public meeting to begin at 6:00 pm

Motion to close the meeting by Judy, Deb seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM