

01-18-2023 SHAMROCK CLUB GENERAL MEETING

EAGLES CLUB LA CROSSE

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Barrie Monks, Jerry O'Flaherty, Dave Burgess, Russ Stockel, Linda Pfaff, Rod Smith, Pam Smith, Kelly Smith, Ron Smith, Linda Smith, Ann Nolan, Luke Seielstad, Kathy Sexauer, Pari Sexauer, Linda Hoehn, Tim Gillespie, Mary Jagim, George Baumbich, Charlene Baumbich, Angela O'Flaherty, Patrick Mullaney, Erin Liss, Ken Birnbaum, Debbie Kroner, Jim kroner, Jean Burgess, Kathy O'Driscoll, Bill O'Driscoll and Tracy Mullaney.

The meeting was called to order by Jerry O'Flaherty at 6:05pm.

11-16-2023 General Meeting Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes of the November 16 General Meeting was made by Linda Hoehn and seconded by Linda Pfaff the motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report - Dave Burgess:

Currently the balance in the checking account is \$7599, which is \$822 more than the balance stated in the 2023 budget due to monies received from membership renewals and for the St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

A motion was made by Luke Seielstad and seconded by Ann Nolan to accept the treasurers report. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Membership Report - Linda Pfaff:

At the time of this meeting the current paid up membership is 117, 37 of last year's members have not renewed. Luke Seielstad asked if PayPal was being used for membership renewal, per Jerry O'Flaherty, PayPal is not being used for anything this year due to the fees incurred for using it. It is hoped that PayPal will change its policy in the future. A question was asked as to how the membership numbers were trending, the reply being that numbers are trending downwards from a high of 206 in 2021.

The passing of club member Tom Smith Snr. was noted, the family were sent a sympathy card, framed prayer, and a \$50 memorial check. A sympathy card was sent to member Joyce Diveley who had a brother pass away recently. Get-well cards were sent to Ross West and Mark Dennis following their respective surgeries.

A motion was made by Dave Burgess and seconded by Luke Seielstad to accept the membership report. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Christmas Party – Dave Burgess standing in for Sue Cruthers:

Dave apologized for not having any exact figures available, he did say the attendance was down from last year's event but the meal was a success financially due to the income from the raffle tickets especially those for "The Booze Baskets".

50th Anniversary Events:

Jean Burgess, reported that merchandise such as hats, tee shirts and sweatshirts are available with the special 50th anniversary logo on them. Cutoff date for ordering items is January 31st. Gerry O'Flaherty asked if this date could be extended, per Jean, not now, but dependent on the interest a further order could be placed later.

Pam Smith reported that a "Pot Of Gold" raffle will be started at this meeting where by all those present at this and future meetings will be entered in a prize drawing which will be held at the end of the year. Asked if it would be possible to buy extra tickets, she said that this had not been discussed but might be possible later, she went on to say that winners of the 50/50 board will receive an extra entry into the "Pot of Gold" raffle as an inducement to support the club.

Tracy Mullaney gave an update on the 50th Anniversary reception. The reception will be held on June 21st in the newly remodeled Fish Hatchery Building in Riverside Park and will in fact be the first event held there. The reception will probably begin at 5pm and will include complimentary food and a cash bar. Jim Kroner asked if the renovation of the Fish Hatchery can be guaranteed to be complete in time for the reception. Tracy replied that she is confident all work will be completed, but there is a Plan B just in case. Invites to the reception will be sent out by e-mail with every effort made to reach out to past Irish Men and Irish Rose's.

NEW BUSINESS

2023 Irish Rose and Irish Man

Dave Burgess introduced the 2023 Irish Man Pari Sexauer and the 2023 Irish Rose, Ann Nolan to the group, he went on to say that he is sure they will have a fantastic time representing the club and to make the most of all the club events as, he said from experience, the time goes by very quickly.

2023 Budget

Dave Burgess presented the board approved 2023 budget to the membership for final approval, he reviewed the projected end of year balance and explained the need to have it be sufficient to pay bills such as for the Christmas Dinner at The Freighthouse which is paid for in full prior to the event.

Ron Smith asked the Treasurer if the budget had to be approved by the membership even after it has been approved by the board. Gerry O'Flaherty said yes this is due to the by-laws stating that items over \$500 must be approved by the membership and as the budget contains such items it is easier to approve the whole budget at one time.

A motion was made by Bill O'Driscoll to amend the budget by increasing the club's contribution to Irishfest back to \$1500, the motion was seconded by Linda Pfaff and was opened for discussion. A case was made by Barrie Monks to stay at \$1000 for this year due to the amount the club will be spending on our 50th Anniversary events and need to keep a relatively high balance in the checking account as stated earlier by The Treasurer. He also made the point that the less money we have available limits the club's ability to cope with any unforeseen events.

Pam Smith informed those present that the club had been given a piece of crystal by Sally Sullivan which could be raffled to raise money for the club.

Jim Kroner wanted to ensure that the membership knew, if this motion failed the current amount given to Irishfest will not be eliminated but reduced to \$1000, and even if the motion failed there was nothing to stop additional money being given to Irishfest later this year if the clubs finances improved per the requirements set out in the clubs by-laws.

The discussion continued until club member Tim Gillespie offered to make a donation to the club of \$500 to cover the potential budget short fall. The offer was graciously accepted and shortly after the original motion made by Bill O'Driscoll was voted on. The motion was passed with only six members voting against.

Bowling in February

This is ten pin bowling as opposed to road bowling. The event will be held at Coulee Golf and Bowl on February 18th. Bowling will start at 4pm and cost \$10 for three frames of bowling, the cost also covers the cost of shoe rental. Teams will be made up based on the number of people bowling. For more details contact Tracy Mullaney at clogjam1@gmail.com

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

This year's dinner will, once again, be held at Cedar Creek Golf Club on March 4th, the event starts at 5pm with dinner being served at 6pm. There will be a gold theme throughout. Price is \$30 per person, RSVP to Tracy Mullaney at clogjam1@gmail.com Meal will consist of three choices, Corned Beef, Chicken and Salmon. There will be a raffle and, the always entertaining game of "Heads and Tails". Any donations for the raffle should be forwarded to Tracy Mullaney. A discussion about making up the raffle baskets took place, ending up with Pam Smith suggesting that the club asks for volunteers to make them.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Parade will be held at noon on March 11th. As in previous years line up will take place in The Freighthouse parking lot and make its way to the junction of Main and 8th. Street. Post parade party will be at The Freighthouse.

St. Patrick's Day Bus Tour

Tracy Mullaney will be getting a quote from Ready Bus in La Crescent. We will not go to the Assisted Living Facilities that require masks and goggles. (Little to no interest). We will definitely participate in the morning tour, and she will check the possibility of going to other public schools in the afternoon or different facilities that don't require masks. Corned Beef lunch will be available at the American Legion in La Crosse. She will also look into ways to lower the price, so that the club can pay the stipend to Amanda's and/or breakfast in the morning and stay within the budgeted amount She will bring the final results to the February Meeting

OTHER BUSINESS

Luke Seielstad brought the groups attention to an up coming event at La Crescent/Hokah Elementary School on April 13th which involves Internationally themed storytelling to students and would like to know if the club would be interested in participating. The school district would like a response prior to February 28th This will be added to the February General Meeting new business agenda.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bill O'Driscoll and seconded by Ann Nolan to adjourn. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously at 7:25pm.

Next Club General Meeting will be on February 15th at 6:00pm in the La Crosse Eagles Club

Respectfully submitted, 01-21-2023 by Barrie Monks.