

SHAMROCK CLUB GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 15, 2023

EAGLES CLUB, LA CROSSE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT – Tracy Mullaney, Debi McGrury, Gerald O’Flaherty (PP), Dave Burgess, Linda Hoehn, Kathy Sexauer, Bill O’Driscoll (PP), Linda Pfaff, Kathleen Ryan, Elaine McGarry

OTHERS PRESENT– Ann Nolan, Jim Crothers, Sue Crothers, Sharon Candahl, Theresa Wang, Whitey Hoehn, Cheryl Byers, Russ Stockel, Ron Smith, Linda Smith, Jessica Bumgarner, Linda Boyle, Vicky Hampe, Charlene Baumbich, Eric Knudtson, Pat Mullaney

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Tracy Mullaney, current Board President. Ann Nolan motioned to approve the October minutes, Dave Burgess seconded, and the motion carried forward with member approval.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 18, Rotary Lights Tree Trimming/Annual Farewell Toast (Friendship Gardens)/Breakfast/Pub Jig

November 18, Ring of Kerry in Galesville, GETPAC.org for tickets

November 24th Rotary Lights Parade at dusk

November 30th, Cassie & Maggie Celtic Concert, The Main, doors open at 5:30, concert at 7 pm, irishfestlacrosse.org for tickets.

December 6th Christmas Party, Freighthouse, La Crosse, Social Hour 5 pm

No December General Meeting

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Linda Pfaff reported 154 current members with the 2024 renewal memberships. Ruth Kerska’s (Irish Rose 2003) nephews gave a thank you card and \$25 as a gratitude gesture for having a tree planted in Ruth’s honor, she was a very loyal member. Oktoberfest performers and band members receive honorary memberships to the Shamrock Club. The cost for a 2024 membership renewal is \$20 per person.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Dave Burgess reported a current balance of \$6,103. The account balance includes 2024 membership payments totaling \$1,140. The Celtic Concert on the Main donation approved at the September General Meeting has not been paid. The donation amount was approved up to \$500. The actual donation amount will be determined by ticket sales. Kathleen Ryan motioned to approve the Treasurer’s Report and Vicky Hampe seconded, the motion carried forward with member approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Tracy Mullaney advocated the need for new people to take on the responsibility of (1) publishing the Blarney Newsletter and (2) Shamrock Club history, photos, and archives. Please contact Tracy if you are interested in either of these very important responsibilities.

NEW BUSINESS

Sharon Candahl helped organize the Rotary Lights volunteers and mentioned that Linda Boyle has overseen our Christmas tree for many years (this is her last!). The tree is located on the side of the river near the cannon and flagpole. Rotary Lights designed a unique sign for Shamrock Club. The tree decorating for Rotary Lights will begin at 10:00 am on **November 18th**, followed by an Irish Prayer Service at the Irish Gardens, annual toast with Jameson, and breakfast. Pat Mullaney and Gerald O'Flaherty volunteered to take the tree down no later than noon on New Year's Day.

Also, on **November 18th**, Ann Nolan is championing the annual Pub Jig (Pub Crawl) beginning at noon at Bennett O'Riley's, 1:15 at Dublin Square, and 2:30 at Bodega Brew Pub. There will be games and prizes at each location. Come join us for the annual toast, breakfast, and Pub Jig!

The Rotary Lights Parade will take place on **November 24th** at dusk. We will be using Pari Sexauer's truck with lighting and everyone participating will have lights. The parade is a short distance of approximately 7 blocks.

Kathleen Ryan brought a flyer for the Irish Celtic Concert of Cassie and Maggie taking place on **November 30th** at The Main, 422 Main St. La Crosse at 7 pm. Doors open at 5:30, there is a cash bar, tickets are \$15 and available at www.irishfestlacrosse.org.

Sue Crothers is the point of contact for the Christmas Party/Dinner, scheduled for **December 6th** at the Freighthouse. If you plan to attend, contact Sue at 608-385-5487 or via email at smcrothers@yahoo.com. Deadline for inclusion is **November 29th**. Cost of the dinner is \$35 and food choices include small sirloin, chicken teriyaki, prime rib, salmon, or veggie plate. You can pay at the event or send a check payable to the Shamrock Club, mail to Sue at 1432 27th St. South, La Crosse, WI, 54601. Social hour begins at 5 pm, followed by dinner, raffle prizes, and basket drawings (please give donations for the raffles to Debi McGrury). Please bring non-perishable food items to donate to the Hunger Task Force, and/or cash donations made payable to the Rotary Lights. The new Irish Rose and Irish Man will be chosen at this event. Come and celebrate with your Irish friends! Please send photos of club events to Debi McGrury.

MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

- (1) Blarney Newsletter (bi-monthly)
- (2) Memory Book
- (3) Historian, Historical Media, Storage Unit

Please contact Tracy Mullaney if you are interested in any of these opportunities to maintain the history of our Irish Man, Irish Rose, and club events.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

There is no December General Meeting, but the Board will meet December 19, at 5:45 pm, at Big Al's Pizza in La Crosse. Bill O'Driscoll motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 pm, the motion was seconded by Sharon Candahl, and motion carried forward to adjournment.

Respectfully Submitted, November 16, 2023
Elaine McGarry, Secretary