



Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club

General Membership and Social Meeting
Friday, September 8th, 2017 @ 6:30pm

37 Members in attendance
Meeting began @ 7:20pm

Bridge and Board Members Present:

Glen Logan - Commodore	Paul Toenjes - Vice Commodore
Ric Schmidt - Rear Commodore	Scott Bade - Membership
Susan Mills - Secretary	Steve LaMont - Race Committee Chair

Glen opened the meeting and thanked the Regatta volunteers for the 2017 season.

Paul presented a video and summary of the 2017 Regatta. He discussed the band and activities offered during the Friday evening Regatta Island Party. The party was a new feature this year. There were approximately 65 people in attendance. The Regatta, including the party, was marketed in the local papers, signage was placed up at the park and members were e-vited to the Friday event. There were still some community residents who were unaware of the new party.

The take away was that marketing of the Island Party needed to be started sooner in 2018. In the event, next year, that more people attend the Island Party, than the club house could legally hold, a tent could be placed outside where ticket holders could go and partake in the festivities.

There was over \$ 9000 in Regatta sponsorship this year, which included food and donations. There were 47 sponsors.

Looking toward next year's regatta...

- +Need more volunteers for 2018. There were many last minute volunteers, but to have an earlier commitment would help plan events more easily and spread out the necessary work.
- +Need more volunteers to help acquire sponsor supporters; to contact businesses for sponsorship.
- +The Regatta brochure needs to be advertised more. Need attendees to look through the brochure.
- +Next year, possibly have volunteers at the gate to hand out Regatta brochures.
- +The liquor license needs to be acquired in a timely fashion.
- +The club is not permitted to hold a fundraiser, without an appropriate license. The plan for next year would be to acquire this license and to do so in a timely fashion.
- +Need to get e-vites out to the Farms community in a timely fashion.

Member's comments - during prior Regatta years, there were community power boat races on the lake and boat decorating in the marina. There was a Regatta Queen. There was a Blessing of the Lake. A member suggested offering a pre-planning Regatta party for volunteers to generate more helping hands. In addition to the Island Party, a suggestion was to offer activities geared toward adults. Adult sand castle contest, along with family sand building. Someone suggested staffing childcare so more young families



could attend the Island party. Have an adult tennis tournament. Have vendors at the weekend event that are boat related. More volunteers are needed to make these events possible.

The Regatta Island Party is open to all Farms residents and residents are encouraged to join the Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club. The Commodore Ball is members only, unless invited by the commodore. A member suggested being able to bring Farms resident guests to member events with the intent that the resident would consider joining the club.

In closing the presentation, Paul invited members to go to the website GPFBC.com and leave comments. Ric thanked Paul for doing a fabulous job on the Regatta.

Other club discussion +Grosse Pointe Sail Club could merge with Farms Boat Club. Resident rules for the park were brought up. +New Farms boat slip owners could receive an advertisement about the Farms Boat Club. During prior years, the park didn't want the club to solicit the boat owners. +During prior years, members were contacted for meetings, by way of phone call. Members are currently contacted by email or paper invitation. There are apps available to also aid in connecting with others...if others download those same apps.

Financial Report - Club balance for 2017, \$9,138.92, Revenue, \$15,4757.01, Expenditures, \$16,284.76. There was over \$9,000 in sponsorship for this year's Regatta. Events, such as the winetasting are subsidized by membership dues.

Membership - Going back 10 years, there were members on the roster who hadn't paid their dues in that time, so membership numbers have been updated to reflect about 25 of those unpaid people who are no longer considered members. There are currently 92 membership families. 8 new families joined in 2017. 3 families cancelled their membership in 2017. Less than 50% of the club memberships are Farms boat owners in the marina.

Race Committee - Steve thanked all the sail racers and volunteers.

Save the Lake is a non-profit organization created to help bring attention to the pollution in Lake St. Clair. The club would like their speaker to attend our membership meeting to talk about what they do. Also, there is a Lake St. Clair Townhall Meeting Monday, October 2nd, from 6 -9pm. Our Michigan state legislator will be there. It's free for anyone to attend. Location, MacRays, 30675 N River Rd, Harrison Charter Township. The goal is to talk to Michigan residents about their concerns with Lake St. Clair.

Upcoming events:

Summer Farwell event, Friday, September 22nd

Lobsterfest, Saturday, October 21st

Membership meeting, Friday, November 3rd

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50pm

-Social Continued-

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