

Present at meeting:                      42 Members in attendance

Rita Charvat- Commodore, Glen Logan- Vice Commodore

Brian Sullivan (arrived mid meeting)- Rear Commodore

Steve Sicklesteel- Treasury, Scott Bade- Membership

Ron Mack- Past Commodore, Susan Mills- Secretary

Meeting opened and all welcomed by Rita. Introductions were made around the room.

Steven LaMont was introduced as the person running the Race Committee this year.

He introduced his committee team, which included *On-Shore*: Victor Attar, Scott Bade, Dave and Rita Charvat, John and Nancy Cottrell, Dave and Jakie Morrow, Kevin Pearce, Ric Schmidt, Brian Sullivan, Paul Toenjes, and Pete Toenjes.

*Mark, Set, and Pick-up participants:*

Shahe Momjian-“Surge”, Steve Nadeau-“Brandilee”, Rose Nuechterlein-“Never Alone”.

Minutes read by Susan. The group unanimously approved the minutes from November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Steve went over the club’s finances. Current balance is \$8,311. In the beginning of 2015, the club’s balance was \$5,275. In the beginning of 2016, the balance was \$8,367. The increase was \$3,092. The club is seeking ideas for making contributions with the funds. The latest donations were the recycling bin and the contribution to the construction of the fire pit, next to the ice rink/basketball court, both located inside Pier Park. The club could sponsor social events for club members. Ideas welcome.

A member suggested, with the discussion of the club seeking ideas for contributing to the community, park, club, etc. that the club could do something for Lake St. Clair and the Clinton River. Other members mentioned there is a group currently organized that deals with sewage issues in the water. (Organization name not recalled by members) TBD

Rita discussed the Dock Box, a quarterly publication put out by the club. Cheryl Henner is the Editor for the publication and was not present at the meeting. Her email can be found on the club's website. Members are invited to send articles for the DB that would be of interest to the club. Suggestions: information about Lake St. Clair, the Great Lakes, Pier Park, etc. Forward articles to Cheryl. [dockbox@gpfbc.com](mailto:dockbox@gpfbc.com)

Steve LaMont updated us on sail racing. Preparations have begun for Thursday's races. The first race starts May 26<sup>th</sup>. New equipment will be purchased for the races. There will be new technology used this year. Steve is working with Crescent Sail Yacht Club to help mark, set, and fix markers. This year, there will be an extra race after the last class, big boats, go off. He also shared that Crescent offers adult, learning to sail, courses. Rita offered to send out emails regarding the meeting in May.

Steve suggested members join the race committee as there are many opportunities to help out.

Ron shared a letter from the Grosse Pointe Farms Parks and Recreation Department. It was a letter of thanks to the club for volunteering at Winterfest 2016.

There was a record number of volunteers this year.

Ron discussed the Commodore Ball. Event takes place March 19<sup>th</sup>. In previous years, the ball had been held at the Alger House in Grosse Pointe Farms (War Memorial). This year, it's being hosted at the GPF's boat house, which saves the club \$30 a guest. (\$55 this year vs \$85 last year, per ticket). There will be live music, dancing, and it will be a catered event. Tropical or dressy attire requested. All members are encouraged to attend.

Member questions came up. Can members ask non-members to accompany them to the Ball? What would they be charged? How many extra guests can the room handle, depending on attendance/rsvp's? TBD

Glen discussed the Regatta. Event takes place July Friday, 1<sup>st</sup>, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Solicitation for sponsorship to host the regatta weekend has begun.

Seeking volunteers to help run the different events during the Regatta. This year, a tennis and basketball event is being considered. All other activities from last year are being continued.

There will be a Flotilla Social on Sunday, in the cove, during the Regatta.

The success of all these events depends on volunteers. Glen will send out emails to all members asking everyone to help out during the Regatta weekend.

The formal portion of the meeting ended and a presentation began.

Dave Charvat had distributed a brochure to members at the meeting called NW Explorations. The focus of the business is to support the purchasing, selling, and chartering of boats.

Dave shared with members, photos taken from a particular trip, one of the company's adventures to Alaska. NW Explorations offers a voyage called Mother Goose Guided Flotilla. It's a trip offered from May to August. 7 to 8 boats are chartered and motor to their itinerary's destinations. Customers rent the boats, ranging from 42 to 55 feet.

Presentation (meeting/social) ended approximately 10:30 p.m.