

**Grand Masters Dragon Boat Club
General Membership Meeting
August 8, 2017**

Attendance sheet attached.

Officers present: Lee Cerovac, Marc Cammarano, John Townley

Meeting called to order at 6:30, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
63 members in attendance, with no guests.

TEAM REPORTS

Lee introduced team captains who recapped team activities;
John McPhee of Blackheart; have several new recruits and team is working hard. Team hopes to soon bring 2 boats to races. Upcoming races at Turkey Lake and Hernando.

Karen Ness of Silver Dragons. Team training and recruiting. Upcoming race in Jacksonville. Team supports local food banks.

Sandra Skopaz of Dragon Sisters. Team going to Rick's in Tampa this weekend Going to Jacksonville, Hernando, and Eaton Beach.

Last week delivered 1000 backpacks and 520 bottles of nail polish to SoZo kids. 2 team members going on Honor Flight. Upcoming Music Bingo on 8/24/17. Thanks to Silver Dragons, TBR, and Warriors for support.

Thanks to all who helped with Camp Villages, especially Bob Kane.

Susan with This Boat Rocks. Team went tubing on Rainbow River as team activity. TBR went to recent soccer game. Team has upcoming music bingo fundraiser. Upcoming race in Hernando.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Townley gave Treasurer's report and minutes of last meeting. Treasurer's Report is attached.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Fred Frederickson, boat maintenance. New boat coming to replace white boat, which is 8 years old. He now has 8 40" rollers which should help with moving the boat at Lake Sumter. They should be in next week. This should negate the need for carts. Please report any problems with

the boats so they can be addressed. Fred has added a storage locker at Sumter which holds equipment. If anyone needs the drums, see Fred.

LEE WITH NEW IDEAS

Pat Bradley is holding a weekend camp for new paddlers in September. A team from Beauford, SC plans to attend. There will be about 14 people who may need to be hosted. They would return the favor at the Beauford Race.

Trying to set up with USDBF to hold classes to become certified judge for events with an instructor from Miami. Course would provide a wealth of information on the sport of dragon boating. Hopes to hold this the end of November, 11/27 and 11/28.

Lee hopes to increase media coverage in local newspapers. Would like to hold Saturday practice and invite media.

Lee wants to host a race in Leesburg, with GMDBC running it. Would be a fundraiser for Leesburg Recreation center and maybe Wounded Warriors. Asks for at least 1 volunteer from each team to help organize the event. No date set, but will be at Venetian Gardens, using GMDBC boats, paddles, etc. Hopes to get local sponsors to help.

Asks for 1 team to volunteer to bring refreshments each month for our meeting. Silver Dragons offered to handle September.

Photo Op end of November at Sumter for all teams, with medals. Get it into the paper for publicity. More details to follow.

Wants a speaker at each month's meeting to provide information. Possible topics include alligator info, health and training tips, etc.

Wants to renew 50/50 raffle to cover costs of refreshments.

Outdoor expo, in the past, was a great source of new recruits. GMDBC needs to get involved again with this event.

Next year wants to provide schedule for races outside Florida and encourage our teams to attend. Many races want the Dragon Sisters and other Village teams to attend.

Would like club picnics utilizing outdoor sport facilities at the rec center, possibly with team competitions.

Hopes to hold an end of year race at Sumter; is working with John Rohan for approval.

Lee wants to grow GMDBC, but needs members to help. Sign-up sheets will be at next months meeting.ⁱ

TBR discussed upcoming fundraiser; Music Bingo 9/21 at Lake Miona rec center for Leesburg Humane Society and Relay for Life. Tickets are \$10, with 250 available.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

ⁱ