

Grand Masters Dragon Boat Club

General Meeting Minutes – May 14, 2024

Opening: Cheryl Moran

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Cheryl Moran
3. Thank You from President Cheryl Moran
 - a. All Team Captains have contributed a great deal to the club this year, including practice and race coordination, meetings and special events; be sure to thank your captains
 - b. April's club picnic was a big success; thank you to the organizers, hosts and participants
 - c. Thank you to Per Olesen for his contributions to the new waterfront plans at Lake Sumter
 - d. Thanks to all those who have helped with all other dragon boating activities
4. Upcoming events
 - a. Sales Team paddling event
 - i. May 10 event was cancelled due to high winds
 - ii. Sales team plans to re-schedule
 - b. Venue planning with the Villages
 - i. Anticipated improvements at Lake Sumter waterfront are moving forward
 - ii. Central Lake at Eastport continues to progress
 - c. Practices – over 1500 paddle hours per year
 - i. Expect this to grow as Eastport gets up and running
5. Participants
 - a. 41 members attended
 - b. 1 first time attendee was present

Secretary Report:

1. Previous general meetings minutes from February were posted to the website
 - a. No updates were received
 - b. Motion to approve minutes by Rae Ann Bethel with 2nd by Per Olesen passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report:

1. Budget and Treasury balance discussion
 - a. Current financial report was reviewed
 - b. Motion to approve report by Beth Bowen with 2nd by Linda Braun passed unanimously.

President Report:

1. Youth Band experience
 - a. Combined Villages and Villages High School Band concert generated increased awareness of potential opportunities to grow our sport with local youth, especially once Central Lake is available

2. Camp Villages
 - a. Scheduled for June 18 and July 9 at 8:00 AM at Lake Sumter
 - b. Please sign up with Linda Braun if planning to volunteer at these events
3. Thank you to club vice-president Mary DeFranco
 - a. A gift was presented to Mary in appreciation of her dedicated 4 years as VP of GMDBC

Vice President Report:

- 1) Safety Update
 - a) Mary reviewed safety considerations for dragon boating
 - i) See the GMDBC web site Safety page for specifics
 - b) Hydration is critical during the summer months; be sure to have water on the boat with you
 - c) Be aware of weather conditions; tornado warnings/watches, white caps and thunder mean get off the lake quickly and safely
 - i) Wait at least 30 minutes after last sound of thunder to go back out on the water
 - d) Excessive heat
 - i) Villages activities are cancelled at “feels like” temps of 104 degrees or more
 - e) Distress indicator
 - i) Indicate personal distress by raising your paddle straight up and telling your seatmate
 - ii) Emergency exits from Lakes Sumter and Miona were reviewed
 - f) Check location of AEDs at the lakes; know where they are
 - g) Where Am I app is one phone app which can be used to specify your location in an emergency

General Topics:

1. New Buk boat is in Wildwood and nearing completion
 - a. Anticipating delivery soon; John Townley is coordinating delivery
2. Boat Maintenance and Lake matters, Laura Reynolds for Beth Bowen
 - a. Beth is now Boat Maintenance Committee Chair taking over for Mary Lou Bremer
 - b. Vote for \$15,000 budget approval to complete gel coat repairs on 5 club boats passed with 188 votes for, 4 votes against
 - c. Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in these maintenance activities;
 - i. Gunwale repairs were completed on boats at Lake Sumter
 - ii. Boats in storage will be moved to a temporary storage location on May 22
 - iii. Broken axle on one boat dolly at Lake Sumter has been repaired
 - d. Assistance is needed with building new boat frames
 - i. Members are requested to volunteer to learn how to build these frames and assist with building them. Your team captain can provide more information.
3. Per Olesen reviewed new, improved waterfront plan
 - a. Villages developer has sent out a V-Mail with details
 - b. Improvements include docking and storage areas for boats and gear
4. Old Business
 - a. Race Coordinator, Lee Cerovac
 - i. Race schedule is posted on the GMDBC web site
5. New Business
 - a. Elections for Vice President and Treasurer will be open through the end of May

- i. VP – Donnie Lies, nominated by Lee Cerovac
 - ii. Treasurer – Steve Augustine, nominated by Linda Braun
 - 1. Both candidates spoke to the membership
 - iii. An email from TeamSnap will provide a link for voting
 - iv. new officers begin their term as of 7/1/2024
 - b. Central Florida Dragon Boat Challenge is at Ski Beach Park on May 18
 - i. Fifteen GMDBC crews are registered for this event
- 6. Tabled Items
 - a. Senior C Invitational Event Proposal – Postponed to Eastport Opening
 - b. Villages Regatta- Postponed until Eastport Opening
- 7. Long Term Planning

Close

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM

Next General Meeting will be October 8th at 6:30 PM at Sea Breeze Rec Center