

Grand Masters Dragon Boat Club
General Meeting Minutes – March 10, 2026

St Patrick's Day Potato Bar

1. This Boat Rocks hosted a potato bar night for the club
 - a. Thank you to TBR for the potatoes, toppings and desserts

Opening:

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm
 - a. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Cheryl Moran
2. Participants
 - a. 91 attendees signed in

Secretary Report:

1. Previous general meeting minutes from November were posted to the website
 - a. No updates were received
 - b. Motion to approve minutes by Frank Lupoli with 2nd by Karen Ness passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report:

1. Budget and Treasury balance discussion
 - a. Current financial report was reviewed
 - b. Member count stands at 377 as of February 28
 - c. Motion to approve report by Beth Bowen with 2nd by Rita Gireau passed unanimously.

President Report:

1. Central Lake Update
 - a. Working with the developer to address dock buoy and safety exit points for medical assistance
2. The Villages is planning a dragon boating promotional video
3. Club historian, Ellie Olesen, has retired. A replacement is needed
4. GMDBC Rodeo
 - a. Planning for a fall rodeo is underway. Leatherneck Warriors are coordinating.
 - b. Volunteers are needed; contact Rich Einhorn or Robin Lockerby to assist
5. Coordinator Appointments
 - a. Equipment Maintenance Manager – Frank Lupoli
 - b. Membership Coordinator – Karen Ness
 - c. Website Coordinator – Rich Einhorn
6. Upcoming events
 - a. Club Social Paddle – April 10, 5:00 – 6:00 PM at Central Lake
 - b. Annual club picnic – April 14 at SeaBreeze rec center
 - c. Chicken Race – May 1 at Lake Sumter
 - d. AED Training – fall of 2026

Vice President Report:

1. Safety
 - a. Lake emergency exit points
 - i. TBD for Central Lake
 - ii. Red House on Lake Sumter
 - b. Be wary of increasing temperature
 - i. Hydration during practice is essential
 - ii. Ensure that water is available on every boat

Special Presentation – Lois Edwards

1. Lois was elected as a SRDBA officer focused on media
2. Lois described the Southeast Regional Dragon Boat Association organization
 - a. SRDBA is one of 4 associations under the US Dragon Boat Federation
 - b. USBDF is a part of the International Dragon Boat Federation
3. There are about 10,000 participants in the USBDF
 - a. GMDBC is one of the largest clubs in the southeast region and the country

Team Updates

1. Eastport Sun Dragons are enjoying the new venue at Eastport, competed in their first race of the season and are looking forward to a busy spring race season
2. Blackheart team update - “ditto” to the Eastport update
3. Village Dragons are winding down their season. Several new paddlers joined this year. Team members who are full-time Villagers may be looking for other teams to practice with over the summer months
4. Dirty Dozen continue their commitment to paddling
5. Sunset Island Dragons continue with themed practices celebrating birthdays by paddling strokes for each year of age. They will be celebrating Bobby McFerrin of “Don’t Worry, Be Happy” fame tomorrow!
6. Leatherneck Warriors are also training for race season and training new steerers
7. Silver Dragons first race of the season will be at Inverness. They continue to host the Enrichment Academy and are making newcomers aware of paddling opportunities across all our club teams
8. This Boat Rocks will also be at the Inverness race, and at Clermont. They have completed several fundraisers for Night to Shine and HOME among others
9. Paddling Patriots – no update

New Business

1. Maintenance updates
 - a. Please be cautious when turning dollies; only change direction while the boat/dollie is in motion to prevent damage to the dollie axle
 - b. Boat seats are becoming loose; please do not pull up on the seats
 - i. Tighten screws firmly as needed, do not overtighten
 - ii. Stripped screws should be reported to boat maintenance

Tabled Items

1. Senior C Invitational Event Proposal – Postponed to Eastport Opening
2. Villages Regatta- Postponed until Eastport Opening
3. Long Term Planning

Close

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM

Upcoming General meetings –

*All meetings are at 6:30 pm at SeaBreeze Rec Center unless otherwise noted
Teams are encouraged to plan an event for the club on open dates*

April 14 – Annual Picnic hosted by Paddling Patriots – SeaBreeze pavilion

May 12 – Candidate Night for President and Treasurer

June 9 – Open

July 14 – Open

August 11 – CERT Training

September 8 – Open

October 13 – Annual Safety Meeting hosted by Vice President Linda Braun

November 10 – Taco Tuesday hosted by Eastport Sun Dragons

December 8 – Blackhearts private party