

CULTURE VULTURES MEMBERSHIP MEETING - MINUTES

December 19, 2023

The meeting was held in Meeting Rm. 1 of the Stone Creek Reunion Center. Jim Stelzel, President, called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm. Guests and new members were recognized.

1. Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Reports:

Secretary Report - Jim asked if there were any corrections or additions to the Oct. 2023 minutes which had previously been emailed to the members. There were none and the minutes will stand as written.

Treasurer - Mark gave a financial summary of the past year's events. As of today, there is a balance of \$5,558.52 in the club's checking account.

A recent independent financial audit of Culture Vultures' records was completed by John McCormick, a member, but not an officer of CV. He informed us to the following: Everything was in order. John found that the income, expenses, and donations had matching receipts, deposit slips, and check numbers. The checkbook was in balance.

A question arose regarding the total donations we've made to the community since the inception of the Club in 2011. Jim said that as of our last event for this year, we have given away over \$80,500.

Membership - Current membership stands at 108. New members were recognized. Members were reminded that dues for the upcoming year can now be paid.

2. Unfinished Business:

A. Election of Officers:

Before the election of officers, Jim asked if there were any further nominations from the floor. No names were put forth and a motion to close nominations was called for. Dave Kinney made the motion which was seconded by Ken Ames. Because the nominated individuals were unopposed, voting was by a show of hands

President - Bruce Kaplan: The membership vote was unanimous in favor.

Vice President - Manley Cobia: The membership vote was unanimous in favor.

Secretary - Cindy Stelmar: Cindy has served as acting secretary for the past few months. The membership vote was unanimous in favor.

Treasurer - Mark Labadia has one more year left in his term and will continue to serve as treasurer for the upcoming year.

Bruce Kaplan, spoke to the membership outlining his goals for 2024. He quoted the Club's Mission Statement indicating that he would like to encourage more events outside of Stone Creek.

B. Thrill A Palooza performance of 10/7/23:

Jim shared a phone call that he had received from Matt Wyatt, a board member of the Marion County Boys and Girls Club. The call expressed the gratitude that the organization felt over the donation they received from Culture Vultures. Matt profusely thanked Jim and everyone who was involved in the event. It was a touching phone call.

C. Holiday Event – Assisted Living the Musical:

Jim asked for feedback regarding the event as he was unable to attend. The Club had picked up 50% of the ticket price. Responses were varied. Some thoroughly enjoyed it while others did not.

2. New Business - 2024:

A. West Port High School – Feb. 9, 2024

Details of the event were given to the membership. Bruce is still waiting on confirmation from the high school sponsor regarding the dinner start time and menu. He has made several calls and will let the membership know when these details are known. Ticket sales start Jan. 8th. Jim finished designing the posters and they have arrived. Kathy Stelzel has completed the design and ordering of the tickets. Barb Kaplan has the tickets and is beginning to organize the sales.

B. Schedule of Events for 2024

Bruce outlined the upcoming events for next year. In addition to WPHS, events on the schedule include: The Good Spirit Organization (The Amazing Steel Band), Dance by Sheila, Club Expo, and College of Central Florida (not the Jazz Band).

C. Distribution of 2023 Donations

Jim stated that the Board plans to meet one more time to determine the number and amount of distributions to various cultural organizations. CV has approximately \$3,000 set aside for donations. Final distributions will be announced at the February 2024 General Meeting.

D. Other

Patricia Gizzi, previous Secretary, asked to speak. She wanted to commend the current CV Board on their efforts during the past year. She specifically praised Jim for his dedication and leadership over the past two years.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted _____
Cindy Stelmar, Secretary

Approved