



PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Saturday, June 11, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.  
Seven Springs Golf & Country Club, New Port Richey, FL

The Board Meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m. by Bill McLaughlin, P.P. (President).

**Attendees:**

Bill McLaughlin, P.P. (President & Reunion Coordinator), James Beattie (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President), Tom Wilder, P.P. (Director–At-Large), Laura Kosik (Director), Bob Russell, P.P. (Director and Legislature Representative), Patti Revello (Director), Elaine Lewis, P.P. (Past President), Ted Kaufer (Sergeant-at-Arms), Jacque Vowell (Editor), Betty LeDoux, P.P. (Reunion Hotel Coordinator), and Kathy Malin (Office Manager) Guests: Margaret McLaughlin and Kathy Wilder

**Attendees by Telephone:** Brittney Wilder (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Cynthia Alderman (Treasurer), and Ray Husum (ByLaws)

**Absent:** Carl Orvis (Chaplain) and Anna Hertrich (Office Assistant)

Bill welcomed all and asked if everyone had read the April 9<sup>th</sup> Executive Board minutes. Elaine Lewis made a motion to approve the April Executive Board meeting minutes, Tom Wilder seconded, and the motion carried.

Tom made a motion to approve 3 new Reporters from Tampa Area (Bliss Morris Huggins), Space Coast (Diana Huff Grimison) and Reporter-at-Large (Brenda Brown McArthur), Elaine seconded, and the motion carried.

Elaine motioned to approve the 3 new members, Bob Russell seconded, and the motion carried.

Bill contacted the Mayor's office of Orange County per Bob's suggestion. The Mayor of Orange County cannot attend but will prepare a video greeting and a Proclamation that the week of July 4<sup>th</sup> – July 10 will be Panama Canal Society week.

Check Detail Report was business as usual. Tom motioned to approve paying the bills, Bob seconded, and the motion carried. Cynthia Alderman spoke about 5-year financials that will be part of the presentation at the Annual Meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>. The slides will show trends, graphs, expenses, and revenues. Tom asked if the revenue stream broke apart the Reunion and Membership expenses. Cynthia explained it did and will be printed in the October *Canal Record* with a letter of explanation from Cynthia. Tom and Betty LeDoux suggested we print out copies for the Annual Meeting. Ray Husum wants a disclaimer printed on each sheet. Cynthia will share with the Board before it is printed.

Ray read the two proposed Bylaws #43 and #44. The Bylaws committee would like these 2 Bylaws with ballots be printed in the October *Canal Record*. The ballot should have both "yes or no" on the form to save members' an extra stamp and any confusion. Ray also stated if any member submits a Bylaw to the Committee, they must publish it after the committee 'word smiths' it.

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Bill has purchased a portable P.A. system and an extension cable for the P.A. system since some people could not hear at the Spring picnic. The extension will allow the P.A. to be put in the middle of the meeting area.

James Beattie spoke to Marianne Wolda about building a website from the ground up. She would modernize, redesign, and use Word Press and host the server in the Cloud. Marianne is putting together a package to present to the Board. [Marianne's website company is <https://mwolda.com>.] She charges \$50 an hour which is a great price considering most people charge \$250 an hour. She can maintain the website/service weekly or monthly depending on our needs. [She is from BHS 85 but cancelled her membership because she could not attend the Reunion.] The database is independent and needs to be researched before moving it to the Cloud.

### **President's Report and Remarks:**

Bill has had many issues with the Rosen Shingle Creek staff which has changed from when we were there 5 years ago. They now require permits and fire inspections on our room layouts. The permit costed us \$94.00. To inspect our rooms, it will be between \$300-\$400. Betty will look into this.

Bill will send out After Action Reports (AAR) to send out for Chairpersons to write down any 2022 issues and ways to improve. This will be discussed at our August Board meeting. Tom suggested we send out last year's AAR to the Chairs for them to review.

Bill told the Board our sponsors' names and thanked the sponsors including Elaine's BHS 65 Class and Patti Revello for donating funds for the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pin. There are 28 vendors this year.

Next year, Bill wants the Board to set a rule that if any events are planned to include Celebrations of Life (COL), they cannot conflict with the PCS events. Joe Wood, President of the Friends of the PC Museum and Dean Judy Russell from UF Smathers Libraries want to renew their 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary vows during the first 15 minutes of the Cultural Seminar. The board disagreed with this request because the seminar was already being impacted by a COL at 3 p.m. The Board suggested that they find an alternate location for their vow's ceremony, i.e., the Museum room.

The hotel reservations were shut down on May 20<sup>th</sup> when we sold out of hotel rooms. Betty said we are at 111% pick up. We have a waiting list and secured Rosen Centre Hotel which is 3 miles away. She believes that people staying at the Centre will not have to pay parking at Shingle Creek. Members checking in need to take their license plate number to the check-in to get a QR code to exit the parking lots without charge. The office will send out an email blast to attendees.

Golf was moved to Falcon Fire's Golf Club after a scheduling conflict with Rosen Shingle Creek's Golf Course. Bill has secured the golf tournament for the next 3 years with Shingle Creek so this will not happen again. Bill will ask Katie Beattie if she is interested in chairing the golf event. Betty has 4 rounds of comp golf and will give to Katie for drawings at the Golf tournament. In the past these complimentary golf certificates were part of the door prizes at the Annual Meeting, which non-golfers have won and did not use.

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Kathy Malin said that she needed money to purchase door prizes at the reunion. Bob motioned to give Kathy Malin \$500 to purchase door prizes for PCS events, Elaine seconded, and the motion carried. Tom motioned additional \$250 to purchase door prizes if needed, Bob seconded, and the motion carried.

The Dances will have ink stamps instead of wristbands. We are almost maxed out of tickets that have been printed. Kathy will print out more tickets without numbering that can be used at the door.

Pool party DJ is provided by the hotel. Ten kegs were approved by the Board. If it rains, plan B is to move the kegs to the Clubhouse. Betty will ask the hotel about moving the DJ. Friday and Saturday cabanas are full.

In the Clubhouse, the hotel will only serve food from 11am to 4pm. They will keep a bar open until the Clubhouse is vacant. Bill will ask the hotel about serving coffee.

Reunion Logistics: The U-Haul will be loaded on Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> by James and Ted Kaufer. Kathy will ask Mike Young for assistance. James will deliver the U-Haul to the hotel about 2pm on Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. Carl Orvis and Brittney Wilder need to be there to help unload. On Wednesday at 10am, the On-site Logistics Chairpersons will need to deliver the boxes/bins to the appropriate rooms and set up the signs. Registration team wants to meet at 11am and Vendor room opens for set-up at 1pm.

Bob Russell needs door prizes and tickets for the Cultural Seminar. For the nomination committee, he needs pens, tally sheets, scissors, and ballots. [Kathy will have this for him.]

If any of the Board members have members contact them about hotel rooms and any problems, please have them contact Betty or Nancy Van Siclen.

Volunteers are still needed for Friday and Saturday shifts. Laura Kosik will send out another email blast.

Cynthia and Carl will brief the Security guards on Saturday before the Ball. Lottery is good to go and Ray will handle delivering the coloring books to Despedida. All Chairpersons will be responsible for their signs: securing them after each shift, posting them and returning them to PCS storage room once their event closes. Brittney will be Zonie again. Catholic Mass will be at 4pm on Saturday. Kathy will email all Vendors their loading forms. This form allows them to use the loading dock.

Bill would like all Board members to be at the Annual Meeting by 9:30am. Betty, Nancy, and Anna Hertrich will work the door by 9am. Anna and Kathy Wilder volunteered to be the door prize runners. Per Bylaws, only members can attend. Bill asked if he could invite the Guest Speakers of the Luncheon and Cultural Seminar and all agreed. Katie needs to give a Golf report. When we adjourn the meeting, there will be photos and a cake cutting ceremony. Bob suggested a toast with champagne, but the Board decided too late to plan for this.

Bill asked if the Board were comfortable with their jobs at the Reunion. Tom suggested if any Board members have problems with an event that they are not in charge of to please bring it to the attention of the Chairperson in charge of the event so that he/she be the only one to resolve the issue. Ongoing changes are

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made by chairpersons that others are not aware of. Kathy will provide a list of Board cell numbers for the Chairpersons.

**New Business:**

Bob thanked everyone for all their help over the last few years, but he is moving on to other obligations. Bill thanked all the Board members not returning that served on the board for all their help the last several years.

**Upcoming Events:**

PCS Reunion is July 6-10 with Annual Meeting on Friday, July 8 at 9:30am (for Board members)

August Board meeting is August 6<sup>th</sup>

Sarasota Luncheon is September 10<sup>th</sup>

October Board Meeting – TBD

Christmas Luncheon is on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

James motioned to adjourn the meeting, Elaine seconded, and the motion was carried. The meeting ended at 11:56 am.



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Bill McLaughlin, President



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Kathy Malin, Office Manager