



PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, June 8, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.
Seven Springs Golf & Country Club, New Port Richey, FL

The Board Meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Bill McLaughlin, (President)

Attendees:

Bill McLaughlin, (President & Reunion Coordinator), Carl Orvis (1st Vice President), Laura Kosik (2nd Vice President), Mikey Young (Director), Bosco Hoyte (Director), Penny Canamas (Director), Ted Kaufer (Sergeant-at-Arms), Bill Lane (Chaplain), Jacque Vowell (Editor), Kathy Malin (Office Manager), Anna Hertrich (Office Assistant), Betty LeDoux, P.P. (Reunion Hotel Coordinator), and Cheryl Williams (Reunion Hotel Coordinator)

Attendees by Telephone: Elaine Lewis, P.P. (Past President), Ray Husum (ByLaws) and David Dahlstrom (Legislature Representative)

Absent: Margaret McLaughlin (Director–At-Large)

Bill welcomed all and asked if everyone had read the March 23rd Executive Board minutes. Carl Orvis made a motion to approve the March Executive Board meeting minutes, Penny Canamas seconded, and the motion carried.

Penny made a motion to approve the new members, Carl seconded, and the motion carried.

Check Detail Report was business as usual. Carl motioned to approve paying the bills, Penny seconded, and the motion carried. Kathy Malin will report on the 2023 finances at the Annual Meeting in July. We lost \$33K but in 2022, we lost \$42K; thus, the interest of the CDs has helped lessen the deficit. She told the Board that with all the interest and donations, the Society is looking to break even in 2024.

President's Report and Remarks:

Bill discussed his 25 years of leadership and dedication to the Executive Board and the Society. He mentioned we have grown and changed ByLaws, insurance, credit card fees, passed new decisions, etc. Bill says he is not easy and apologizes for his ranting and raving at times. Society and the Reunion are businesses and need to adhere to rules and regulations and it is not all fun.

Bill went over the Chairpersons' duties and various timelines to make the Reunion successful. He suggested that Laura Kosik leave out the sign about the Ball dress code after she closes Ticket Sales. Bill stated we have two new activities this year with "Shorty and Slim" playing during Happy Hour on Friday and Frankie Pretto playing Lucho music from noon to 1:00 pm on Saturday. Both events are in the Clubhouse. He asked Cheryl Williams to handle the mass.

Ted Kaufer stated that he and Mike Young inventoried the signs and arranged them in boxes for easier access at the Reunion. Each Chairperson will handle their events signs. Ray Husum will put out the UF Museum signs.

Bill discussed with the Board that the Society received another \$10K donation from Albert Nahmad via the UF Smathers Libraries. Mr. Nahmad wanted to donate going through UF.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2024

Bill had a few issues with BHS 79 organizing the times of the Friday night dance for their Ad. Also, BHS 79 now says they are not charging at the door and people will enter at no cost. It was lack of communication on their part. The band wants to see the convention center room that they are performing in on Wednesday morning. In the future, bands should provide contracts directly to the Society to avoid errors.

The After-Action Reports (AAR) were sent to you and are due back to Bill on July 19.

Credit card fees were discussed, and we are losing money on Governors Club by not charging them interest. Kathy mentioned that the \$15 registration fee, the credit card charge is only .60 cents thus cheaper than a stamp. For \$50, it is only \$2.00. Cheryl Williams suggested we approve all credit cards since we are charging credit card processing fees. No action taken and will remain with Visa and MasterCard only.

Bill discussed the convention center keys and how important it is not to lose them. At the end of your event, please return keys to Kathy. They cost the Society \$50 if damage or lost. The Event Plan was submitted to the hotel and all the BEO's except the Registration Room. Audiovisual and electricity needs were submitted and the costs are high. Hence, with Bingo, there is no PA system and Bill suggested Kathy pack the Society's PA system. Ted said he probably will not need it. The convention center is not charging for power for the Thursday or Friday DJ dance. Bill has the DJ contract.

Bill hired the Rosen Shingle Creek security team to work in the Vendor room and the entrance and exits at the Ball. They will not touch money. A pre-meeting before the Annual Ball is set to discuss wristbands, dress code and signage. Kathy will handle that meeting since she is on the first shift at the Ball. Dress code for the Ball was discussed as well as no drinks on the dance floor.

The U-Haul will be loaded on Monday, July 1st by Mike Young, Ted Kaufer, Bryce & Blake Beattie and Kathy Malin. He will deliver the U-Haul to the hotel about 2pm on Tuesday, July 3rd. We cannot unload until Wednesday morning.

Carlton Morris was given the schedule for when and where to take pictures. He also has contacted the Class reunions chairpersons and reserved group photo times.

Betty LeDoux spoke about the room pick-up which is over 105%. A waitlist has begun, and we are down to 14 rooms for Saturday night. The Board has early check-in and late check-out. VIP concierge is only for the guests in your room. The complimentary valet is for 1 car per room. We do have a waitlist for 2 Executive Parlors. Hospitality suites are reserved. Cabanas are sold out on Friday and Saturday. Saturday cabanas are CHS 74 & 79, BHS 74, 79 & 82 plus the Richey's. Friday is reserved for CHS 79, Richey's and 2 for Henter's.

Anna Hertrich reported that the volunteers' sign-up is 80% full but Ticket Sales and Despedida need more volunteers.

Carl made a motion for \$500 for Bingo prize winners for both days (\$250 each day), Penny seconded, and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 8, 2024

For the Golf tournament, we have 76 golfers registered. Dave Bishop has a phone call with the Pro Shop on June 18. Dave is all set. Ted stated he will donate brand new golf balls and wedges to the tournament. Steve Gilbert is sponsoring a hole in the memory of his parents.

Bill stated we are killing the motion of decorations for the club house and Margaret will be paying for the decorations.

Lori Snow and Condor Tours and Travel have donated one Panama vacation package.

At the Annual meeting, we will have a new board photo as well as a Past Presidents photo after the meeting. Please dress accordingly.

Kathy has been instructed to type up a schedule for Zonie. Bill and Ray Husum will work on a waiver to sign. A key for the storage room will be given to Bretas & Romero's grandmother who will always be with them. A discussion ensued about comp rooms or discounted hotel rooms for compensation for Zonie to perform.

The pool party will have 4 kegs plus 1 donated by the hotel. If raining, the pool party will move to the clubhouse.

We have a last-minute vendor, Steven Russell, which wants to sell coffee. He has negotiated with the hotel on purchasing water and electricity. The board approved to add him after he becomes a member and pays registration and vendor fees. The negotiated electrical fee for a 20amp drop is \$189 + tax. This would be for the entire event and does include labor. Very generous of the ENCORE sales manager.

Due to a death in the family, Susan Doughty, wanted reimbursement for 2 registration fees. Penny Canamas made a motion to approve the \$30 refund, Bosco Hoyte seconded it and motion carried. Isabel Miller wanted reimbursement of \$55 for 3 registration fees. Besides a sickness in the family the Board wanted more information and put that off until the August meeting. [Isabel showed up to the Reunion after all, I Anna Hertrich had her badges reprinted.

The Reporter's luncheon is Friday at 1:30 in the Land to Remember restaurant. The bill will be put on the master account.

The pre-con with the hotel is Tuesday at 2:00pm. Bill will lead it along with Betty, Carl, Margaret, and Kathy.

New Business:

Kathy Malin said that she needed money to purchase door prizes at the reunion. Carl motioned to give Kathy \$750 to purchase door prizes for PCS events, Penny seconded, and the motion carried.

Betty spoke about Bill's long-term dedication and volunteering to the Society and Executive Board. She asked the Board to keep chatter to a minimal about critical issues and remember why we are here.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2024

Upcoming Events:

July 1, 2024 – Pack U-Haul for Reunion – PCS Office, 15131 Ogden Loop, Odessa, FL

July 2, 2024 – Park U-Haul at RSC parking lot

July 3, 2024 – Unload U-Haul at the Panzacola / Sebastian loading dock.

July 3 – 7, 2024 - PCS Annual Reunion, Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando, FL

Annual meeting on July 5 at 9:30 am – arrive by 9:00 am **** - Panzacola H1 – H3 - Ballot counting 7:30

July 27, 2024 – PCS Northwest Picnic, 10:00 am, Prineville, OR

August 3, 2024 – PCS Executive Board Meeting, 9:30 am, New Port Richey, FL

September 7, 2024 – PCS NC Picnic, 1:00 pm, Huntersville, NC

September 14, 2024 – PCS Der Dutchman Luncheon, 11:30 am, Sarasota, FL

September 14, 2024 – Northern CA Panama Ping-Ding Potluck, 11:00 am, Lincoln, CA

September 21, 2024 – PCS South AL Picnic, 11:00 am, Castleberry, AL

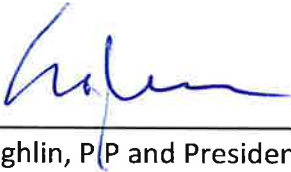
September 28, 2024 – PCS Texas Picnic, 11:00 am, New Braunfels, TX

October 5, 2024 – PCS Executive Board Meeting, 9:30 am, New Port Richey, FL

December 7, 2024 – PCS Christmas Luncheon, 11:30 am, Ybor City, FL

*** Microsoft Teams will be used after July vice ZOOM (More information later)

Carl motioned to adjourn the meeting, Bosco seconded, and the motion was carried. The meeting ended at 11:40 am.



Bill McLaughlin, P/P and President



Kathy Malin, Office Manager