



PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Saturday, October 5, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.  
Seven Springs Golf & Country Club, New Port Richey, FL

The Board Meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Carl Orvis. (President).

**Attendees:**

Carl Orvis (President), Penny Canamas (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President), Cheryl Williams (Director), Dixie Barons (Director), Bosco Hoyte (Director), Kelly Fenton (Director-at-Large), Jim Parthenais (Treasurer), Bill McLaughlin (Past President), Ted Kaufer (Sergeant-at-Arms), Bill Lane (Chaplain), Betty LeDoux, P.P. (Reunion Hotel Chairperson), Debbie Lane (Hotel Co-Chair), and Kathy Malin (Office Manager)

**Attendees by Zoom:** Mike Young (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Ray Husum (ByLaws), David Dahlstrom (Legislature Reporter), and Jacque Vowell (Editor)

Carl welcomed the Board to the meeting. Bosco Hoyte motioned to approve 2 new members, Penny Canamas seconded, and the motion carried.

Cheryl Williams motioned to approve the August Executive Board minutes, Bosco seconded, and the motion carried with Bill McLaughlin abstaining.

**Financials:**

Bill M. motioned to pay the bills, Penny seconded, and the motion carried.

Jim Parthenais explained the Profit & Loss (P&L) comparison from 2019 through 2023. He showed the Board the line items that were high and explained in 2021, we made \$11K because of the Covid employment relief payment from the government. That amount was added by the Accountant after Kathy Malin finalized the year end P&L. Jim explained the Balance Sheet and we are liquid with cash and investments plus no debt. He showed the 2024 P&L and promised a budget at the next Board meeting.

The Directory will be inside the December *Canal Record*. Kelly Fenton will investigate applications to place the *Canal Record* online for those members who want it only online.

**Old Business:**

Carl explained to the Board that future minutes will have “essentials of records, motions and resolutions” per Roberts Rules.

Bosco requested Ray Husum to investigate an amendment for members conduct at events for the March *Canal Record*.

Kathy explained to the Board that our highest credit card fee was the Governors Club. She also recommended to accept all credit cards. Bill M made a motion to start charging credit card fees to all credit card payments including the Governors Club, Penny seconded, and the motion carried.

**2025 Reunion:**

Bill M. reviewed the 2025 Yellow Pages and confirmed the Chairpersons. He confirmed the sponsors of Thursday dance as BHS 75 and Friday dance as BHS 80. He confirmed the DJ is playing on Friday.

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Kelly Fenton discussed a different format for Saturday night's event. She would like to see a change which includes cocktail hour, dinner with a Panamanian dance show. After that, join the Murga and have front row seating to the Ball. Kelly and others listened to a Latino 13-piece band from Orlando. It is mostly salsa but once a contract is signed, they would learn 'Lucho' music. A Board discussion followed.

Carl has been trying to get ahold of Frankie Pretto to see if he and the band would perform one more time in a final send-off. If Frankie plays, Carl would like a luncheon with possibly Wendy Tribaldos speaking about the 1964 Riots. Hotel quotes for the luncheon are a cold lunch at \$45 and a hot plate for \$51; both all-inclusive and menu will be listed in the Yellow Pages.

Carl offered two plans: Plan A – Frankie Pretto and his band playing at the Ball with a Luncheon. Plan B – Dinner with a dance show and a local Latino band playing on Saturday evening. [On October 6, Carl spoke to Frankie, and he would love to play one final show. Plan A will go into effect.]

The hotel will not have a DJ available for the Pool Party but will donate \$250 for PCS to find a DJ. Carl will speak to David Smith.

Murga was decided the \$800 show that starts at 8:00 pm followed by the Ball at 9:00 pm.

There will not be a golf luncheon, but Dave Bishop requested a separate room for the Awards with a cash bar.

Kathy showed the red, white and blue tote bags with a U.S. and Panamanian flags as pockets but also a PCS logo. Shirley Avery-Bentley and family have agreed to sponsor the bags. Kathy also asked if volunteer gifts are needed. She will bring suggestions to the January meeting.

The Board liked Carlton Morris' photography and would like to invite him back for the 2025 reunion. Kathy suggested that Carl should purchase thumb drives and sell his pictures. People were writing into the office asking for 2024 pictures.

Bill reviewed the rest of the Reunion housekeeping, including making sure the Convention center has extra seating in the foyers. Kathy will investigate Event insurance.

### **New Business:**

Kathy mentioned the Membership Drive and Ray Husum suggested to send into to John Husum for FaceBook posting. The Board decided not to create centerpieces for the Christmas luncheon but asked if Margaret McLaughlin would create one for a raffle prize. Kathy has other raffle and door prizes.

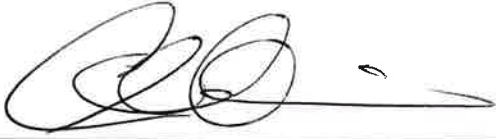
Jacque asked about the cover for the December *Canal Record*. Bill M will send her a picture of Christmas trees being off-loaded from the USS Cristobal.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Carl discussed a few changes to upcoming events in 2025, including the new venue for the Space Coast picnic. Cheryl Williams motioned that the Society pay \$50. for water and sodas at the Space Coast meeting/picnic, Dixie Barons seconded, and the motion carried.

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Bill M made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dixie seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 12:21 pm.



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Carl Orvis, President



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Kathy Malin, Office Manager