

FLORIDA GULF COAST COUPLES, INC.

Official Address:
2704 Clubhouse Drive
Plant City, FL 33566

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 13072
St. Petersburg, FL 33733
www.fgccouples.com

MINUTES OF FGCC OPERATING BOARD MEETING

Sunday, October 19, 2008, 10:30 AM
Home of Events Couple - Ted & John

PRESENT:

Amy & Laurie, Marta & Linda, Nichole & Elizabeth, and Ted & John. Vice Chair couple, Kim & Melissa, were sick and unable to attend but communicated with the Chair couple in advance and voted by email, where noted.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:50 AM.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2008 MEETING:

Minutes of the September 2008 meeting will be forthcoming in an email from Melissa. Board Members are asked to thoroughly review them and e-mail any changes or approval back to the Vice Chair as soon as they are able.

FINANCE:

The Finance couple delivered the financial report for September/October.

Beginning balance as of 9/01/08:	\$5,890.40
Deposits from membership renewals and annual dance:	\$2,538.00
Expenses paid out:	\$1,912.95
\$100.00 (Cake for dance)	
\$1,409.80 (Radisson, meals and tax for annual dance)	
\$146.25 (Stamps/supplies)	
\$256.90 (Supplies for "Years together" signs for Pride)	
Ending balance as of 10/19/08:	\$6,515.45

Receipts for additional expenses related to the annual dance were submitted today by Ted & John (decorations) and Laurie & Amy (D.J. and tip to head waiter) and are therefore not yet reflected in the report above.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Remembrance Days

Laurie made a motion to leave the organizing of remembrance days to honor deceased members in the hands of members who express interest in doing so. The Board will promote such events in the newsletter, on the calendar, and through global emails but will not assume responsibility for organizing. Marta seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote. A newsletter article will introduce the idea.

2. FaceBook/MySpace

The suggestion to establish FaceBook/MySpace pages was tabled. The Board agreed to consider at a later time if/when a knowledgeable resource is willing and able to take on the responsibility for establishing and maintaining the pages.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Membership Termination

Article VI, Section 4.D. of the Bylaws states: "Upon determination (vote) of the Operating Board, termination of membership shall occur when "members engage in conduct materially and seriously prejudicial to the organization".

Kim & Melissa entered a motion (sent to Amy & Laurie by email) for the official termination of membership of Gary & Dennis, effective immediately, in light of Gary's recent publicized legal issues. Laurie seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. Directory

The Board discussed implications, liabilities, and security measures associated with publishing the directory. Consideration was given to publishing it in its current state, in a modified version, or not at all. John reminded the Board that anyone that has chosen to be included in the directory has signed the permission form and has done so conscious of the potential risks/loss of privacy. After much discussion, Ted moved that we continue to publish a directory of those who have given permission, but to modify the entries to include only first names, city (not street address), email address (not phone), and interests. This would still enable members to contact other members without the Board distributing too much personal information. Any additional information could then be exchanged directly between members. Marta added to the motion that a confidentiality disclaimer also be included within the directory. The motion was seconded by Nichole & Elizabeth and passed by unanimous vote of those present.

3. Holiday Party

The Francis House is secured for the venue for December 13. Kim will be our contact with Joy. John will add details to the calendar posting.

- Start and end times: 6pm – 10 pm
- Food & beverages
 - a. Board will provide ham and turkeys, soft drinks, water, and coffee; Ted & John will consult with Kim & Melissa, who handled this last year
 - b. Members will bring appetizers, vegetables, salads, potatoes, dressing, desserts, and specify if sterno is needed to keep their dish warm
 - c. Ted & John will accept the RSVPs, track side dishes, and direct responders to the specific types of side dishes needed
- Music & entertainment
 - a. Laurie agreed to provide music similar to last year
 - b. Additional activities to get people mingling were suggested including holiday themed Bingo, scavenger hunt; additional ideas are welcome and will be decided at next meeting
- Budget
 - a. Fee to use the Francis House is \$150 + \$50 gratuity to the staff person
 - b. Decorations / small gifts: Ted & John will investigate and propose budget

4. Valentine's Dance

It was announced that a committee of Ron & Dale, Kitty & Jeanne, Steve & Tom, and Rhoda & Roz have volunteered to spearhead a Valentine's Day Dance. The Board is grateful and offers its support to this committee.

Details:

- Venue: Metro Center, St. Petersburg
- Date: Saturday, February 14, 2009
- Other details: TBD; Committee will attend an upcoming meeting or send a proposal to the Board; looking for an affordable DJ

5. Annual Meeting

Date: Sunday, January 25, 2009

Add on an event to increase attendance?

- Mixed feelings from members of the Board: some say business only, some say definitely an event; if event, could have Super Bowl theme
- Discussed using the Radisson gift certificate as a give-away enticement

Location: TBD

- Amy and Ted to investigate new venues
- Will consider Francis House or Metro Center (\$25 per hour)

Written Reports Required

According to the Bylaws, the following reports are required at the Annual Meeting:

- Chair Couple: Annual State of the Organization Report summarizing the activities and actions of the Operating Board for the fiscal year ending.
- Finance Couple: Annual report summarizing the assets and liabilities of Florida Gulf Coast Couples, Inc., including revenue, expenses, disbursements and changes in financial status as of the end of the fiscal year, and a proposed budget for the ensuing year.
- Each seated Office of the Operating Board: A written report summarizing the activities and actions of that Office for the preceding year.

Ballots/Communication:

- On behalf of Kim & Melissa, Laurie made the motion that voting at the annual meeting occur by written ballot rather than by show of hands. Marta seconded this motion, and all present approved.
- Communication to the membership/recruitment of new nominees
 - a. Possibly play off of the presidential campaign theme
 - b. Series of reminders on the calendar. Ex: Have you thought about being an Officer of FGCC?; Have you nominated your candidate for FGCC's Board? Have you RSVP'd for the Annual Meeting?
 - c. Global email with nomination form (Note: Cannot be sent until after a determination has been made regarding length of term; see below)
 - d. Required to notify members of meeting, with agenda, at least 15 days prior to meeting; can be by email, except for those who cannot receive attachments

6. Outgoing Board Officers

- Laurie & Amy's terms as Chair, Internet and Media couples are expiring.
- Nichole & Elizabeth's term as Member Service couple is expiring.
- Kim & Melissa informed the Board that they will not be able to fulfill the second year of their 2-year term as Vice Chair couple.
- Linda & Marta informed the Board that they will not be able to fulfill the second year of their 2-year term as Finance couple.
- Ted & John informed the Board that they will fulfill their responsibility of the second year of their term as Events couple. The Board is indebted to Ted & John for their continued commitment.
- All Board officers pledged to provide support and assistance to their successors during the transition period, including written documentation, as appropriate.

Length of Term

The Board discussed the possibility of considering an amendment to the Bylaws which would allow for 1-year terms instead of 2-year terms for officers. Originally intended to maintain consistency by changing different officers during alternating years, this has not been the observed effect for the past several years. It is felt that, by reducing the term to 1 year, perhaps more members may be willing to step up to take on a Board position.

According to the Bylaws:

- Changes to the Bylaws shall be included on the agenda for the next Annual or Special Membership Meeting and approved by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the established quorum at that meeting.
- A quorum of the General Membership shall be ten percent (10%).
- No proxy voting or absentee ballots shall be used.

Laurie volunteered to seek feedback from some long-standing member couples

7. Reports from Board Couples

Member Services

Nichole & Elizabeth reported that the majority of the lanyard name tags have been distributed, either in person or mailed out. Tags were not mailed to members who have not renewed. Three that were mailed were returned.

All renewals for the remainder of the calendar year have been prepared and are ready for mailing as renewal dates arrive. It was confirmed that they should also prepare January as the change of term will not occur until following the Annual Meeting on January 25.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next board meeting set for November 2 at the New Port Richey home of Kim & Melissa. NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE OF LOCATION.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.