

February 7, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order by President Judy Biddle 5:30pm

Board Members present: Paul Ortiz, Lee Head, Secretary Pam Wiggins, Treasurer Don Cox, Lucy Podolske. Past President Moe Parker by phone.

Other Members present: Executive Director Patti Stinson, Walt Stinson, Lorena and Jerry Kelly, Tina Head, Julie and Peter Slatcoff, Jan Cox, Evette Parker by phone.

Festival Report- Joey reported the festival went really well...no final numbers

Joey brought up for consideration a July 4th celebration and parade for the city, he stated Jennifer had informed him the city was not going to coordinate a parade, they are doing fireworks and vendors on pier.

He thought an "All American 4th of July" carnival on the midway would be well received by the citizens.

Suggested Thursday for downtown PC and Friday and Saturday in St Andrews.

We would require fees from entrants and vendors. Festival Friday-Sunday, Parade on Saturday.

Judy requested that Joey put something on paper for us to present to members.

St. Patrick's Day is up for grabs...Board feels this is too close to Mardi Gras

Fall Festival... Octoberfest

We will have a Mardi Gras Festival meeting...February 28 at 5:30 at the den.

All board members should come with their own list of pros and cons.

We need to get the support from St Andrews merchants.

Inflatables blocked the traffic flow to Marina.

We have to get sponsors for the festival and parades.

Financial concerns Jan Cox – spoke to the board about membership and raising dues.

The board needs to acknowledge that throwing more money at the problem is not the solution and be prepared to present to members a plan of where we are going to cut expenses.

We need to cut expenses where we can (ball invitations, medallions (\$600), drink tickets at ball (2 only) Judy pays for the ball invitations. What does our \$200 dues cover?

Lee will update his financial board and bring to meeting.

New members must complete orientation, serve on a committee before they ride on a float. Members should be active to ride! Membership should be special. Non active members cost us money. Consider charging an initiation fee.

Fundraising should always keep the KREWE first.

Lee will prepare a financial board to present at the Quarterly Meeting.

Moe brought up a discussion on treating new members differently than the current members....ALL need to participate.

Members need to know duties of committees and sign up to be a member.

Members need to know what we have done this past year and what is still to come.

Members need to read newsletter and E-blasts to be informed.

Committees need to send a representative to board meetings.

Previous Minutes – Lee made a motion to accept the Jan 4 minutes, Lucy second, motion passes without opposition.

Treasurer's Report – Cash on hand **\$79, 037.06** – the lowest we have been in years.

Loss for the month is \$6995.28. We will be reimbursed \$16,850.00 for PC.

Don reported there is a dispute about payment and invoices from Aaron Rich.

Lee reported that every time we pick up the phone to speak to them....they are going to charge.

Members only section is not working properly.

The KREWE application on the new website is too complicated

Lee made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Lucy second, motion passes without opposition.

Previous Business

1. Floor update (bar trailer money transfer)– fundraisers in the upcoming year to earmark money for flooring. It's getting worse. The floor is the priority for fundraising. (between 20-30 K) all the dips will be repaired, the floor will be leveled and the floor will be glued down.

\$18000 in Bar Trailer fund. Charlie Coram said we can use it how we want. We will need to ask the others about using this money. Judy asked....do we still want a bar trailer? It was proven at the festival we could make money.

We need to decide what is the priority...all agreed it is the floor.

2. We have a liquor license for offsite use We need to use it. We can use a table and tent until the floor is repaired. We are limited to sell once a month. The trailer can go anywhere and make money. We need to find out if the membership will help to work a bar trailer before we purchase one.

Lucy made a motion subject to approval of using the Bar Trailer funds for the floor, Pam second, motion passes without opposition.

Paul will call these members and then send a letter to confirm the release of these funds.

3. Election information sent out in Newsletter and E-blast.
Membership will be updating the handbook.
4. New Website - Directions to get on members only website needs to be updated on our E-blast. NAPE list is updated and can be used by anyone.
5. Continuity float book? Where are we with this?

No float captain sent in a checklist as was requested.

Only 4 floats were available for the KODY parade. All floats should be used and rotated.

6. KRUISERS float. Never has been updated. Do we need to build a new one and stop spending money on this float? If we get a new frame we can see what we need to do. We replaced the frame under the Castle. Peter has been talking to the riders on the Kruiser float and there is a desire to build a new float. **Peter will talk to them and get a plan to build a new float from the ground up. He will bring to the board how it will get financed.**

Moe shared there is still the desire to build a new float with a group. We need a good frame that will hold 18 to 20 people. There are a group of members that will sponsor this new float.

7. Pensacola property update? It is listed, contacted by another Realtor to lease, \$3.50 a foot (4500) \$16,000 per year to lease. We will put liability on them. It will be a month to month lease, non-payment will result in voiding lease. This group wants to lease the property before they consider to buy. **Board agrees for Lee to move forward with the lease.**
8. Freezer/Ice machine update. No purchase of ice machine until floor is repaired. Paul suggested we need to sell the freezer and use the money to buy the ice machine.

New Business

1. Roof leak and ceiling tile change – where are we with this? Judy noticed roof leak at 12th night. This will be the 3rd time we have tried to fix the leak. This is not from condensation and just needs a barrier to prevent water from getting on the tiles. Jerry will contact Kurt to see if he can look and see what he can do. Moe and Evette reported there is a leak in the Merchandise closet.
2. Wheel Walkers – we should not be charging wheel walkers when we are having a hard time getting them to begin with. Local and reciprocal parades are at no cost to walkers. Float Captains are responsible for getting walkers. We need to seek wheel walkers secured early. No one should post on Facebook or our website that they will pay for wheel walkers. Peter suggested one person should have the lead to seek them. Military is not as active in community involvement. Peter gave a sizeable donation to Mosley which affects the entire KREWE.
3. Floats were given an inspection report Most of the repairs were not done. Jerry asked...Why don't we have the safety gear for traveling?
Pam brought up "What happens when float captains don't do what they are instructed to do? The board needs to oversee what is happening with the floats. If the captains can't do their job, the board needs to appoint a new captain.
4. Sponsorship – what is process and what is being done? Conflicts with King and Queen raising money and using the KREWE name during solicitations for funds. The KREWE and the Benevolence cannot use the same Tax ID. Everyone associated the Witches of St

Andrews with the KREWE. We can't control what they do for their fundraising that might be of conflict. We need to make this organization a passion for others to donate. We now have 16,000 followers on Facebook. We just finished the largest event in Bay County. We need to act now.

We collect 50% from the Golf Tournament, other fundraisers that are at the den is 12% for the KREWE,

Patty is trying to apply for grants. Needs financial information. There are things being done to look into soliciting funds.

5. KREWE Cell phones- Don, Sharon, Evette and Moe are all getting calls via the google phone number. We need 2 phones for KREWE business calls. Who will carry? Executive Director would be the best. Lee suggested we go to Verizon and ask for a donation of phones to use. Patty volunteered to do the leg work.
6. Chamber After Hours – Feb 15th (let's set expectation on who goes to these and the first Friday and they need to speak) Patty will always go. Who will speak? If nothing was going on ... no one spoke. The Chamber meeting are all about networking. Judy reiterated that those attending chamber events must network, speak to people, make contacts. Pam makes a motion to take all vintage KREWE merchandise 2022 and back and use as give-aways. Lucy second. Motion passes without opposition. Who is coming on the 15th? The Board in jackets and the Court in crowns will be available to tour the barns. Food is catered for our guests.
7. Website issues-sign in instruction in E-blast.

8. Membership

New non-sponsored members pay \$100 for 6 months and then \$100 for the next 6 months.

Tanya Carmody

Mike Langford

Jason Miller

Hope Pastor

Rusty Stinson

Lee made a motion that we accept the five new members, Paul second, motion passes without opposition.

Open to board members and floor

9. Jerry
 - Springtime – we have one float going, Lee has a secured place to store. Jerry said in the application it state we cannot throw anything from the float.
 - Mentioned that it is easy to communicate with officers of other KREWEs. We need to utilize the Krewe board emails.
10. Lorena sent information for readiness of floats to roll. A float rotation needs to be set a year in advance and that captain needs to appoint someone to be in charge of their float in the event they are not available.

11. Committee sign-ups for March, Patty is working on this.
12. Lorena _ Did the Go Fund Me page get on the Website? Moe said it will be soon. It needs to go in the E-Blast.
13. Lee made a motion to adjourn at 8:03, Paul second, motion passes without opposition.

Online Business

New members voted on by board Feb 16, 2024

Name	Sponsor
Melissa J. Walsh	Don Cox
Eduardo Astudillo	Carlos Cintron
Aletta Michele Smallwood	Sharon Ditomasso
Christopher D. Miller	Jason Miller
Karen S. Miller	Angie Miller

New member voted on by board Feb 18, 2024

Name	Sponsor
Patti Armstrong	Leisa Ward

New members voted on by board Feb 19, 2024

Name	Sponsor
Stukenborg, Thomas	Leisa (Ward) Jones
Sherry Rice	Patty Stinson
Mary Hightower	Kim Hacker