

Minutes

The Villages Deep Sea Fishing Club December 4, 2023

President Ken Jagodzinski called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 137 members in attendance.

January 2024 meeting conflict

President Ken alerted the members that the regular monthly Club in January falls on January 1, 2024. All recreation centers will be closed on this day and requires the Club to seek an alternative date and/or location for this meeting. January's meeting will be held on TUESDAY, January 2 at Ezelle Recreation Center (near Sawgrass Market).

Fish Club Picnic Volunteer needed

For many years, our Fishing Club has enjoyed the efforts of Everett Belter running our Spring and Fall picnics. Everett has decided that it's time to pass the reins to a successor. President Ken advised that we need a Coordinator to run the Spring and Fall Club picnics. To make the transition easier, Everett has agreed to help a new Coordinator with his experience and contacts. There is an existing group of volunteers that help with many aspects of these picnics but we need someone to be the "quarterback". If you are interested, please contact Ken directly.

Government Affairs Committee seeks volunteers

President Ken advised the membership that the Club's Executive Committee approved the formation of a Government Affairs Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to monitor issues that affect anglers in Florida. He advised that when appropriate, the Club will advocate for and file comments with various Agencies engaged in regulating Florida's fisheries. With a Club that has 650+ members and offers hundreds of charters a year, our impact on Florida's fishing industry is significant and our voice needs to be heard. President Ken asked for volunteers to help with this Committee and reach out to him if interested.

Swap Meet Volunteer needed

Ken advised that the Club needs a volunteer to coordinate with the Freshwater Fishing Club to run the Spring 2024 Swap Meet. Anyone interested is asked to contact Ken directly.

Annual Dues renewal

Members were reminded that they are now able to renew their annual dues for 2024. The annual dues remain unchanged at \$10.

Coordinator reports from November

Coordinator reports highlighted current fishing reports and openings for September trips. Presenters included Steve Newman, John Hogan, Bruce Speck, Jaye Wolfe, Jim Scheer, and Gaylon Thompson.

NEW members

Dave Easton handled the new member business and asked David Eoff the number of new members. He responded that there were 13 new members that signed up at the meeting. All new members were asked to stand and introduce themselves. Dave advised of the Club's new member welcome brochure and invited the new members to stay for a brief orientation meeting following the regular meeting.

Financial Report

Treasurer Steve Newman gave the financial report.

Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker was Captain Dustin Smith of NSB Shark Hunters. Captain Dustin shared information of the type of shark fishing he runs from the beach using specialized tackle to catch, tag and release any shark caught. There was lots of interest from members.

100% Raffle

The club raffled off six (6) \$50 vouchers that can be used on any Club trip. Congratulations to the winners.

Next meeting is Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at Ezell Recreation Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.