

Minutes

The Villages Deep Sea Fishing Club October 2, 2023

President Ken Jagodzinski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 127 members in attendance.

Fish Club Picnic – November 2, 2023

President Ken alerted the members that the Fall 2023 Picnic is on Thursday, November 2 at the Camp Geneva Campgrounds. Cost of the ticket is \$12 per person and is open to member and spouse/guest only. Tickets are available at tonight's meeting. Members were reminded that this is a BYOB event for alcoholic beverages and the Club would provide soda and water. Ken reminded those that bought tickets that the information sheet they were given gives an assignment of what to bring based on their last name beginning letter. He asked attendees to please heed this request.

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. He advised that in accordance with the Club's By-Laws, the Club's Directors will decide the best option and date and advise the membership once this is finalized. Ken mentioned that Eisenhower and Seabreeze were options being investigated. A member advised that the Club look at Ezelle Rec Center as there may be availability.

Election of 2024/25 Officers

President Ken shared with members that we will be electing a new slate of Officers for a 2-year term starting January 2024. He encouraged any member interested in running for a Board position on The Villages Deep Sea Fishing Club to submit your name and interest to our Nominating Committee Chairperson - Greg Rottet. Greg can be reached at (610) 737-4066 or via email at gprottet@gmail.com. The positions available for self-nomination include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All positions have terms of 2 years. A slate of candidates will be presented at the November monthly Club meeting on Monday, November 6, 2023, and a vote could take place at that time.

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.

Club Content Coordinator opening

President Ken asked members to step up and volunteer to help him in arranging speakers and other programming for monthly Club meetings. He asked any interested members to reach out to him directly. He also thanked Steve Bowlus who served in this capacity for many months.

Coordinator reports from September

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.

Club long haul Club trips

President Ken reported that the 4-day Club private trip on The American Patriot scheduled for October 2024 was now full and there are 3 stand-by members.

He also updated members on the status of the October and December 3-day Club trips to The Dry Tortugas.

Lastly, President Ken advised that he has secured a date on the American Patriot for June 22-25, 2025. He advised that more details will be coming soon.

NOAA Gag/Black Grouper rule changes

Member Jim Scheer shared an update on the NOAA rule changes that (mostly) affect the harvesting of Grouper in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico. The biggest impact is the closure of Gag Grouper in the Gulf of Mexico on October 19, 2023.

NEW members

Dave Easton handled the new member business and asked David Eoff the number of new members. He responded that there were 11 new members signed up at the August meeting. All new members were asked to stand and introduce themselves. Dave invited the new members to stay for a brief orientation meeting following the regular meeting.

Open Forum

Several members shared thoughts during this meeting segment.

Financial Report

Treasurer Steve Newman gave the financial report.

Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker was Zack Slankard, who is a custom rod builder and rod repair person. He highlighted some of the repair and custom rod building work he does. Members were encouraged to reach out to him if they have any fishing rods in need of repair. The presentation was followed by a Q&A session.

100% Raffle

The club raffled off seven (8) \$50 vouchers that can be used on any Club trip. Congratulations to the winners.

Next meeting is Monday, November 6, 2023 at Everglades Recreation Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.