



## Minutes The Villages Deep Sea Fishing Club August 2, 2022

President Ken Jagodzinski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 125 members in attendance.

### **New membership growth presents challenges**

With the significant growth the Deep Sea Fishing Club is experiencing, President Ken shared the efforts leading up to securing a new, larger meeting location. The Club has added 214 new members in 2022. The total number of members we now have is over 575. This is a 55% increase from January 1, 2022. Our monthly meeting attendance has more than doubled from 2021 levels – and we're not into the return of our "seasonal members" yet!

Ken advised that the Club has met with John Rohan of The Villages and shared this growth data. He was excited for our Club's growth. At the same time he said that this growth is causing concerns overcrowding, safety in the event of an emergency and exceeding occupancy limits. He agreed that a "theater room" is the best solution for our Club.

Mr. Rohan advised he would meet with his Senior Staff to see if there was a solution. The Villages responded and advised that their strongest recommendation is to move our monthly Club meetings to the Theater room at Everglades Rec. Center. There were no other theater rooms available elsewhere. He added that if we do nothing, limits will be placed on attendance.

Ken advised that the Club's Executive Committee toured the Everglades Room and were impressed. It is spacious, new and ideal for our monthly meetings. Since a decision needed to be made quickly, the Executive Committee voted to move to Everglades.

Starting in October and monthly thereafter, we will be meeting at Everglades on the first Monday of each month.

### **Coordinator reports from July**

All coordinators reported that fishing conditions were being impacted by the hot summer weather. Presenters included Tom Martin (Thunder) and Jim Scheer (numerous Captains).

### **Club private charter on The American Patriot**

Ken shared that Club members could begin signing up for a 4-day trip on the American Patriot from July 31, 2023 thru August 3, 2023. Ken shared all specifics and answered numerous questions. This trip is limited to 20 members and is on a first-come/deposit basis.

### **NEW members**

Ida Donnegan reported 17 new members signed up at the August meeting. All new members were asked to stand and introduce themselves. Ken invited the new members to stay for a brief orientation meeting with Dave Easton.

### **Financial Report**

Treasurer Steve Newman gave the financial report.

### **GUEST SPEAKER (1)**

Due to a conflict, the guest speaker from Florida Fishing and Wildlife Commission was unable to attend.

### **100% Raffle**

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

**Next meeting is Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at Eisenhower Recreation Center.**

Meeting adjourned at 7: 30 PM.