

Meeting Called to Order at 6:05 pm by Mark Frandsen, President.

Invocation By: Mary Jepson

Star Spangled Banner: Jerry Manegold

Pledge of Allegiance Led By: Phil Caroleo

Officials, Dignitaries and Candidates were introduced. Visitors welcomed.

Audio and Video Recording are not permitted.

---

Mark introduced the following topics and persons for brief messages.

1. Meeting Locations: The board has discussed concerns about meeting venues and we would like you to hear the options and vote on a location. First, we could stay here at the Post. There is a small facility use fee per meeting. The food is not as we originally understood and there are periodic interruptions by other Post activities during our meetings. We are grateful they allowed us to come here for a time. Second, we could return to the Hampton Inn. The Hampton requires us to bring in Pizza. The cost per meeting is about \$400 to \$450 for food and room rental. Through contributions from meeting attendees we collect about \$200 to \$250. Our loss per meeting is \$200 to \$250. A third option is Beef 'O' Brady in North Port. Under new corporate management now. They will allow us use of a room that seats about 70 persons at no charge. We are requested to buy food and drink, which we would anyway. Monday evening specials are a BYO burger and fries for \$7.99. The full menu would also be available. A fourth option would be Sushi O a new Asian Restaurant in North Port. Their meeting room will not be open for use until after January 2026. Comments from most members at the meeting indicated they consider it costly. After brief discussions, Phil Caroleo made a motion to vote for Beef 'O' Brady as the new location. Marian Patricoski seconded the motion. A Voice vote was held and passed with no objections. The motion carried. New location will begin with the September 22, 2025 meeting.
2. Club Sponsors: Mark Asked members to consider asking business associates, vendors, etc. that they know to be club sponsors to offset some of our regular costs. As a small club, we have limited resources. The rental of the Scout House for the October Picnic costs about \$300.00
3. REC: Alice Rothbauer, the REC co- Chair briefly discussed REC activities to register voters and turn out voters at elections. They work with 12 other clubs in the county. The next election is less than 1 year away. It is a VERY important election the school board primary. We MUST retain all 3 seats that are up for election. They are all conservatives. If we lose one seat, we lose the majority. Last election we had 35% turnout, if we could just increase to 40% turnout for our base we could win these seats. The next REC meeting will be September 11<sup>th</sup> at the Morgan Center in North Port. It will be the start of election season and candidates will be speaking.
4. School Board Town Hall: Mark noted that there will be a school board town hall at the Woodland Middle School in North Port on September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6pm to 7:30pm. Located at 2700 Panacea Blvd in North Port. Mark requested we attend the meeting. Do Not engage disrupters.
5. General Notes: Karen Rose was appointed to complete Tim Enos' position on the school board. She will not run for the seat once Tim's term expires.
6. North Port Freedom Fest: Please attend on August 30<sup>th</sup>. We have a booth and would like to see you there. Gates open at Cool Today Park at 5:30pm. Fireworks start at 8:30pm.

Mark then introduced the featured speaker for the evening, Mr. Sean Burroughs. He is currently the President of the North Port Chamber of Commerce and a professional with Compass Health Consultants. A Marine Corp Vet with great experience and proven leadership skills. He is also a very active REC member and has provided extensive service to our club as well. Sean has lived 10 years in Florida and 6 years in North Port. He volunteers for a number of boards in North Port and Sarasota County.

He spoke about his personal experiences and his life mission. He may eventually run for District #5 of the County Commission seat. That would be North Port. His goal as a commissioner would be to advocate for North Port and assure City residents and Staff received what they needed.

North Port residents need to understand that it is a young, growing city. It often grows faster than city and commissioners can keep up. Many residents came from more long established areas and cannot understand why there are certain service hiccups. Facilities are needed in the city for business. Residents must understand that growth must include more commercial space to offset residential taxes. We need to plan for wise growth to be ready for growth. Particularly if the NYC mayoral election results in the victory of the currently leading candidate. Many will flee to Florida. We should all work for a better tomorrow. He answered questions from members.

---

**Final Announcements:**

1. Karen Arlington again requesting persons interested to run for NPARC Board positions. Slate must be ready to be announced at the October meeting and voted on at the November meeting.
2. Club Picnic on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Karen with your dish to pass so she can help us have a variety of foods for the event.
3. Membership. Mark asked everyone to ask neighbors, friends and family to join the club.
4. Karl Goodrich spoke briefly about his efforts to increase EMS care in North Port and Sarasota County.

Meeting Ended at 7:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Marian L. Patricoski, Secretary