



## **Fleet 17 Boat Club - Meeting Minutes Tuesday, November 4th, 2025 @ Port Edwards**

**Meeting was called to order at: 7:14**

**Attendees:** Valerie Machalski-Robinson, Carrie Davis, Debbie Harr-Pearson, Doug Caughran, Skip Robinson, Mike Rein, Cheryl Williams, Dan Pearson, Bruce Ambler, Ed Gallek, Craig Peterson, Fred and Denise, Ralph Wenzel, Tom & Patti Fernstrom, Sheri Brabec, Mike Lobes

**Motion to Accept Minutes from previous meeting:** Valerie Machalski-Robinson    **Seconded:** Craig Peterson

### **Officer Reports:**

**Harbor Captain** –Carrie Davis

**Next Meeting will be Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026 @ Port Edwards**

**Fleet Commander** –Valerie Machalski-Robinson

The social at Maple Tree Tap was a good turnout, but not as big as other socials. We need to make sure we patronize these places that sponsor us.

The next social is Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at Tipsy Goat. No social in December.

The Christmas party is Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at The Cary Country Club. Info will be posted shortly. Possible charities for our annual Christmas donations are:

Blessing Barn – assists those in need with basic life essentials such as clothing and household goods (located in Crystal Lake)

Veterans Path to Hope – assists veterans with rehousing, food pantry items and clothing (located in Crystal Lake)

Palace Bowl in Johnsburg (Rt 31 just north of McHenry) sponsored us for Venetian Night and it would be nice to reciprocate and have a bowling event at their facility. Looking at a time in January 2026. Any suggestions as day/time, ie, Saturday? Day? Evening? Late afternoon/early evening on a Saturday. Date to be determined.

Terrible turnout at the meat raffle. Made \$215. We will not be doing this again. The weather was a nice day, but so many people have meat raffles too soon. Too much work and not worth the money.

**It helps when people press the “like” button on the Fleet 17 events on Facebook. It will reach a larger audience if it receives a high number of likes, comments, and shares.**

**Membership- Sue Ambler** – Absent\_– Bruce said nothing much is happening and no new members

Currently we have 111 members, 51 memberships, 24 Sponsors

**Cruise Master** –Al Ehlers – Absent – Report read by Carrie Davis

Beginning Balance = \$4,442.25

Expenses = \$63.00

Income = \$0

Ending Balance = \$4,379.25

Details are always available upon request.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report – Debbie Harr-Pearson      **Seconded:** Ed Gallek

**Vice Commodore** -Debbie Harr-Pearson

Membership should be our number one focus for 2026 and getting more people coming to our functions  
Mike Lobes said we should do a float in a local parade

**First Mate** -Bruce Ambler – nothing to mention

**Commodore** Doug Caughran – We had a guest here the other month to speak about his business. We should maybe do that again. Maybe have Stanley Helmer. He owns Helmer Septic. Debbie said we should try to get the original members of Fleet 17 to come forward and come to an event.

**Admirals Report**

Tom Fernstrom – We need to check our insurance for events that kids are at.

Ralph Wenzel –thank you to Valerie for keeping up with what's going on with the river. She is always posting about water levels and such. It is good for membership.

Dave Vogeler – (absent)

Kathy Krah – (absent)

Craig Peterson –

Rhonda Lee – (absent)

**Fox Waterway Report – None**

You can find Fox Waterway meeting minutes at foxwaterway.com, under meeting agendas.

Doug – Tom Fernstrom has been going to the meetings. Doug went as did Ralph Wenzel. Only one person allowed to represent Fleet 17. It would be good to have representation. Bill Heller is leaving.

**Unfinished Business-**

Ed Gallek - Tom Hastings passed away and we should send flowers or something... Mike Lobes offered to send

the flowers, however, Doug sent flowers.

### **New Business-**

Mike Lobe said we need to get on other social media platforms...tik tok and Instagram, etc. He also suggested a golf outing or Bingo night.

Is anyone interested in getting a Fleet 17 shirt. We have only had Fleet 17 Venetian Night shirts. Mark will do the print the shirts and sweatshirts – maybe some jackets

Sue – we talked about doing a flea market idea – it used to be done in the past. Bring your stuff and sell it, and the money or at least half would go to the club. Sell stuff you want to get rid of, kind of like a garage sale. Andy said maybe have one table and we all work together. Club would organize it. We would only pay for one table to be in it. Craig said Dillon would accommodate us if we wanted to do it here. Doug says do it in the spring before boating season starts. Advertise for Fleet 17.

### **Prop Sucker:**

**Sheri still has the Prop Sucker!**

**Meeting adjourned at: 8:04**

**Approved by – Valerie Machalski-Robinson**

**Seconded: Debbie Harr-Pearson**

(argggghhhh!!!!)

### **2026 Board**

**Commodore- Doug Caughran**

**Vice Commodore –Debbie  
Harr-Pearson**

**Cruise Master - Al Ehlers**

**Harbor Captain – Carrie Davis**

**Fleet Commander – Valerie Machalski- Robinson**

**First Mate – Bruce Ambler**

**Membership Chair – Sue Ambler**

*From Inception to Present - Admirals  
Past Commodores) are:*

Greg Tricker, Dan Streit, Thom Hastings, George Gurns, Bill Kirn, Tom Seger, Bud Rosek, Tim Swoboda, Teresa Saxton, Bob Jacobs, Bill Silverthorne, Steve Hicks, Jeff Consdorf, Tom Wilke, Lynn Doone, Scott Topp, Lynn Consdorf, LML, Heidi Flanagan, Dave Vogeler, Tom McCrindle, Tom Fernstrom, John Biba, Joanie Van Allen, Bob O'Day, Dale Reeder, Stephanie Reeder, Roy Huckabay, Ralph Wenzel, Dennis Ryan, Kathy Krah, John Biba, Rocky Hornsby, Craig Peterson, Andy Pieri, Rhonda Simzer-Lee, Andy Pieri

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