



FLEET 17 Boat Club
Meeting Minutes
August 4th, 2026

Meeting was called to order at: 7:05pm

Attendees: Carrie Davis, Valerie Machalski-Robinson, John & Carol Fritz, Mark Havemann, Doug Caughran, Ralph Wenzel, Tom & Patti Fernstrom, Steve Barnes, Mike and Lori Rein, Al Ehlers, John Christiansen, Amy Wainwright, Ed Gallek, Suzanne De La Torre, Sheri Braebec, Bruce & Sue Ambler, Alan Kirk, Sandy Hustedt, Mike & Kim Oslo, Joe & Kyra Ries, Debbie Harr-Pearson, Dan Pearson

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting: Valerie Machalski-Robinson,
Second: Debbie Harr Pearson

Officer Reports:

Harbor Captain-Carrie Davis

Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 1st @ Pier 91
Bruce and Sue Ambler have formally turned in their resignations as board members. We will miss them both being on the board, but they plan to stay members of Fleet 17.

Fleet Commander-Valerie Machalski-Robinson

-July social at Hermann's was a good turnout! Thanks everyone for attending! Next social is at Port Edward on August 19th.

-Hooky Friday was a great turnout as usual. We had 81 attendees that included a few walk ups that day. Johnathan Nord won the 50/50 raffle. He donated some river t-shirts and coozies to be raffled off. Going forward, only those that paid and attended hooky Friday are eligible for the raffle. Also, we didn't go over budget, but going forward, host houses will be held to the budget. It's nice with all the extras, but it getting too expensive. Anything over the budget will be the responsibility of the host house.

-Despite the weather, Venetian Night went well. We initially had 19 boats registered. 6 boats cancelled prior to the parade due to boat or family issues. 4 boats were just a no-show.

1st place - Port Edwards

2nd place - Lady Liberty

3rd place - Bring back the 80's

Admiral's Choice - Electric Reef

-We always have new interest in Fleet 17 after Venetian Night. We had 15 new Facebook members in the past week. We currently have over 1,000 followers!

-September 19th is the Crock Pot Cook-Off at Fox 14 Marina

-Raft Off will be scheduled based on weather. Possibly changing it up to accomodate people at the North end of the river, ie, Hanky Lanky Bay or the sandbar near Rawson Bridge.

Membership - Sue Ambler

We are up to 50 memberships & 25 sponsors

There is a meeting on August 26th at the Fox Waterway Agency. The meeting is open to anyone who would like to attend.

Cruise Master - Al Ehlers

Beginning Balance - \$6,149.66

Expenses - \$4,172.36

Income - \$6,324.06

Ending Balance - \$8,301.36

Details are always available upon request.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report - Valerie Machalski- Robinson, Second - Debbie Harr-Pearson

Vice Commodore - Debbie Harr-Pearson

Looking forward to year as Commodore! Doug Caughran will be stepping down as Commodore and staying on as an admiral. We will be doing additions in the future and I hope I have all your support.

First Mate - Bruce Ambler

Nothing to report

Commodore - Doug Caughran

-We are in the heart of all our activities! Our events have been great. Nice rain for Hooky Friday, which was needed! All the hosts were great and everything turned out well!

-We need nominations for tonight for next year's board.

Debbie Harr-Pearson is nominating Mike Rein for Vice Commodore.

Valerie Machalski-Robinson is nominating Sandy Hustedt for Membership.

Debbie Harr-Pearson will be Commodore.

Al Ehlers will stay as Treasurer.

Carrie Davis will stay as Harbor Captain.

Valerie Machalski-Robinson will stay as Fleet Commander.

We need a First Mate!

Next meeting we will vote on the nominations.

Valerie did a great job for Hooky Friday and Venetian Night! She received a standing ovation!!

Admirals Report-

Dave Vogeler - absent

Tom Fernstrom - n/a

Kathy Krahel - absent

Craig Peterson - absent

Rhonda Lee - absent

Ralph Wenzel - I wanted to share with the club my dire feelings about the club a couple of years ago, I thought the club was about to fold, happily the ensuing boards have done a marvelous job getting Fleet 17 back in a viable and important position in the community! Thank you for all the hard work you all have accomplished.

Fox Waterway Report-

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

Unfinished Business-

None

New Business -

Alan Kirk from the FWA attended the meeting as was asking for feedback/opinions on the recent boating accident. Alan is a Fleet 17 member and new FWA board member. He does not have an official territory to cover, but he does live on the lower river and has interest in lower river concerns. He is hoping to attend more Fleet 17 meetings, so if anyone has any input for him, feel free to chat with Alan.

Tom Fernstrom is on the FWA Advisory Committee who represents more specific interests and assists the FWA Board in giving recommendations.

We also had a Fleet 17 member attend the FWA monthly meetings. We are still looking for someone who would like to attend the meetings and report back on items of interest that were discussed. You can either attend in person or you can Zoom the meeting. Contact any of the Fleet 17 Board members if you are interested.

Prop Sucker -

Christian Harr still has the prop sucker!

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:57pm

Approved by: Debbie Harr-Pearson. Second-Valerie Machalski-Robinson

(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 Burns, Bill Kirn, Tom Seger, Bud Rosek, Tim Swoboda, Teresa Saxton, Bob Jacobs, Bill Silverthorne, Steve Hicks, Jeff Consdorf, Tom Wilke, Lynn Done, 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 Krahle, John Biba, Rock Hornsby, Craig Peterson, Andy Pieri, Rhonda Simzer-Lee

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