



February Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/22/2023

Time: 3:00 PM

Opening

- Welcome
- Call to Order
- Chaplain Richard Shipp gave opening prayer
- Full membership gave the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag

Roll Call

- President Joe Wolff – Present
- Vice-President Mark Cioffi – Present
- Recording Secretary – Position Vacant
- Treasure – Position Vacant
- Sergeant-at-Arms – Charlie De Cosa Jr is medically excused
 - Standing in for Mr. De Cosa were Mr. & Mrs. Delia

Elected Officials/Invited Guests Recognized

- Jerry Campbell - Hernando County Commissioner District 4
- Mark Johnson – Hernando County School Board member
- Casey Thieryung - Brooksville City Council member
- Natalie Kahler - Executive Director of Brooksville Main Street

Club Business

- Treasurer Report – given by Mark Cioffi (Acting Treasurer, due to vacant position)
 - Balance reported = \$2,063.54
- Recording Secretary Report – given by Joe Wolff (due to vacant position)
 - Reviewed meeting minutes from January meeting
 - Reported that going forward, meeting minutes will be posted on newly created Republican Club website
- President's Report – given by Joe Wolff
 - Informed membership about new Republican Club website: www.wellingtonrc.com
 - Discussed 2nd Amendment and Florida's Constitution Carry law which is in process – link on website to video about this effort
 - Under "More" on website - Recommended reading list highlighted two:
 1. *Rise of the Fourth Reich* by Steve Deace and Daniel Horowitz
 2. *Pfizer Documents Analysis Reports* by Pfizer Documents Investigation Team (Author), Amy Kelly (Author), DailyClout LLC (Editor) – this is electronic book format only
 - Prediction made by Joe Wolff: Donald Trump will not be the president in 2024. Wolff said that Trump's continuing support and more importantly failure to acknowledge what is now known to be a catastrophic failure of the vaccine will be used to defeat him in the primary. That is, unless he quickly turns that stance around.



- Reminder of importance/necessity to Re-Registration for Vote-by-Mail. A link for online registration will be added to website this month or see Terry Delia for more information.
- Membership dues are \$10.00 annually for each adult member.
- Ms. Shirley Anderson (Supervisor of Elections) will be guest speaker in April.
- Nominations for vacant Treasure and Recording Secretary
 - Treasure Position
 - Terry Delia nominated Julie Karpovich of 420 Mistwood Ct.
 - John Delia seconded the nomination.
 - Joe Wolff asked Julie Karpovich if she would accept the nomination and she responded in the affirmative.
 - Recording Secretary (temporary)
 - Terry Delia nominated Chris Karpovich of 420 Mistwood Ct.
 - John Delia seconded the nomination.
 - Joe Wolff asked Chris Karpovich if he would accept the nomination as temporary Recording Secretary and he responded in the affirmative.

Guest Speaker

- Casey Thieryung, Brooksville City Council member introduced our guest speaker.
- Guest Speaker: Natalie Kahler, Executive Director of Brooksville Main Street.
 - About Florida Main Street: this program is dedicated to revitalizing communities across the state. At the local level Florida Main Street has earned this revitalization strategy the reputation as one of the most powerful economic tools in the nation.
 - Historic walking tours in downtown Brooksville – different tours with different lengths.
 - Involved with Blue Berry Festival and Tree Lighting Ceremony in December.
 - Mural tour and Hernando County Mermaid Tour shared.
 - Shared about different dining options in Brooksville area.
 - Cuisine types: Mexican, Bistro, Winery, BBQ, Pizza, American pub style
 - Fresh Picked Café: a farmers' market where you pick fresh items, and they cook right then – takes time! Don't be in a hurry for this meal.
 - Museums in Brooksville area shared: Women's Club, Historic Hernando Heritage, Train Depot, and School House.
 - Handed out information pamphlets, maps of walking tours and Hernando County road trip for the Mermaid tour.

Elected Officials

- Mark Johnson, Hernando County School Board member provided an update.
 - Mom's for Liberty were successful in getting "Lucky" book pulled from the school library.
 - Conservatives on the board are taking a stronger stance. Would like for support and requested to have our members attend meetings in support.
 - All school district staff have been asked not to attend school board meetings, denying the opportunity to ask them direct questions, and creating a lack of transparency.
 - School board meetings normally held 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 6:00PM of each month (check calendar on website to be sure). The meeting is held at the District Office-Board Room 919 N. Broad Street Brooksville, FL
- Jerry Campbell, Hernando County Commissioner – District 4 provided an update.



- Increased “wall time” for ambulances to \$204/hr @ 15-minute increments. This will help motivate hospital staff to move patients quicker, protect taxpayer money and perhaps most importantly free up ambulances to respond to other emergencies.
- Shared about County Workshops that occur 1st Tuesday of each month. Next one is March 7 at the Commissioners Chamber.
- Gave an update on transportation projects
 - The BOCC is working with Pasco County on County Line Road to widen the road and this is a priority for the county.
 - Barclay Ave is another key priority and follows is the Anderson Snow Rd. project
- In Hernando Beach – Shoal Line Blvd, residents and business owners are concerned with speeding and are requesting speed limit review/changes.
- Shared about Economic Development focus and the county is aware of the need for more “shovel ready” sites to attract new businesses. They are currently identifying properties for potential industrial and/or businesses.
- Spoke about Parks and Recreation areas in our county and the concern of parking issues at our parks. The commission is currently looking into potential new sites and what they can do to improve the parking concerns.
- Shared that Hernando County has 3 code enforcement officers where other counties of similar size and population normally have 10. This creates a backlog regarding complaints filed. Due to State Legislation the county will no longer accept anonymous complaints regarding a neighbor or other issue. You must give your name and nature of your concern. Your name will become public record tied to the complaint you provided.
- On March 30 there will be an Interlocal Meeting where the Brooksville City Council, Hernando County School Board and Hernando County Commissioners will meet.

Door Prizes

- Dianne Greenwell won a DVD
- Eleanor Bushman won a \$25 dollar gift certificate to Wellington Bar & Grill

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 4:32PM

Signatures

Joe Wolff
President

Date

Chris Karpovich
Recording Secretary (temporary)

Date