



Meeting Minutes – September 2024

Date: 09/25/2024

Time: 3:00 PM

Opening

- Call to Order
- The meeting opened with a music video (“Fighter” by Jon Kahn) the video is a song dedicated to Donald Trump’s life on his recent campaign trail including the assassination attempt and his reply “Fight, Fight, Fight”. (the video was extremely well received by membership)
- Full membership gave the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag, led by County Commissioner Brian Hawkins
- Opening Prayer by Richard Shipp

Roll Call

- President – Joe Wolff – Present
- Vice-President, Mark Cioffi - Absent
- Recording Secretary, Sandra Apone – Present
- Treasurer Julie Karpovich - Present
- Sergeant-at-Arms, Charlie De Cosa Jr – Present

Elected Officials/Invited Guests Recognized

- Brian Hawkins, Commissioner, District 2
- Mark Johnson, HC School Board
- Jason Marques, President, Wellington Board of Directors
- Jeff Rogers, County Administrator

Club Business

- September Treasurer Report – by Julie Karpovich

Opening Balance	\$1,412.75
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Debits/Expenses

○ Debit Card Purchases	<u>\$27.68</u>
Total Debits	\$27.68

Credits

○ Ticket Sales	\$186.00
○ Membership Fees	\$ 50.00
○ Christmas Luncheon	<u>\$300.00</u>
Total Credits	\$536.00

Ending Balance	\$ 1,921.07
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Petty Cash	\$ 40.00
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	\$ 1,961.07

Recording Secretary Report = by Sandra Apone

- The August Meeting Minutes were emailed and can be viewed on Wellingtonrc.com. Members are asked to read them and be ready to approve the Minutes at the October Meeting. The August Minutes were unanimously approved.

Presidents Report

- **Award** – President, Joe Wolff, on behalf of the membership, presented Joseph Just a Videographer Award in appreciation of his countless years of service to both the Club and to the Community for recording, editing, and distributing videos of events. Joseph provides videos of our Club meetings and special events including the last Patriots’ Day memorial ceremony. These presentations can be viewed on the website, Wellingtonrc.com.
- President Joe Wolff commented on current government news; the mention of pets being eaten in Springfield, Ohio; the infiltration of Venezuelan gangs in the U.S. targeting gated communities; bias created by liberal college professors. He mentioned the New York Post’s headline “The Mess They’ve Left” recalling the Biden-Harris administration pertaining to the UN and the U.S. Debt topping 100% of GDP. These and other issues can be viewed on the website as a slide presentation under the “False Narratives” tab.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - The “Trump Train” will leave from the Weeki Wachi park parking lot every Saturday in October meet at 3:30 p.m..... depart 4pm sharp
 - “Let’s do Lunch” is on October 9th at Cody’s Restaurant – Brian Hawkins plans to attend.
 - The Wellington RC will host a Christmas Luncheon on December 4th. **Tickets are limited**, purchase at the meeting or check with Julie Karpovich for availability - \$20.00 pp. (First Paid basis)
 - Save the date - The Wellington RC will be screening a movie (title to be announced) in the Clubhouse on December 19th. This is a free event and the entire community is invited.
 - The Florida GOP has issued an Official 2024 a Guide suggesting the following, Vote “yes” on Amendments 1,2,5,6, and “no” on Amendments 3 & 4.
 - Volunteers needed for “Poll Watchers” to help maintain fair practices at polling places.

Guest Speaker

- Our guest speaker was Michelle Martin, State Director- FL, of Citizens for Renewing America. <https://citizensrenewingamerica.com>



- The Group advocates for “America First” policies on issues such as secure borders, critical race theory, big government and election integrity. Michelle commented on and explained the Pros and Cons of the various amendments that appear on the Florida November ballot.
- Michelle’s presentation can be found on Wellingtonrc.com – go to the September 25th Meeting Photos and scroll down for the presentation slides.

Closing Comments:

- Commissioner Brian Hawkins explained the Hernando County proposed Whole Cent Sales Tax which is on the November ballot.
- https://wholecenthernando.com/?fbclid=IwY2xjawF76x5leHRuA2FibQIxMAABHUU2h-HdlFGzCy-sXTFx7k_is32mPKFTP0Bi0k7pOAP5o87OGv16Vi-iRg_aem_pNdBolwhIP-s2OBQPASPCQ
 - Approximately \$38 million will be received annually from the tax and will go toward improvements focused on the following in HC: Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Transportation and Economic Development.
 - The sales tax is paid by everyone who makes a purchase in HC, not to exceed \$500 total on a single purchase.
 - Medication, and medical services, fuel, and groceries are exempt.
 - Tourists and visitors to the county will account for about 30% of the annual funding from the Whole Cent Sales Tax, a benefit to HC residents.
 - The revenue from the tax will only be used on specific delineated projects.
 - Current funding sources such as impact fees and gas tax do not generate enough revenue to support the county now or in the future.
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- Jeff Rogers, County Administrator – gave advice on the impending hurricane, Helena, regarding shelters, mandatory evacuations, and other safety precautions.
- Mark Johnson, School Board Member, spoke about the renewal of the ½ cent sales surtax to continue funding capital improvements to schools. He cited the need for more high schools – some students ride the bus one- and one-half hours each way to and from school. He also commented on the new School Board which will be comprised of five conservative members after the elections. They have already been able to remove CRT and books containing porn from the school libraries.

Door Prizes

- Club Member Jim Shaw is the winner of a \$25.00 gift certificate for the Wellington Bar & Grill.
- Club Member Mike Swantik is winner of special Trump memorabilia – a gold colored and rhinestone necklace and pendant from the Trump Store.

Next Meeting Date – October 23rd at 3:00 p.m. in the Wellington Ballroom.

Adjournment - The Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM



Signatures

Joseph Wolff
President

Date

Sandra Apone
Recording Secretary

10/14/2024
Date