



Meeting Minutes – January 2026

Wellington Republican Club (WRC)

Date:01/28/2026

Time: 3:00 PM

Opening

- Call to Order
- Full membership gave the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag, led by club president Joe Wolff
- Opening Prayer led by Mr. Phil Doucet (WRC Member & President Emeritus FHRC)
- **Roll Call**
 - President, Joe Wolff - Present
 - Vice-President, Mark Cioffi – Present
 - Recording Secretary, Sandra Apone – Present
 - Treasurer, Julie Karpovich – Excused
 - Sergeant-at-Arms, Charlie De Cosa Jr – Present

Elected Officials/Invited Guests Recognized

- Mark Johnson, Hernando County School Board Member & (WRC Member)
- Mathew Montes – Turning Point
- Al Nienhaus – Hernando County Sheriff

January Treasurer Report

Opening Balance	\$978.42
 <u>Debits/Expenses</u>	
Refreshments, TIP	\$163.42
Gift Card	<u>25.00</u>
Total of Debits	\$188.42
 <u>Credits</u>	
Ticket Sales	\$186.00
Membership {new & renewal}	<u>\$400.00</u>
Total of Credits	\$586.00
Petty Cash 40.00	
 <u>Ending Balance</u>	 <u>\$1416.00</u>



Recording Secretary Report – by Sandra Apone

Members receive the January minutes prior to the February meeting. Please review them for approval at that meeting. Find approved minutes at www.wellingtonrc.com.

Presidents Report

President Joe Wolff presented the following observations:

- Our website, www.wellingtonrc.com has had 169 visitors in the past 30 days. Visit for updates on upcoming guest speakers.
- Photos from the 2025 Christmas Party are now on the website.
- In January, former Republican Club member Karen Singleton organized a luncheon in the ballroom, gathering many of her friends for a memorable visit. Karen had moved to Indiana during the summer of 2025, making this occasion a special opportunity for everyone to reconnect. The event was fun filled as guests enjoyed reminiscing about past experiences together.
- Our very own “first lady” Regina Wolff had a 65th birthday party on January 8th at a VFW party room large enough to accommodate the seventy plus guests. The theme was Western wear and featured a roasted pig as the main course. In lieu of presents, Regina suggested a donation to one of her favorite charities, “A New Generation.” Donations totaled \$2,700 which she was able to present to the charity.
- The movie “Melania” is now showing in local theaters. Viewers have given it positive reviews, though it has received little attention from mainstream media. We recommend watching it.
- Joe mentioned the importance of voting in the Florida mid-term elections. He recommends setting up “mail in” ballots if we are going to be away for the primary and the general elections. Primary date is August 18th and General is November 3rd.
- Our President’s Book recommendation of the month is “The Sin of Empathy” by Joe Rigney.

Guest – Mathew Montes – president of Turning Point chapter.

- Mathew is a student at USF, ROTC program. His USF Turning Point chapter has been registered for 1 year and has 400 members, due to podcasts and meetings.
- Turning Point is the largest conservative student movement in the nation. Access Mathew’s chapter at www.tpusastudents.com.
- Founded by Charlie Kirk in 2012, there are 800+ college chapters nationwide. He spoke about the organization and reflected on the assassination of Charlie Kirk.
- Turning Point, USA empowers citizens of all ages to rise up against the radical left in defense of freedom, free markets, and limited government. There are millions of patriotic supporters in local communities, high schools, university campuses, businesses, houses of worship, and online. A non-partisan group, a chapter can be started with just 3 people.
- There are Field Reps to provide help – refer to the website for more information.
- Following Mathew's presentation, a photograph featuring him with several club members was captured and has been published on *Wellingtonrc.com*.



Door Prize

- A Club Member was the winner of a gift certificate for the Bar & Grill.

Cookie Report

- Instead of cookies this month, a sheet cake was served. The decorated cake was in honor of Turning Point USA and in remembrance of Charlie Kirk. Future cakes will be served for other monthly recognitions.

Next Regular Meeting Date

- We will meet again on Wednesday, February 25th at 3 p.m. in the ballroom. **The** guest speaker will be our very own Club VP, Mark Cioffi, who will discuss his work to bring a K-12 Hillsdale Classical Academy charter school to Hernando County.

Adjournment - The Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 PM

Signatures

J. H. Wolff _____ 02/20/26
 Joseph Wolff Date
 President

Sandra Apone
 _____ 02/12/2026
 Sandra Apone Date