

Las Candalistas General Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2023
St. Peter's by the Sea

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Call to Order and Welcome - President Laura Henson-Broussard

Laura welcomed everyone back and a warm welcome to our new Provisionals. Happy to be our President this year. Last year was a record breaking year. We are 143 members strong. We have a terrific leadership team. A big thank you to the members who have stepped up to be Officers and have volunteered to be on the President's special committee.

While summer is supposed to be a season of taking a break, some of us continued to work and the following was accomplished:

- 2023-2024 Fundraising season has begun
- 6/30 - Budgets created and approved
- Philanthropy compiled all of the information of our nominated charities and held our Top 6 Selection Meeting. They are:
 - Boys and Girls Club of LA Harbor
 - Community's Child
 - Manes for Movement
 - Marine Mammal Care Center
 - South Bay Children's Health Center
 - South Coast Botanic Garden
- Friends and Family have been busy making our famous jams, jellies and specialty dry goods.
- Held several FUNdraisers
- Provisionals are planning the Fall Social
- The Fall Event Chairs and their Committee Chairs have been busy working
- Spring Event Chairs already planning next year's event

During Laura's 18 years as a member, she has seen a lot of changes and is seeing how we are all coming into our own.

Recording Secretary - Lorri Mino

Nothing to report.

Chairman of the Board - Amy Mosher

Welcomed everyone into our new year. Thank you on behalf of the entire board. We are excited to start the new year. Great things planned. New locations for the Fall and Spring Events that you will be excited about. Every effort is recognized and appreciated. Feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions.

Spring Event Reveal - Nanci Browning, Cheryl Deppe (absent), Selina Hamilton and Danielle Weinstock:

The girls came out in colorful fashion to reveal the theme for the 2024 Spring Event. It will be Havana Nights and will be held at the Norris Pavilion on 4/27. Mark your calendars. Our evening will consist of Casino Night, Silent and Live Auction, Mojito Bar and Cuban inspired food. More details will be coming soon so stay tuned!

1st Vice Presidents - Philanthropy - Lisa Nesicolaci and Debbie Sampson (absent)

- As Laura mentioned, our Top 6 have been selected by the Officers and the Board. All eligible voting members will be voting for the Top 3 at our October General Meeting. Please read all the bios before you make your final selection as we have new philanthropies this year. Absentee ballots will be made available.
- Upcoming volunteer opportunities:
 - There will be a Beach Clean up Day organized by Los Serenos de Point Vicente on 9/23 at Abalone Cove. If you'd like to help with check in, please contact them directly.
 - South Coast Botanic Garden is having their Farm to Table fundraiser on 10/06. Looking for volunteers from 4:30 - 7:00, Greeters, set up, check in, etc.
 - Cancer Support is having a Celebrate Wellness Event on 10/22 at Botanic Gardens. They need a lot of people that day to help with parking, set-up, etc.
 - Sign up sheets for these opportunities will be passed around during the meeting.
- Self care items for 1736 Crisis Center will be collected at the General Meeting in October as October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- Kathy Black reported that Wyland has been working on contacting Title 1 schools and setting up the schedule to bring their lab.

2nd Vice Presidents - Ways and Means - Lynda Black and Debbie Bramhall:

Taking over the job of Sponsorship as part of their responsibilities. Please continue to seek companies or friends that would like to become sponsors.

3rd Vice Presidents - Membership - Susan Yamate and Randi Young:

Membership Status:

- 41 Active
- 25 Associates
- 77 Sustainers

11 Provisionals this year. 2 new members joined since the June Luncheon, Jan and Lois. Susan read both of their bios.

Currently have 41 RSVP's for the Fall Social. Make sure you respond to the E-vite and note if you will be bringing a plus one by saying 2 will attend.

Parliamentarian - Brenda Holcomb:

All of the meetings for the rest of the year will be held at the PV Library on Silver Spur. Will be voting for our Top 3 charities at the October General meeting. Will have absentee ballots available for Active and Voting Associate Members. Please let her know if you need one.

Corresponding Secretary - Karen Stockbridge:

Our new rosters are in the back of the room. Make sure you pick yours up. Roster was at the printer when new member Jan joined so her information is listed on a label found in the book. If your roster doesn't have the label, Karen has extra labels. New this year in the roster is information on the membership portion of our website with instructions on how to log on. Also there is a QR code you can scan and it will bring you right to the website. If you live near someone that is absent at today's meeting, please consider delivering their roster to them. Has extra rosters for \$5. Will be sending instructions on how to load the roster to your cell phone.

Some members have expressed concern that they are not receiving the monthly newsletter. It appears the members that have a Cox email are the ones having a problem. Will look into the reason why.

Treasurer - Lucy Huebner:

Shout out to Judy Armstrong for her outstanding work as Treasurer for the last 5 years and all of her help.

Property - \$610.57

Membership - \$4,507.24

Events - \$13,140.96

\$6,850 advance to pay event bills was transferred from Membership to the Event budget and will be moved back to Membership this month.

Audit was held on 7/24 and everything passed with flying colors. Books are in good order.

A discussion was held on the best way to report when a member donates towards a certain budgeted line item. Need to have everyone on the same page. Stay tuned for more information.

Sunshine and Rain - Karyn Ferris (absent) and Carla Smith:

- Suzanne Manavian underwent knee surgery recently. She has her family with her. It would be nice to send cards.
- Trish Winchester had a revision on her hip surgery of two years ago and is having a challenging recovery. Cards are welcome.
- Updated on our two members who would like to remain private on their cancer journey; one is undergoing a chemo trial and the other one had a procedure to check on chemo outcome and is now cancer free! Yay!
- Dita Lantz continues with her cancer journey and cards of encouragement would be greatly appreciated along with prayers.

Donor Snap - Polly Goodman:

Donor Snap is our master database and it's very important to keep it current and up-to-date. If you know of any changes to members, please let her know and also if anyone would like or need to be added to the database. It tracks in-kind and straight donations.

Storage Container - Polly Goodman:

We have a storage container on the grounds of Rancho Elementary. We are restricted on what we keep in it. Only Polly and Judy Moorhead have a key. When school is in session, we can only access the container after 3:00 and on the weekends. Coordinate your visit with Polly or Judy. They request that for the Fall Fundraiser that you all meet up there at one time.

Fall Event - Debbie Bramhall and Amy Mosher:

Please purchase your tickets sooner than later as spending the money to mail out postcard reminders is based on our ticket sales. Amy issued the challenge for everyone to bring someone as the goal is to sell 230 tickets. We have sold 75 as of today. Thank you to Karen Stockbridge who made a fabulous poster that you can place at a business or text an image to friends and family. It definitely takes a village and we thank everyone for their help. We met with the chairs on Tuesday and did a walk through of the beautiful venue. We will have limited shopping during lunch so all chairs can enjoy the luncheon.

- **Sweet Shoppe - Lisa Nesicolaci and Susan Yamate**
 - Currently have 8 bakers but would like more. Bake whatever you would like. There will be a sign up sheet after the meeting. Going for a fall theme. Drop off your baked goods the day before.
- **Silent Auction - Lorri Mino**
 - Excited for what we have so far but would like more donations. If you would like me to shop for you, please consider a cash donation. If you need ideas, please contact me. I'm also looking for help with setting up at 8:30 a.m. and during the event. Appreciate you!
- **LC Creations - Karen Stockbridge and Janie Woodburn**
 - Making crafty holiday items. Have volunteers that are also making their specialties. If you have anything you would like to create, please let them know. They are looking for red succulents!
 - Karen reported that she has been in contact with the rep for the Zula Naya African Vacation and she will be at our event to hopefully help sell 5 trips. The cost is \$3,800 for 2 people, 6 days and 6 nights, 2 daily safari's and all meals provided. We make a great profit on this trip so if you know of anyone who might be interested, please let them know.
- **Table Decorations - Stella Bullock and Randi Young**
 - Included in the centerpieces will be hardback, old and vintage books. If you have any you could loan them, please let them know. You will be getting them back. Barb Morel suggested they check with the library.
- **Flowers - Jennifer Sittel**
 - She will be making all the arrangements for the bar area, restrooms, bistro tables, etc.
- **Found Treasures - Judy Moorhead**

- Are looking for holiday items for this event. Text her pictures ahead of time to see if they can use them. She is willing to pick up!
- **Ticket Sales/Check in - Kathy Black and Cathy Howard**
 - Laura reported that we will be using our Greater Giving software again. She will oversee it but the chairs are Kathy and Cathy. This will be another contactless event like the Spring event was. Once your credit card is registered, you will be given a number which will be used for your purchases for LC. However, your bar purchases are separate. You can purchase a table for 10.

Adopt a Family - Kathy Black and Cathy Howard:

Ho, Ho, Ho, there's only 104 more days to go. It's too early to receive our families so more to follow. Right now they are looking for Checks, Cash and Venmo donations or gift cards for Target, etc. A box was provided to put your donations in.

Friends and Family Sale - Kathy Black and Cathy Howard:

Thank you to everyone for donations to purchase supplies. Order forms are on the website. They were also sent with the September Newsletter. We will also have Jams and Jellies at the fall event and are considering some of our dry goods also.

Small FUNdraisers - Selina Hamilton:

We're in our 2nd year for small social FUNdraisers. They are a great way to have fun and get to know the members! This summer we have already had dinner at Bettolino's coordinated by Lynda Black and the "Nearly New Sale" hosted and coordinated by Selina which made \$700 and is still growing. Upcoming events:

- Silpada jewelry - 9/24 at the home of Barb Morel. Please make sure to RSVP to the Evite.
- Flower arranging by member Stacy Navarro - November, before Thanksgiving. Looking for a member's house with outdoor space.
- December - Great Cookie Exchange
- BUT, right now we have the Charleston Wrap fundraiser that started today hosted by Susan Yamate. Susan is giving us her 15% commission. If you order chocolate, it will not ship until after 11/11. The fundraiser will last for 3 weeks. Tell your friends and family. Eblast with more info going out this week.

Thrift - Donna Ciminera and Jan Raymond (absent):

Donating to a lot of charities in the San Pedro community. Looking for clothing for men, women and children in good condition and clean. Please no very dressy clothing. That can be donated to the Thrift Stores. Will also take small working appliances and household items. Will be collecting Thrift at the October General Meeting.

Showed us an example of the size of cosmetic bag they are looking for to fill the toiletry kits. Check the September newsletter for the items they are looking for. For the 120 men residents of Beacon House, they were looking for socks. Barb Morel reached out to Bombas brand that gives to charity 2 years ago and they just sent us 1,000 pairs of socks. Definitely ask and you shall receive! Will also collect items for our Holiday Toiletry kits at the October meeting or can be

dropped off to Jan or Donna's home. Please call or email first to make sure they are home to accept. If you have a product that you have tried and didn't like it, i.e. shampoo, they will take it but make sure you separate the old and new.

Excursions - Cindy MacFarlane, Shelley Pogorelsky and Trish Winchester:

Passed out a survey with some suggestions to get an idea on how many members are interested. They will tally and let us know the outcome.

Bunco - Hollidae Brown and Paula Redmond (both absent):

Karen Stockbridge reported that she would be passing out a sign up sheet for those that are interested in Bunco this year (regular member or substitute) and another sheet for those that would be interested in hosting. They are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. \$10 to play and there are 3 prizes.

Book Club - Marlyn Franklin:

The book for this month is Tomorrow, Tomorrow, Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin. Book Club will be held on Wednesday, 10/25 at 4:30 p.m. at the home of Susan Yamate. Contact Marlyn if you are interested in attending.

President - Laura Henson-Broussard:

- Website is being rebuilt with the help of her partner Janis Davis.
- Still working on a Hybrid Zoom General meeting. May test it out at either the October or November meeting.
- Working on updating our Standing Rules starting with Finance and Philanthropy. Voting on changes in November.
- Will talk more on the Men's Auxiliary group at the Fall Social. Laura's husband, Greg, will take the lead.
- Mark your calendars for our Holiday Party to be held on Sunday, 12/03 at Raffaello's.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.´

Respectfully Submitted by Lorri Mino, Recording Secretary