

St. Luke's Catholic Men's Club  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Monday, MAY 18, 2015 at 7:30 PM  
St. Luke's School Cafeteria

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Michael Raign called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

OPENING PRAYER: The opening prayer was led by David Keller.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Donnellan.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS: Angel Bautista.

BIRTHDAYS (APRIL): Several individuals stood before the membership to be recognized for their May, 2015 birthdays. The oldest was George Delgado, born in 1957. The youngest is Don O'Brien, born in 1961. Members sang happy birthday to them and they were each given raffle tickets by John Martinez.

INTRODUCTION OF COOKING TEAM: The cooking team was introduced by Russell Phillips. He stated that the Ex-Board members cooked tonight's meal. They are Don O'Brien, Rico Silvas, Rudy Martinez, Eddie Cruz, Matt Mora, Frank Salinas and Nick Carnevale.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the General Membership meeting for April, 2015, were emailed to the webmaster by Gilbert Ortiz and were posted on the St. Luke's

Men's Club website. There were no corrections or additions, therefore, the minutes were approved as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Joey Groff apologized for not having handouts tonight detailing the Treasurer's report. Groff stated that there was nothing of interest in the Treasurer's report this month. He spoke about the standard income from the meal and raffle. Also, expenses included renewal for the post office box and the Club's renewal for robo calls.

CLUB CORRESPONDENCE: Sec. Gilbert Ortiz gave a short report on the correspondence that has been received by the Club. Most important has been the applications for donations and participation in the Sharing of Gifts. These applications were turned over to Ralf Meneses for his committee. In addition, the Club received bank statements and basically junk mail.

REPORTS OF APPOINTIVE OFFICERS:

Budget and Finance: Larry Ridder had no report.

Chaplain: Larry Fuentes was not present as he was out of town.

Inventory Control: Rico Silvas had no report.

Procurement: Russell Phillips stated that the church has been back-and-forth trying to get a power washer. He reported that the Club was going to buy a power washer for the church but stated that Loren Brown stepped up to the plate and donated a power washer to the church on behalf of the St. Luke's Men's Club.

Membership: Todd Shannon stated that we have 260 members total, 2 new members, 45 lifetime members, 14 mail out members and 41 unpaid members.

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Communications: Henry Garcia had no report. Mike Raign simply summarized that committee members have been doing a lot of work on the Content Management System and this has been brought up at the Executive Board where it has been thoroughly discussed. At some point Henry will have a report for the general membership at the next meeting.

Web master: Committee Chairman John Hardin stated that he has made normal changes to the website to include uploading the Sharing of Gifts information and the tailgate gathering at the Missions baseball game. John also thanked all members of the St. Luke's Men's Club for all prayers for his brother's well-being. John stated that his brother underwent surgery which went well and presently his brother is recovering. John stated that it will be a lengthy recovery.

Christian Services: Wallie Fields was not present at the general meeting as he was out of town. Mike Raign stated that Wallie and Everett have done a fantastic job in putting out The Christian Services report each month. Mike mentioned that the report is very lengthy this month and asked the membership to keep all those on the report in their prayers because the power of prayer really does work.

ENTERTAINMENT: David Keller announced that tonight will be the last night that you can buy tickets for the baseball game on June 18, 2015. He mentioned that the Club will have a meeting the Monday before the game and by then he will have been required to buy all tickets. He mentioned that members can still order tickets online. He encouraged those interested to take a handout with them and mail in the handout along with payment for ticket(s) to the Club's P.O. Box. He stated that Steve Kelly will be glad to take your reservations and money from you tonight and seating will be in box seats, each costing \$12. Mike Raign stated to the membership to be sure to mail in their order for a ticket before June 13.

Public Relations: Mike Raign stated that as of today no one has stepped up to take the position of public relations person. He asked that if anyone in the membership knows of anyone who wants to accept this position to let the Executive Board know.

Benevolence: Ralf Meneses thanked the Club for making this year's WGD a great success. Ralf also thanked Don O'Brien and his co-chairmen for all their work in making this year's WGD a success. He mentioned that what happens now is that we are one of the few organizations that advertise in the church bulletin that we have money to give away. Ralf mentioned that we have over \$87,000. Immediately, 25% of this money is taken to meet our commitment to the church for the wonderful building where we have our WGD. Next the club keeps 15% of the remaining money for future WGD expenses. Then, 45% goes to St. Luke's organizations and finally 40% goes to organizations outside the church. He mentioned that the way this works is that we have been taking applications from organizations and the deadline was on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 2015 which was last Friday. Ralf said that the Benevolence Committee is made up of Ben Olenick, Joe Piña, RC Contreras, Duffy Bowen and himself. He mentioned that the committee is very careful on how the money is distributed. He said that the committee will be meeting soon and they will report to the general membership in June concerning their selections. The committee will then seek the approval of the general membership for their selections. Ralf mentioned that there was one out of cycle request which was approved and a \$300 donation was made to Holmes High School.

Sharing of Gifts: Matt Mora gave out notices concerning the July 20, 2015 Sharing of Gifts Banquet which will be held at the St. Luke's parish hall beginning at 6:30 PM. The handout instructs each person to list his name and phone number and select from the menu each person's choice of steak or chicken they want at the Sharing of Gifts Banquet. He thanked Wallie Fields for his assistance in creating this handout. Matt reminded each person that this handout is actually an order form. Matt mentioned that the Hall has been reserved, the caterer has been secured for that date and is ready to cook and serve the meal. Matt mentioned that again, the Club is fortunate to have Outback Steakhouse cater the meal for us. Matt said that thanks to our partnership with Outback Steakhouse the cost of the meal is only \$10 per person.

Wild Game Dinner 2015: Don O'Brien made his final report on the WGD. Earlier he passed out a report which outlines all the income and expenses of the WGD. He asked all members to take the report and review it. He stated that one side of the handout was the final report on the WGD earnings and the reverse side is a history of earnings for each year of the WGD. Don asked the membership if they recalled that he gave the membership a budget around October or November, 2014. Don explained that the final report is broken down into income and expenses. The total income was \$192,631.84. The total expenses were \$104,762.95. The net profit was \$87,868.89. He asked the membership to compare the 2015 and the 2014 figures and pointed out that we were up almost \$1700 from 2014. Don also pointed out some of the specifics on this report and how some expenses are merged with others therefore, some expenses show zero expenditure.

Don pointed out that the amount of net profit is not the same amount that will be given out at the Sharing of Gifts. Of the net profit the Club holds back an amount for operating purposes. Also, a portion goes to the Capital Campaign. Don thanked Larry Ridder and Joey Groff for helping him put together all these numbers for this report. Additionally, he thanked David Keller for putting together the data on the historical WGD earnings, i.e., income, expenses and profit for previous WGD's for the past 41 years. Don pointed out that in 1975 the club had a WGD with an income of \$2,826.00; expenses of \$1,589.16; and a profit of \$1,236.84. The income, expenses and profits of 2015 far exceed the first WGD numbers. Don compared the 1975 numbers to the 2015 numbers and surmised that in the future our total gross income should be significantly higher, possibly in the \$300,000 range. Don stated that the challenge for the Clubs future leadership is to continue to increase the net income each year. Don mentioned to the membership that he believed they did a great job on the WGD and we will continue supporting all the charities and keep on growing.

Don asked if there were any questions and Mike Raign mentioned that during the Ex-Board meeting it was mentioned that there was still some outstanding bills and asked whether or not the information on the handout are the final numbers after everything else was paid out. Don responded in the affirmative. Another question asked of Don is whether or not the Club received security for free. Don responded that we had to pay for security but that cost was merged with another category. Peter Binkley asked why the club paid more for the dumpster than for the ice truck. Don simply stated that it was because we had more dumpsters than we did ice trucks. In response to minor questions concerning expenditures Don explained to the membership how the money is accounted for and spent on needed items. He mentioned that one of the larger expenses was prize items. In conclusion Don stated that he wanted to see at least a 5% increase on the net income each year for the WGD. He mentioned that we only did 2% this year but last year the club had a 16% increase in net income from the previous year.

Historically, net income over the previous year has been up-and-down for numerous reasons. Sam Noriega brought up a good point concerning the cost of brisket. Don stated that last year the Club spent approximately \$800-\$1000 on brisket and the 2015 expenditure on brisket was \$1700. So this impacts the net income. Don also pointed out that the cost of WGD tickets has not gone up in several years consequently the patron receives a bargain for what he gets at the WGD. Don also reminded the membership that the WGD is an event which is presented to the public by the Men's Club and we should always remember that this whole thing is about bringing together our membership and not just about money.

#### REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

Scholarship: R. C. Contreras introduced the Scholarship Committee members who are Larry Fuentes, Paul Beiever, Tony Paniagua, and himself, RC Contreras. He mentioned they met on May 4, 2015 to review 14 applications for scholarships from St. Luke's school members. There were eight boys and six girls that applied for a scholarship. RC stated that after reviewing their applications, there was a lot of talent in those applying and is confident on these kids being our future leaders. RC stated that these kids were challenged on two categories, one being, "what does education mean to you." The second was, "what they had done in school as far as their achievements." Based on these two categories, the committee went through each application and ranked each application accordingly. Six were selected with two alternates. RC stated that these names will be presented to the school principal tomorrow. If any of these six individuals change their mind about receiving the scholarship then monies allocated for them will be available to one of the alternates. He also mentioned that the names of the scholarship winners would be announced on Sunday at one of several masses. It will be announced to the congregation that the winners are recipients of the St. Luke's Men's Club scholarship funds. Each scholarship is in the amount of \$750.00, therefore a check for \$4,500.00 will be delivered to the school for the the six scholarships. RC thanked the committee members for their assistance.

Lifetime Members: Out of cycle.

Audit: Out of cycle.

REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

Logo Attire: Todd Shannon stated that he had a message from his wife saying to please get rid of the Club's stuff because it's filling up their house. Todd asked the general membership if anyone wanted a shirt or any item, see him.

Strategic Planning: James Benavides stated that he had no report, however, mentioned that he is still in the process of downsizing his original curriculum. James mentioned that the location of the strategic planning meeting will not be selected at this time.

Bylaws Revision Committee: Mike Raign stated that bylaws revision will be postponed until after the strategic planning session takes place.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

Announcements for the Good of the Club:

Marvin Berg mentioned that on May 26, 2015 there will be a meeting beginning at 5:30 PM at the Family Center at St. Luke's. Information on the Callaghan Street project will be discussed at 6 PM to hear comments from those attending.

James Benavides announced that the Texas Folklife Festival will be upcoming on June 13 and 14, 2015 if anyone wanted to attend. Further, Main media will be asking for volunteers and if anyone in the Club wants to volunteer they can go to the Texas Folklife Festival website if you wanted to get involved. Secondly, Los Tejanos exhibit will be available to be viewed at the Texas Folklife Festival.

Raffle: John Martinez spearheaded the raffle tonight. The winners are as follows:

First ticket: Augie De La Cruz

Second ticket: Joe Gonzales

Third ticket: Benny De Los Santos

Motion To Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Loren Brown. The motion was seconded by Terry Sparrow. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20p.m.

Closing Prayer: David Keller led the membership in the closing prayer.