

FLORIDA STATE WINNIE GATORS
General Meeting Minutes
Sarasota Fairgrounds, Sarasota, FL
February 26, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Jack Caffrey at 9:03 am. President Caffrey delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Judy Sweep read the minutes from the January 7, 2017 meeting. The minutes were corrected to read: "Sell the speakers with stands (initial cost: \$1,917.36 **including \$700.00 for the microphones**)." "David and Merrily Rosenblatt volunteered to develop a playlist for the music at this year's rally." Ted Fumia made a motion that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded by Pete Putman and the motion carried.

The Treasurer's report running from December 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017 was read by Treasurer Susan Kiefer. The entire report is attached to this document. A motion to accept the report was made by Shirley Parks and seconded by Carolyn Ledford. Our charity, Every Day Blessings, will receive a check for \$1,067.00 which was the total collected from the three raffle items.

President's Report:

Notification of our club closure has been sent to Winnebago and WIT. A detailed discussion of the actual closure process will be addressed under old business. President Caffrey presented a brief review of the rally with specific numbers being sent to chapters at a later date.

Total attendees: approximately 300-400

Total coaches: approximately 198

Total vendors: 29

States participating: 17

Coach dealers: 2 (4 sales)

The Winnebago Industries' Product Planners were extremely pleased with their customer feedback workshops and plan to circulate this plan across the country in the future.

Committee Reports:

Pete Putman, Vendor Coordinator, reported most vendors had successful sales with the Cricket vendor reporting a total of 4 sales. This rally was his most successful rally to date! Winnebago Outdoor Adventures proudly reported booking 19 trips. The change of location to the Arena from Vendor Hall for the Wine and Cheese Party and the Ice Cream Social was

beneficial for the members but some of the vendors were displeased with the change of location.

Cindy Hoffren reported a grand total of 150 baskets donated for the Door Prize drawings. A member donated their winning toiletry basket to our charity, Every Day Blessing.

Old Business:

President Caffrey explained the club closure process. Given the amount of assets the club holds/owns and the time it will take to liquidate those assets, a legal method to insure the club remains intact to complete that closure needs to be in place. This will require us to amend the vote to close, but not change the closure vote. Officers must retain authority to manage the bank account, consolidate records, advertise assets that are for sale, collect funds from those sales and produce official correspondence to federal, state and WIT offices. This also includes distribution of funds collected to the membership once all assets are liquidated. Also, the vote to close needs an actual date upon which all records for the club closes out. Mike Sofarelli made a motion that the Florida State Winnie Gators club's vote to close be amended to read that all club officers retain all their rights and obligations to manage liquidation and distribution of club assets, manage required correspondence for closure including via the website and any other duties deemed appropriate to insure the complete closure of the state club no later than 31 December, 2017 if not sooner. The motion was seconded by Richard Gest. The motion passed unanimously.

The officers will consolidate all records (correspondence, financial and secretarial) onto data sticks for retention for legal purposes. Where there are no paper records, relevant records will be scanned. Other items of historical record will also be compressed as much as possible to conserve space for storage. A volunteer is needed to be custodian of these items in the event that a future decision is made to reactivate/re-charter the state club. Ed Parks volunteered for this position. Ted Fumia moved to accept Ed Parks as the volunteer and Shirley Park seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The club's original charter, which is in our possession, will not be sent to WIT until all financials are finalized, assets distributed and verified to those state members of record as of 31 December, 2016. However, the state club will officially be placed on an inactive status with a closure vote on record as of the conclusion of this meeting dated 26 February 2017.

Stewart Smith, Winnebago East Coast Representative, reminded the club of the recent correspondence from WIT specifying the procedures for the closure of a state club. Members expressed concerns about the feasibility of some of those listed procedures especially the statement that all FSWG members must respond in writing concerning the closure of the club. President Caffrey will secure from WIT the date that these specifications were put into effect and sent to all state clubs noting that FSWG voted for club closure on January 7, 2017.

President Caffrey emphasized that our FSWG club must meet all federal and state requirements for our club closure. Any additional information concerning this matter will be communicated to chapter Presidents or members via email.

Treasurer Susan Kiefer re-emphasized that distribution of funds collected to the membership once all assets are liquidated will be a timely process. This distribution will be to members of FSWG as of December 31, 2016. Chapter Presidents were reminded to review the current Membership Directory for accuracy and possible needed corrections.

The FSWG website will remain operational for the purpose of communicating with state chapters and their officers. It will be taken down after all other required business is completed and no later than 31 December, 2017.

The final financial report of the annual rally will be distributed by our Treasurer, Susan Kiefer, to all chapter Presidents for sharing with their members in the near future.

Members and chapter Presidents are encouraged to review the contents of the items for sale in the trailer. Currently there is an offer of \$500.00 for the trailer and \$50.00 for the bingo set. The trailer will remain at the fairgrounds until sold or removed if needed. A motion was made by Dave Wilkie and seconded by Beverly Tanguay to donate the coffee pots, American flag and Canadian flag to the Sarasota Fairgrounds. The motion carried. President Caffrey reminded chapters that there is an area in the fairgrounds for camping (electric/water) for a nominal fee.

Barbara Sofarelli thanked the current board for showing such professionalism during their term of office. Susan Kiefer expressed delight in that the board was made of many chapters but the board “jelled” together!

Stewart Smith encouraged members to keep their chapters strong and active and to conduct joint club events. Stewart encouraged members to attend GNR where there will be a Florida State Row with chapters/individuals organizing the Row Party event.

If members wish to remain after this meeting, the Caloosa Winnies will provide information concerning their reunion-type rally next February at Lazydays RV Resort.

Howard Melton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 am. The motion was seconded by Ken Ledford. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Sweep, Secretary