

Club Cruceros de La Paz
Board of Directors Meeting
Vista Room and Zoom
April 8, 2025

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 4:02pm by Commodore Heidi Benson Stagg

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Heidi Benson Stagg, Commodore; Mary Jo Hood, Vice Commodore; Tom Murray, Rear Commodore; Jan St Pierre, Secretary and Interim Treasurer; Dr. Juan Alvarez, Director-at-Large; Jeff Brandt, Director-at-Large; Bob Walker, Director-at-Large; Steve Brenner, Past Commodore

MINUTES: 3/11/25: Motion to approve: Tom 2nd: Mary Jo All Ayes

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Jan presented the March financial report. Fund balances as of March 31 are: General \$77,913.5, Charity \$133,403, Merchandise \$44,632.3, Disaster \$31,224. Motion to approve: Tom 2nd: Jeff All Ayes

COMMODORE'S REPORT

- **A Year to Celebrate!** 2024-25 was an excellent year that couldn't have happened without all our volunteers! We added monthly pop-up socials to our calendar that were very popular. We hosted a Dias de La Muertos Ofrenda, Halloween Party, Kids' Craft Day, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve Potlucks, Super Bowl Party and Valentine's Day Party. We moved the annual St Patrick's Day dinner to the Clubhouse, and it sold out. Our Charity Committee hosted three Pancake Breakfasts, a 50/50 Garage Sale, the Annual Beach Party and two Fish Fiestas, raising over \$140,000 pesos that were distributed among 12 local charities. All BayFest 2025 events were moved to the Clubhouse except the Chili Cook-Off at La Costa Restaurant. BayFest offered 17 seminars and 6 events over 4 days, with live music at each of the evening events, attended by over 100 people at each one. We created a WhatsApp Community, which has grown to more than 140 members, and has a variety of groups for specific functions, such as Club Announcements, Chat, Swaps & Trades, Events, and more. We were busy!
I'm most proud of the increased communication among Club and community members this past year and the increase in both our new members and renewals. It was an honor and a privilege to be your Commodore and I look forward to being part of the leadership team in the future.
- **The Western Flyer** - Heidi announced the upcoming arrival of the *Western Flyer* on April 13. This 77' fishing vessel is known for its use by John Steinbeck and Ed Ricketts in their 1940 expedition to the Sea of Cortez. Extensive restoration returned the vessel to its historic glory and once again made its way to the Sea. Club members are invited to tour the vessel at no cost. Contact Heidi for dates and times.
- **Recognition for Exemplary Service** – Heidi surprised everyone by presenting the Commodore's Award to Mary Jo Hood, Vice Commodore, and Jan St Pierre, Secretary and Interim Treasurer, for their unwavering dedication in managing the Treasurer's duties and supporting the Club's operations.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Bulletins & Notice Boards:** Jeff Brandt – The boards look great and are up to date.
- **Charities:** No report.
- **Clubhouse & Coffee Hour:** Cindy Espinoza – The Club needs a new coffee pot. Info will be forwarded to next year's Board.
- **Emergency Equipment:** Jimmy Loburg – All equipment is ready for use.
- **Fleet Captain & Veleros de Baja Sailboat Racing:** Jimmy Loburg – Swap Meet next Sunday, April 14.
- **Health and Welfare:** Cindy Espinoza – All is good.
- **Membership:** Steve Brenner – March – 14 new members, 23 renewals, 326 active members.
- **Merchandise:** Heidi – Temporarily out of hats. There are lots of Mexican Courtesy Flags and Club burgees.
- **Morning Net:** New and substitute net controllers are always welcomed. Contact Rich or Heidi.

- **Social Events:**

- **St. Patrick's Day Dinner Wrap-Up:** Mary Jo Hood - More than 60 people enjoyed a traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner on the Clubhouse patio. This is the first St. The Patrick's Day event at the Clubhouse and it was a sell-out and huge success.
 - **BayFest 2025 Wrap-Up:** Heidi Stagg - April 3 through April 6 brought members out to enjoy four days of fun, food, live music every day, dancing, seminars, games, chili cookoff, wine tasting and camaraderie. What a perfect way to celebrate the 2024-25 season.
 - **Fish Fiesta:** Pat Waddell - April 15, 5:00pm, at the Clubhouse following the Annual Membership Meeting. With deep-fried fish tacos, side dishes and all the trimmings, another sellout is expected.
- **Standard Operating Procedures:** Patsy Verhoeven – The SOP is up-to-date and online.
 - **Vista Room:** Heidi Stagg - Heidi will oversee Vista Room use during the summer. Sewing machines are available for use. Contacting Heidi, SV Sonho.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Club Paying Administrative Services:** With no Treasurer nominee, the Board authorized Patsy to explore hiring a freelance bookkeeper to help with the Treasurer's duties. Patsy reported that the Club could pay \$4,000 pesos per month for assistance with most of the Treasurer duties or \$2,500 for accounting with no on-site visits. She outlined a suggested division of responsibilities for the assistant, treasurer, board members, membership chairperson and members, which would also be helpful to a new Treasurer. No action was taken as the Club hopes a member will step up to volunteer.
- **2025-26 Nominations and Election Committee Report:** Pat Waddell reported that all Board positions have a candidate listed, except for the Treasurer position. He presented the official list of nominees.

NEW BUSINESS

- **2025-26 Board Nominations:** Heidi called for final nominations from the floor with no response. Nominations are now closed. The Club's election will be held during the April 15 Annual Meeting.

NOMINEES FOR THE 2025-2026 CLUB CRUCEROS DE LA PAZ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commodore – Mary Jo Hood

Vice Commodore – Patsy Verhoeven

Rear Commodore – Tom Murray

Treasurer - Open

Secretary – Zaidah Green

Member-At-Large (3 positions) – Pat Waddell, Bob Walker, Open

- **Annual Meeting Reception Request:** Heidi requested that the Club cover the cost of all members who attend the Annual Meeting and vote in the election. Participants will receive a ticket for a complimentary meal at the Fish Fiesta. The cost to the Club will not exceed \$2,500 pesos.
- **Remaining Disaster Funds Distribution Recommendation:** Heidi recommended closing the Disaster Fund. After discussion among the Board and members, Tom made a motion to close the Disaster Fund and donate the balance to Mar Libre, who have used donated funds wisely to remove sunken boats.
2nd – Jeff 7 Ayes, 1 No

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 4:00pm, Vista Room and by Zoom

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND ELECTION: Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 4:00pm, Vista Room

ADJOURNMENT: 5:18pm