

Angler's Club of Absecon Island
Minutes of General Membership Meeting
June 18, 2022

Attendance: Michael Zarro, Gene Guarnera, Bob Pludo, Barbara Blumer, Ed Haehl, Skip Marrone, Matt Pinto, Michael Zarro Jr. and 27 additional members

Absent: Steve Rice, Jim Ginn and Max Weisberg

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 by Michael Zarro and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Welcome and Overview of Pier Changes: Michael Zarro gave a detailed account of the physical changes to the pier, including the pier extension, the new and updated kitchen, updated ladies room, additional new larger lockers and the two updated huts. Michael noted the administrative changes, that included the resignation of Jeff Rutizer as President, Steve Rice as Vice President and Jean Rutizer as a Board Member. These vacancies were filled by the Board voting in Michael Zarro as President, Gene Guarnera as Vice President, Bob Pludo as Treasurer and Michael Zarro Jr, Jim Ginn and Steve Rice as Board Members. Also discussed was the policy change of banning alcohol at the pier. Michael then asked Bob Pludo to elaborate on the improvements and the new policy change of banning alcohol.

Bob Pludo has been an integral part of the physical improvements. He clearly explained all the improvements and the many aspects of the different projects. He covered the challenges of the extension. The original extension plan was not sufficient to allow fishing. When the dune project was announced, Bob got a signed document from the State noting that the pier would not be harmed. Bob had to negotiate with the state for assistance. Since the state did harm the performance of the pier with the dune project, they agreed to pay \$780,000.00 toward the extension. A stipulation of receiving this money was the pier had to add public access to part of the pier.

Bob then explained in more detail the improvements of the kitchen, ladies room, huts and lockers.

He then explained the necessity of the new policy of banning alcohol. Due to certain members abusing alcohol consumption that could lead to major liabilities, it was a necessary plan of action.

Bob answered questions presented to him by the members and everyone acknowledged. A member suggested that no alcohol signs be posted.

Committee Reports:

Fishing Committee: The Chair, Ed Haehl announced the winners of the fishing contest and how many fish were caught. He also discussed the plans for the first Veteran Fishing Contest to be sponsored by the pier. He announced there will be a Fishing Person of the Year. There will be year long tallies and three prizes will be given that will go towards the following year's dues. The prizes will be \$250, \$100 and \$50.

Facilities Management Committee: The Chair, Gene Guarneri discussed the many items he has been working on. Some examples are the installation of the new lockers and improving the front rails. He asked the members to join his committee. He needs assistance for this committee.

House Committee: The Chair, Skip Marrone explained how his committee is responsible for the management of the pier, including keeping necessary items stocked. He asked members to be considerate and clean up after themselves.

Membership Committee: The Chair, Bob Pludo discussed the new membership application that he created and the new extensive interview process. He explained the importance of accepting new members who have interest in fishing to utilize the club for its main purpose, as a fishing club.

Technology Committee: The Chair, Michael Zarro, Jr discussed the club's website, newsletters and other communications to keep the members up to date with the happenings at the club. He suggested to the members to submit pictures of great catches that could be shared with the other members.

Special Events Committee: The Chair, Andrea Tamburino announced the new members meet and greet planned for July 23rd. She suggested some other events and asked for any suggestions.

Treasury Report: The Chair, Bob Pludo announced the club is in good financial standing. At the end of May 2022 there was \$366,000.00 in cash and inventory and the Profit and Loss was at \$18,000.00.

New Business: There was no new business reported or discussed.

Old Business: There was no old business reported or discussed.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Michael Zarro, seconded by Skip Marrone and unanimously carried.

Respectfully,
Submitted by:
Barbara Blumer
Secretary