

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC
646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947
COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

February 5, 2025

Present: Deb Orchard, Chair, Gwen Grace, Vice Chair, Annemarie D'Abrosca, Secretary, Karen Harvey, Board Liaison, Andy van Sycoc, Donna Stogdill, Maureen Laderer

Absent: Rita Lopienski Denise Slovenski

Attending on Zoom: Merrill Horswill, John Stem, Annette Casteel, Administrator,

Guests: Nadine Clough, Editor, West Ways, Sam Besase, Pat Carter

Staff in Attendance: Denise Huffman, Joe Harris, IT Technician

The Meeting was called to order by Chair, Deb Orchard at 9:30 AM

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Gwen moved to approve the January 2025 minutes, seconded by Maureen. Motion approved.
- 2. RESIDENT/ MEMBER INPUT** Karen Harvey that progress is moving along on the addition to the office building. There was discussion about the sign at the entrance to the Office and Community Center on Rotonda Circle. Karen said the sign will be arriving soon. We are not sure how much space will be available on the sign to advertise COC and other activities. Gwen informed the Committee that the GFWC Rotonda West Chapter has designated \$2,000 to help with the cost of the sign.

3. ACTION PORTS

a. CONSTANT CONTACT/COMMUNITY OUTREACH FACEBOOK SITE

- Deb reported that 6,046 people are signed up on Constant Contact.

- Community Outreach's Rotonda West Official Events Page on Facebook has 729 total users and sign ups are increasing steadily.

b. BINGO Denise Slovenski Lead

- There were approximately 98 attendees at the January Bingo. There will be no Bingo in April due to Easter.

c. MUSIC IN THE PARK Deb Orchard Lead, Gazebo Lighting and Boat Parade

- Jonny Puma is scheduled to perform on March 27.

d. CHRISTMAS PARADE Pam Pierce Lead, Gazebo Lighting Karen Harvey Lead

- **Parade:** The date for the Christmas Parade was proposed for December 6, 2025. Annemarie moved to accept that date and Gwen seconded.
- **Gazebo Lighting.** Karen made a motion to accept the date of November 29, 2025 as the date for the Gazebo Lighting and Boat Parade. Gwen seconded and the motion passed. Karen is considering finding a new group to provide musical entertainment for the evening.

e. TRIVIA NIGHT TIM Deb Orchard lead

- **Trivia with Tim** 80 people attended the January 15 Trivia night.

f. LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS Donna Stogsdill and Merrill Horswill leads Rotonda Presentations

- 58 people attended the Pythons, Tegu and Iguanas presentation
- **Flora**
There will be a presentation by the Mangrove chapter of the Native Plant Society on February 22. A small number of plants will be given away to participants on a first come, first served basis.

There will be a presentation by People for Trees on March 26 @ 2pm.

g. HEALTH AND WELLNESS Rita Lopienski Lead

A presentation on “How Not to Age via Nutrition” is scheduled for 3/20 .

h. MIX AND MINGLE Maureen Laderer Lead

- Placeholder

i. VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BANQUET Nadine Clough

- The Banquet is scheduled for March 16, 2025. Nadine expects 100 invitations to go out and 70 – 80 volunteers to attend. Sam Besase will be MC.

j. COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE Rita Lopienski Lead

- The Spring Community Garage Sale is scheduled for 3/28 & 3/29 with a rain date of 3/30

k. RWA Open House Gwen Grace Lead

- Placeholder

l. ROTONDA WEST HAS TALENT Rita Lopienski Lead

- Audition dates are set for Friday and Saturday February 14 and 15 from 11 am to 1 pm in the Community Center. RSVPs are necessary in order to audition. The Talent Show is scheduled for March 1st at 1pm...

j. SHRED HUNGER Gwen Grace Lead

- 210 Cars came to the Community Center on January 25th bringing important papers to shred and (for the most part) nonperishable food items to

donate. Representatives from Helping Hands, St. David's Jubilee Center and St. Francis of Assisi Parish shared the donations among themselves.

- Next year Gwen would like to investigate new companies that might provide the shredding services at a cheaper price.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Karen discussed the possibility of having a Movie Night in Broadmoor Park. Her ideas were to rent projector and screen in addition to a movie which would appeal to all ages. Residents would bring their chairs. Etc and enjoy an evening outside "At the Movies". There were questions about whether we could charge admission for the event to defray the relatively high equipment rental costs and perhaps having a concession stand. The initial thought was to have the event this March but it might be too for approval by the BOD. Karen said she will bring the proposal to the BOD for discussion.

Karen would also like to revisit the idea of the holiday stroll. Gwen said this might be able to be done in conjunction with the GFWC.

5. ADJOURNMENT

- The Meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am. The next meeting is scheduled for March 5th at 9:30 am.