

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

December 3, 2025

Present: Deb Orchard, Chair, Gwen Grace, Vice Chair, Annemarie D'Abrosca, Secretary, Rita Lopienski, Chrissy Royce, Maureen Laderer, Merrill Horswill

Absent: Andy van Sycoc, Karen Harvey, Donna Stogstill,

Attending on Zoom: Nadine Clough

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: No minutes were approved due to Annemarie's absence from the November meeting..

2. RESIDENT/ MEMBER INPUT The ongoing problem of a lack of volunteers for Community events was discussed in terms of taking down Christmas decorations. Some members felt publicity in general for activities was confusing and often lacking. Some members wanted more, some wanted less.

3. ACTION REPORTS

a. CONSTANT CONTACT/COMMUNITY OUTREACH FACEBOOK SITE

Constant Contact - The Manager's Report had an open rate of 60%.
Facebook now has 960 members .

b. BINGO Annemarie D'Abrosca Lead

- 86 individuals attended the November Bingo. Due to the proximity to the Holidays, December Bingo is cancelled.

c. MUSIC IN THE PARK Deb Orchard Lead

No events scheduled for January

- **Rotonda Has Talent:** Auditions will be held the weekend of February 21, Talent show is on March 7 @1 pm.

d. CHRISTMAS PARADE Pam Pierce Lead and Janet Mamon.

- **Parade: Pam** there will be an after action review session of the Parade on January 6 in the Community Center.
- **Gazebo Lighting and Boat Parade Karen Harvey ad Andy VanSycoc.** Went off without a hitch. 10 decorated boats approximately 300 people.
- **Decorations Grace Chetcuti Lead** Grace was complimented for her outstanding work in decorating the office and community center for the holidays.

e. TRIVIA NIGHT TIM and Music Bingo Deb Orchard lead

- 3rd Thursday of the month. **These activities are on the Calendar for the year but do we have a commitments from Tim, etc to do them?**

f. LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS Donna Stogsdill and Merrill Horswill leads

Fauna No report

Flora Merrill

- 11/12 @2 pm “How to Florida” Charlotte Lands Manager had about 20 attendees
- 11/29 @ 9:00- 11:00 am Nature Walk with Bill Dunson had about 30 attendees
- 1/14/26 2:00 pm “Gardening for Wildlife”
- 1/28 @ 2pm “Shorebirds “ with Mary Lundberg
- 2/7 @9:00 Butterfly Garden Tour and Celebration

- 3/11 @ 2pm “Invasive Plant Species” Mark Thurmond
- 4/4 “A Walk in the Park”

g. HEALTH AND WELLNESS Rita Lopienski Lead

- Yin Yoga be alternating with Tai Chi on Fridays
- November 15th @9 AM Broadmoor Park Walk to End Alzheimer’s walk and fundraiser in conjunction with the Rotonda West Women’s Club was a great success. The Club raised over \$10,000 for Alzheimer’s research.
- A lecture will be presented by Don Woelker of the CCSO on Child Trafficking on January 13th at 2:00 pm.
- January 20 2:00 pm presentation by Ali Tedeschi, “Drowning in Stuff”.
- Charlotte County Fire Department will conduct “Stop the Bleed” training at the Community Center on February 13th at 2:00 pm.
- CCFD will also conduct AED training on February 20th at 2:00 pm.
- National Walk Your Dog Day Sunday, February 22, 2026 send your photos to West Ways.
- Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office will conduct a Citizen’s Police Academy at 2:00 pm on March 18th.
- Presentation by Judith L. Pearson for Women’s History Month 3/24 :”Breast Cancer Story.”

h. MIX AND MINGLE Maureen Laderer Lead

- Happy Hour will now be held on the first Wednesday of the Month at the Community Center beginning at 4:30 and there will be food trucks available.
- Lunch held at Rotonda Elks
- No Potluck Lunches are on the calendar for 2026

i. VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BANQUET Gwen Grace Lead

The date has been set for March 22, 2026 at The Hills. Gwen is working on this and asked for volunteer help.

j. COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE Rita Lopienski Lead

- Dates for Spring March 13 &14 Rain Date March 15.

k. RWA Open House Gwen Grace Lead

- The Open House was held on November 6, 2025. Approximately 100 people attended.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Deb announced her decision to leave the Committee as of January 1, 2026. Chrissy Royse has also resigned from the Committee.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:35 AM Next meeting is on January 7 at 9:30 am.