



Gaelic-American Club, Inc.

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SEPTEMBER 10th 2021 AT 8.00PM

CAROLAN ROOM

1. Meeting was called to order at 8.12pm by Club President Gerry Forde
2. Roll Call:

President:	Gerry Forde	Present
Vice President:	John Foley	Present
Recording Secretary:	Aaron Curtis	Present
Treasurer:	Tom Egan	Absent
Financial Secretary:	Thomas Langdon	Present
Director 1 Year:	Amy O'Shea	Present
Director 2 Years:	Gerry O'Donovan	Present
Director 3 Years:	Sheila Tesei	Present
Sergeant of Arms:	Tony Hogan	Present
3. The club prayer and pledge of allegiance were read by President Forde.
4. Members acknowledge a moment of silence for the 20th anniversary of 9/11.
5. A motion to approve the July and August Membership minutes were proposed by Gerry Reidy, Kathleen Blackhall 2nd. Motion carried.
6. Correspondence:
 - The GAC received an email from Bonnie Weir; Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Science at Yale University. Ms. Weir enquired whether the GAC is taking steps to oppose the closure of the Great Hunger Museum at Quinnipiac University. GAC VP, John Foley is liaising with Ms. Weir and the Irish Consulate General on how the GAC can support the cause.
7. Permittee's report:
 - August was a great month in the Bar. Permittee commented that it was the best August in her 6 year tenure, August is typically a slow month. There will be a price review on liquor, the cost of liquor is going up. The review is necessary to ensure the cost of bar sales is kept under control. There will be new seasonal beers on offer at the bar for the autumn. The red wine list will also be rotated for the autumn. The bar was short staffed during August, staff took vacation time and one staff member was out of work due to a medical procedure. The GAC is actively looking for a bar-back to work Friday & Saturday nights. This person would have to be 18+ years of age. Non-members can be considered for the role. The pin badges that went on sale at the bar are popular with members and are selling well.

8. Manager's report:

- Masks are required to be worn indoors again by CDC guidelines. Members should wear a mask when walking around the club. Masks can be removed if seated.
- The All Ireland Hurling Final was shown in the Bar on August 22nd with breakfast served after the game. The Football final between Mayo and Tyrone will be shown tomorrow. The Shamroques are playing in the bar the first Friday of the month, 10-15 musicians are playing, and our members are enjoying it. We helped the Redcross by hosting a last minute blood drive this month. The venue where they were meant to host the blood drive was closed at short notice. There is an issue with the alarm and the alarm company has advised that the panel needs to be replaced as it is 15 years old. There is a kids movie night taking place this evening and we have a full house. Family Fun will be hosted outside. Betty Leary has a new grandchild, her 13th! The GAC hosted a last minute wedding on August 21st, the bride and groom had their venue closed at short notice due to recent storms. 90 people attended. Half-way to St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated on the 19th. There will be no Oktoberfest this year. The McLean Avenue Band played on Sunday of the bank holiday weekend. The GAC hosted its first ever Labor Day BBQ on Monday, attendance was lower than Memorial Day and 4th of July BBQs but the event was still a success.

Member; MaryAnn Doonan noted that there is an overgrown bush in the yard which has covered a window and requested that it be cut back. GAC Manager advised it will be cut back.

9. Treasurer's report:

- Bank account balances are as follows:
 - Bankwell Checking: \$201,204.09
 - People's Checking: \$282,221.57
 - People's Money Market: \$120,545.79
 - Mortgage: \$315,630.09
- The GAC plans to repay the SBA Loan fully in September.

10. Financial Secretary Report:

- Pub revenue is \$37,723 for August 21 vs \$39,632 for July 21 a decrease of \$1,909 or 5%.
- Kitchen revenue is \$46,319 for August 21 vs \$54,331 for July 21 a decrease of \$8,012 or 15%.
- August is typically a slow month - these revenue figures are good for the month of August.
- Pub cost of sales is 40% of revenue - On target
- Kitchen cost of sales is 45% of revenue - On target
- Pub Band expense is \$5,850 for the month.
- Event expense \$4,070 - Barbecue
- A check was cut to Feile for the property tax adjustment which was expensed to our August income statement in the property tax line.
- All other expenses were in line.
- Cash at month end is \$607,000 vs. \$452,000 August 2020 for a variance of \$155,000.
- (We have a \$150,000 government loan that was acquired in FY 2020)
- Our SBA loan payment starts in September for \$621.00 per month.

- Jeff Devaney updated the cash flow this month. He assumed we paid the SBA loan back for \$150,000 in September. The revenue assumptions are conservative. This projects a cash balance at 12/31/21 of \$135,000, which is in line. It does not project any capital expenditures for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Question from membership regarding bank fees, The GAC is paying \$1,200+ in bank fees monthly, this seems high. What are the fees for? - Tom Langdon advised he will review and report on fees at next month's membership meeting.

11. Standing Committee reports:

- Art Beegan made a request to membership - if any members have bagpipes that are not being used the Pipe Band would be grateful for donations. Art thanked the GAC for continued support throughout the pandemic. Updated membership on upcoming performances for the Pipe Band.
- Wellness Committee: Sympathy card was sent to Dr. James Roche on the passing of his brother; Stephen. Sympathy card was sent to Angela Kinihan on the passing of her husband; William. Deceased members' plaque was engraved. Get well card was sent to John Curtin who recently had surgery.
- Clan na Gael - It's time for the Fall play. Auditions are Sept 25th & 26th. This year's play is a Sam Creed play. There are 6 roles for males and 6 roles for females.
- St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee: Gerry Reidy advised that the half-way to St. Patrick's Day party will be hosted outside due to COVID. It will be 3pm-6pm instead of 4pm-7pm due to day-light savings. Cash bar with the Jolly Beggars playing entertainment.

12. Old Business:

- Feile Tax reimbursement will be settled in September.
- GAC ordered a bicycle rack for members to park their bikes. The wrong size was delivered. This rack has been returned and we are waiting for the next delivery.

13. New Business:

- President Forde addressed the consistent low attendance at monthly membership meetings. Both July and August failed to gather a quorum. Low attendance at membership meetings has been an issue for some time.
- Suggestions from the membership included moving to a quarterly membership meeting replacing monthly meetings.
- A survey will be sent to all GAC members to determine members preferences for membership meetings.

Club President; Gerry Forde adjourned the meeting at 9.05pm.

Aaron Curtis
Recording Secretary