**Republican Club of Southwest Florida**

February 03, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Worthington Country Club, 13550 Worthington Way, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

**Officers Present:** President Bill Ribble, Vice-President Fred Forbes, Treasurer Jim Sido, Secretary Larry Fiesel, Directors Joanne Ribble, Carolyn Forbes

**Meeting Called to Order**: President Bill Ribble called the meeting to order at 5:51 PM

**Invocation:** Secretary Larry Fiesel

**Pledge:** Vice-President Fred Forbes

**Order of Business & Introduction of Guest Speaker:**

Carmine Marceno was elected Lee County's 13th Sheriff in November of 2020. Sheriff Marceno brings decades of law enforcement experience, beginning his career in Suffolk County, New York before moving to Southwest Florida where he joined the Collier County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Marceno joined the Lee County Sheriff's Office in 2013, most recently serving as Undersheriff for more than two years. Prior to his role as Undersheriff, he was a Captain, serving as the Executive Officer to Sheriff Mike Scott.

In March 2017, Sheriff Marceno graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy Session 267, The intense 10-week program is by invitation-only for law enforcement managers nominated by their agency. On December 19, 2019, Sheriff Marceno was awarded the 2019 'Outstanding Law Enforcement Executive' award from the Southwest Florida Police Chiefs Association. Sheriff Carmine Manceno is also a member of the Board of Directors with the Lee County Horizon Council.

* Always says there is no 'I' in 'Team', works with Lee County Manager Roger Desjarlais and the County Commissioners, could not accomplish his job without them. As a team there are no problems, only solutions.
* Being Lee County Sheriff is not a job, it is a way of life. Would not want to be Sheriff any other place in the country than Lee County.
* Carmine bows down to only one person, that's his Lord Jesus Christ.
* Out of 67 counties in Florida, Lee County is No 1 in crime decrease in the entire state.
* No 1 priority, 'Safe kids, safe schools'. Lee County Sheriff's Office took No 1 in the entire state for School Resource Officer Program.
* Established a Real Time Information Center (RTIC) to remove guns and drugs from the streets.
* Sheriff Carmine is one piece of the puzzle, he works with State Attorney Amira Fox as his right hand attorney.
* Established Animal Cruelty Task Force, 71% of people who abuse animals also abuse humans.
* Sheriff has over 1,000 vehicles on the road with a $215M budget.
* Lee County is leading the way with respect, safe, law and order.

**Recognition of Elected Officials:** Bonita Council Member District 1, Amy Quaremba, Bonita Council Member, District 6, Fred Forbes, Estero Council Member, District 1, Joanne Ribble, Estero Council Member, District 2, Larry Fiesel, Estero Council Member, District 3, Jon McLain Lee County Commissioner, District 4, Brian Hamman

**Recognition of Sponsor:** Engle & Volkers - Jim and Ellen Hollars

Jim Hollars has agreed for Engle & Volkers to be a Platinum Sponsor for the Lincoln/Reagan Dinner on March 23, sponsorship amount of $10,000.

**Approval of January 05, 2022 Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve by Jim Hollars, seconded by Amy Quaremba. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**  President Bill Ribble made introduction of Jim Sido to fill the open seat for Club Treasurer. Michael Danieli, former treasurer, resigned to move back to New Hampshire.

Jim Sido reported that books and signatures have all been transferred and all books balance. Filed IRS 8872 which is required of a political organization report of contributions and expenses.

January 01 Balance $1,946.91

 **Income January Expenses**

 Membership Dues 370.00 Freedom Gala Dinner $1,250.00

 Membership Donations 1,250.00 UNIDAD Web Page 617.75

Sub Total $3,566.91 $1,867.75

Balance $1,699.16

**Motion for Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** Motion for approval made by Amy Quaremba, seconded by Bob Pritt. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Old Business:** Recognition of Brian Rasnick who sponsored a table at the Freedom Gala Dinner, Saturday, January 29.

**Guest Candidates Introduction:**

Armor Persons, Lee County School Board, District 5

Sam Fisher, Lee County School Board, District 1

Dan Severson, Lee County School Board, District 4

Jada Langford-Fleming, Lee County School Board, District 6

Kyle Vanduser, speaking for Drew Montez Clark who is running for United States Congress, District 25

Brian Hamman, Lee County Commissioner, District 4, running for reelection

**Announcements:**

Tuesday, February 15th, Byron Donalds, Representative from Florida's 19th District, will be holding a Town Hall meeting at First Presbyterian Church on Bonita Beach Road, doors open at 5:30, program begins at 6:00. President Bill Ribble encouraged all Club members to attend and show support for Byron, this is not a Republican meeting, it is open to all people and in the past a number of Democrats have shown up to interrupt the meeting.

The next monthly meeting will be March 03, 2022 at the Worthington Country Club. Featuring Lee County Commissioner, Kevin Ruane and Lee County Office of Clerks Operations Officer, Kevin Karnes.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Larry Fiesel, seconded by Jim Hollars. Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.