

SSED PER ASSOCIATION MEETING

Minutes: 2/16/26

OFFICERS: President – Stu Howitt, – Secretary – Denise May-Carter, Treasurer – Donna Powers, Chaplain – Larry Kessler, Sgt. Of Arms – Marty Truss

Delray Beach #1770	Pompano Beach #1898	Boca Raton #2166	Hollywood West #2365	Oakland Park #2407
Mike Sinneck Joe Civitano	Stu Howitt Marty Truss Marilyn Kronenberg Charlotte Burrie Robin Haywood Ryan Maker Craig Pugatch	Vinny Como Linda Barie Shirley Board Larry Kessler	Jim Blanchard Gina Albright	Denise May-Carter Jerry Carter Frank Sellers

Call to Order: 7:30 pm by Stu Howitt

Invocation & Pledge: Larry Kessler

Minutes of previous session: Approved as distributed (1st- Vinny Como, 2nd Robin Haywood)

Agenda: Distributed by Stu

Sickness & Distress: B.J. Smith from Hollywood West passed away.

Treasurer’s Report: Donna Powers sent a report with Linda:

Combined opening balance: \$10,370.72 Beginning balance SSED: \$ 6,388.53 Ending balance: \$6,368.53

SSED Adv. Council: Beginning balance: \$1,824.20 Ending balance: \$1824.20

District VP Fund: \$2,157.99 Combined balance: \$10,350.72

Communications: None

AED Training – Brief by Jessie. Partially hands on, friend of Craigs. 5% of employees must be trained. Pictures in AED set-up will walk you through. Lodges should be pricing and purchasing AED’s as it will soon be mandatory.

Old Business:

Vinny - Autism Gala – October 17th, 2026. Meeting this Sunday at 10 a.m. at Pompano

Per Vinny, every \$10,000 given/table, you get 1 free ticket at a table.

PDD meeting next Sunday at Pompano at 10 a.m.

Brief update on increasing members on the District e-mail list by Jim B. Stu asked if Jim, Craig, and Ryan could come up with a plan to update the whole system and possibly modernize it. We can identify and discuss the cost as we need more members to be involved with this list. It needs updating and a few changes.

New Business:

PER meeting suggestions – Perhaps hold a District function quarterly. It was stated that there is a little blow-back as lodges are more interested in themselves as a lodge and not so much about the District. More to come!

Per Craig – he was at New Port Richey Lodge, and they did an event and the whole District was invited. All ER's and Leading Knights (and the doer's) of a lodge pitch in and help. The group of each Lodge's doers attend so they have a nice group. They had a raffle for their District at the event, and it was good for new Officers to see how another lodge does things. They rotate lodges for events, and everyone helps. A 50/50 raffle was held to help the District. You can't force it!

Jim Blanchard mentioned that we have had District events and nobody shows up or comes to help. Craig shared that a committee of people from all over the District runs it, such as all the ER's and Leading Knights. It allows each Lodge to do their thing with help from others. Shared that people were more prone to come because they got to know each other.

Vinny shared that on March 7th, we are trying to get a District event together. Linda asked Oakland Park if they could host. Agreed! Linda is providing Ham, baked macaroni, salad and dessert. She will notify each ER and Secretary, plus read on the floor. \$15 per person. 6 p.m.

Ryan suggested that for these type events, you could have Pompano bring pork, Delray bring sides, Oakland Park bring desserts and Boca bring bread items, Hollywood bring salads.

Another suggestion was to do a Lodge Crawl and establish a date. The Lodge's provide appetizers and 20-30 people or more go from Lodge to Lodge in the District. That way people see that the events don't fail!

We can have the ER bring their Lodges event at the calendar meeting.

Stu suggested meeting monthly, April through August and September through March meet every other month.

Shirley shared that there were a lot of meetings, over 50 meetings per year overall. Saturday and Sunday are Installations in addition, and it gets to be too much!

Jim suggested that we look at all the months and see what months were well attended and which ones were not.

Larry shared that in N.Y, PER meetings were quarterly.

Stu stated that no one participates!

Ryan suggested moving some meetings to Zoom meetings possibly or on off months.

Denise mentioned that any off-site meetings decrease lounge business for the affected lodge and we are trying to increase business.

Craig made another suggestion that we have a District call team to call delinquent members and ask 4 scripted questions to get them to re-up. Craig said he could distribute the list, and the team could call the members. Included would be people not renewing for financial reasons and it would not be a long-term commitment for the team. To hire out a cost center caller would be too expensive! Some agreed and some did not!

Motion by Linda for \$100.00 for St. Paul's Lutheran Church for holding Hoop Shoot again. Seconded by Craig. All in favor!

Motion by Vinny to purchase a brick for B.J. Smith from the PER Association. Seconded by Marilyn. All in favor!

Good of the Order/Round Table:

Jim B. Hollywood West had a good Superbowl Party and Valentines Day party. Had a great turnout and they raffled off a T.V. Jim donated the TV; he won it and then donated it back to the lodge.

Gina – Craft show and Quarter Auction was successful. Next one is May 3rd.

Marilyn – likes the idea of District working together for events.

Craig – Comedy night at Pompano, proceeds are going to the Gala.

Ryan – JROTC Awards are coming up. Buying at least 20 awards at \$25.00 each. Asked everyone to bring to our BOD's/Lodges to donate \$100.00.

Joe C. – Delray would like to have a Putt-Putt golf tournament and have everyone come back to the Lodge after the event for a District event. Also, a riverboat cruise up and down the river for lunch or dinner cruise.

Mike – Delray having an event of card sales, such as Pokémon, Baseball, etc. All collector's cards. Had a successful Veteran's Day event.

Denise – Oakland Park had a great Superbowl party and a great Valentine's Day party. Well-attended events for both.

Stu – Shared that everyone thought the DVP forum was good. Presenter's Vince and Marge were glad to be there. It has been a good year!

-Linda asked that we all encourage our Officers/members to attend the District Social. Also, please encourage all Officer's to attend the Installations. Parts are covered at present. Linda wanted a rehearsal after meeting of gala on Sunday. Too many people already have other plans for Sunday!

***If IRS comes into the Lodge, no one is to talk to them, and we need to be clear on this with our bartenders.

They are to refer to the District Leader.

Reminder, that ATF has a right to come in, but Federal guys need a warrant.

Reminder - Members can get their Elks magazine on line.

Unused camp vouchers after the specified date will go to the District for use. We want to use them all as they are given to us. Use them especially over 4th of July weekend.

Installation of Officers coming up and there is a dinner at each lodge following the Installations.

Saturdays are at 7 p.m. and Sundays are at 4 p.m. Linda will send these dates and info out again.

Linda gave out info regarding the All-American Lodge contest, but has not heard back from anyone. If you want to participate, please get it back to Linda. Also, please register to compete in the Flag charge and 11 O'clock Toast. Please consider it as we have no one at this time.

New Blue Ritual Books should be ordered by each Secretary for each Lodge. Some verbiage change.

March final meeting will be the long closing!

Vinny -The Elks are 158 years old. We are trying to get away from the word "delinquent" and use the term "unpaid."

Any checks for AOH, FECTS, etc. are to be made out to the State with Harry Anna Investment Fund in the notation area. **VERY IMPORANT!**

As far as the call systems mentioned earlier. Vinny shared that call systems have no idea what we do or what we are about. They have no clue what an E.R. is!

Consider making Initiations a separate event than at the Lodge meeting. Try to make it something separate and special. Maybe do a little appetizer event or dinner.

Boca had a \$5000.00 winner for Hope Scholarship. The lodge is now gutted from the demo team that came in. Might be open for business by mid-year. 175 S.E 2nd Avenue.

Asked if we knew any hospitalized Vets that may want to "Swim with the Dolphins?"

All ER's will meet with the DD and VP to set the calendar. May bring one additional person with them to help. Vinny is waiting for the completion of nominations. Remind our secretaries that a lot of mail will be coming in!

Larry K. mentioned that there was a shooting at the IPBOE in Ft. Pierce and not the BPOE.

Next meeting Boca Raton Lodge on Monday, March 16th, 2026. Place to be determined!

Adjourned: 9:20 p.m.