



**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Saturday, January 24, 2026 :: 4:00 PM :: Ocotillo Lodge Clubhouse**

**Attendees**

*Members* Carol Munro, Larry Johnson, Tony Vardaro, Michele Johnson, Michael Faulkner, Brian Blake, Colleen Clark, David Ross, Vivian Chiel, Eric Chiel, Laura Dohrmann, Scott Fedge, Stefanie Friano, Roger Gendron, Mary Ann Grayne, Ellen Gross, Valerie Vetrano, Sandy Ryan, Alyson Vogel, Steve Vogel, Laura Slipak, Alan Weiskopf, Paul Stephen, Ron Weaver, Cheryl Vardaro, Cornine Wasson, Steven Wise, Claudia Wise

*Guests* Brian Wanzek (Bella da Ball), Vicky Ashley

**Welcome**

Carol Munro welcomed everyone to our annual social event. She thanked the Ocotillo Lodge for hosting us again.

The meeting was called to order by Carol Munro at 4:00 PM. Members of the Advisory Board were introduced.

**Introductions**

Carol asked everyone to introduce themselves. Members did so, noting where they lived in the neighborhood and for how long.

**Approval of Minutes** (emailed in advance)

There was a motion and a second to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2025 General Membership Social Meeting. **The minutes were approved.**

**Announcements**

Carol Munro shared some brief information on the following topics:

***Voluntary 2026 Membership Dues***

Voluntary membership dues of \$25 are now being accepted for 2026. The membership form is

available today at the registration table and is also on our TPNO website TwinPalmPS.org.

### ***General Membership Spring Annual Meeting***

Carol said that the date of our annual Spring general membership meeting is set for March 2026. Board elections will be held.

### ***Twin Palms Walking Tour***

Eric Chiel will again be hosting a complementary walking tour of Twin Palms on February 8 at 8 AM. The tour acts as his rehearsal for Modernism Week. It is only for Twin Palms residents. During Modernism Week, the cost of these walking tours is \$45.

### ***Ocotillo Lodge Modernism Week Tour***

Carol said that tickets are still available for the Ocotillo Lodge Modernism Home Tour on February 16, 2026. The launch of the upgraded Krisel Exhibit will be featured on the tour in the Candlewood Room.

Tony Vardaro, TPNO Secretary and Ocotillo Lodge HOA President, spoke about the importance of Modernism Week funds to their restoration work. He noted progress made in the room we were in, the former Candlewood Room restaurant, since we last gathered there.

Carol mentioned that we are not formally participating in Modernism Week 2026. We will be back with a home tour in 2027 – and we will be celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Twin Palms neighborhood. She invited anyone interested in being involved – either on a planning committee, potentially opening their home for the tour, or volunteering at events – to fill out a volunteer interest form located on every table.

### ***Our Social Media Venues***

Members were encouraged to check out our social media venues including our website and our Instagram account.

### ***Bingo***

Michele Johnson introduced Bella De Ball, the host for today's Bingo games.

Bella da Ball (drag personality for Brian Wanzek), social ambassador and hostess with the mostest, is a recipient of a star on the Palm Springs Walk of Stars (369 North Palm Canyon). Bella recently was announcer at the Palm Springs Festival of Lights parade, emcee/host at Palm Springs Pride, and does double-decker bus tours during Modernism Week, among other events and projects.

Bella received Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce P.S. I Love You Award, City of Palm Springs Human Rights Commission Community Service Award for promoting Universal Human Rights Close to Home, was Community Sweetheart in the Palm Springs Festival of Lights parade, The LGBTQ Community Center of Desert Legacy award, Safe Schools Desert Cities Champion for Youth Award for LBGTQIA Youth In The Desert, Human Rights Campaign Advocate for Equality Award

for outstanding leadership and service to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community; Ronald McDonald House Inland Empire A Few Good Men and Women award, two Strut Awards, PrideNation Best Entertainer People's Choice Award for many years, Community Service Award from AAP (AIDS Assistance Program) at Evening Under the Stars with Cyndi Lauper, DAP Health (Desert AIDS Project) Everyday Heroes award, GED (Gay Entertainment Director) OUTstanding Drag Diva and OUTstanding Drag Show, and others.

10 games were played. Prizes included branded merchandise bought from the Ocotillo Lodge HOA, which goes to fund their restoration efforts.

### **Adjournment**

Carol Munro thanked everyone for attending today. She encouraged everyone to stay and finish the refreshments and take the opportunity to interact with their neighbors.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

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