

Minutes

April 03, 2025 Press Club Annual Appreciation Dinner

4:30 p.m. – 6:30-ish p.m. in Philippe Park Pavilion #7

Present: Doug Kates, Editor; Tom Butcher, President; Donna Gagnon, Vice President; Joanne Cordes, Secretary; 20 qualifying members.

Note: of the 33 who qualified, 23 total attended the picnic.

Call to Order – none.

Several staffers arrived in the afternoon to enjoy the breeze and cool views of the bay. We were able to see a pod of dolphins playing right in front of us. It was quite a show. The food was delivered by Clearwater Family restaurant before 4:30 p.m. Doug arrived close to 5:00 and then declared we would begin the lineup for the food.

Donna had set up tablecloths for the staffers' dining and setup all the paper ware we needed. Each individual brought their own drinks.

Doug thanked everyone for coming but lamented that there were not more staffers to qualify. He would like to see 50 of the 90 current writers qualify with attendance and submissions. It is a goal for next year.

Valerie Martin brought a cornhole game and also a portable Scrabble game. Both of them were played and enjoyably so. Great idea, Valerie. Thanks!

There was lots of food remaining and so many folks filled take-out containers to take food home. Most of us left about 6:15-6:30. When we left Tom and Cheryl Butcher and Jesse Tiamson remained, along with Doug and his loyal dog, Logan.

Minutes Submitted By: Joanne Cordes, Secretary