

**CLUB CRUCEROS
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FORUM
FEBRUARY 20, 2018**

The forum was attended by 25 people, 2 were not members.

The following people spoke on various topics mostly centered on Ville de Guadalupe.

Dennis Ross, Susan Ross, Garth Stonier, Kimberley Lafferty-Stonier, Jean Wise, Allyson Van Os, Quana Charlton, Jan St Pierre, Robert Stephens, and Bob Walker.

The following questions and suggestions were received by the board during the Forum.

How do we pick charities and how are they managed.

There was concern about the Charity Fashion Show proceeds being re-allocated to another charity.

There was concern about the permission from the “church” for the building.

There was concern about whether there was enough money for building materials to build the study center.

There was concern about a person getting injured within the building work site causing a problem for the club.

There are 2 classrooms that have been started but not finished. There was discussion about possibly finishing one of those buildings instead of starting from scratch.

A comment was made that the club is not a legal club.

A question was raised about why Mama Bonita (last year's Fashion Show charity) was no longer a charity for the club.

The following are two emails received by the board from members unable to attend the forum:

I can't make the meeting about this but would like to make my position known.

I agree with the efforts of Dennis and Susan Ross toward bringing to light the role, the finances, and the efforts of Club Cruceros. It has been my observation during my 6-year membership, that there is a strong divide in the club. One that seemingly places those members nearest to Marina La Paz in a position which garners more attention than other members in the fleet.

We understood, upon arriving in Marina Palmira 6 years ago, that this club was meant to create a social atmosphere among like-minded people, as well as to support local causes and the families we've all come to love in our adopted community. To bring together those like-minded people with shared venues and causes and events that are not grandfathered in, but which speak to the community as a whole.

The efforts of this club to accommodate the few (Marina de La Paz denizens), over the many (I don't know the demographics but suppose there is a strong argument in my favor), are more and more ridiculous as each year and with each event the club presents.

Let's put aside for now, the topic of why the club has chosen to endorse ONE local business establishment. La Costa. What happened to spreading the wealth to the community? They used to.

Let's put aside for now, the topic of why the club has chosen to endorse ONE local "non-profit" group. Rotary. What happened to casting a broad net to extend club benevolence to other worthy groups? They used to.

Right now, it seems like we're "Club Cruceros, proud sponsors of Rotary and La Concha".

Aside from those pointed issues it is paramount in any club, any organization, for complete and full disclosure and transparency of the use and employment of funds and services.

I don't think Club Cruceros is a social club meant to sell coffee at Marina de La Paz at 10 pesos a cup and fill the coffers of La Concha. I think it's much more, and it's not speaking to its members sufficiently to get their involvement because of the strife that is apparent presently.

I am not disqualifying the very worthy causes that the club is doing for local charities, but there must be accountability and transparency. Some sharing of the "wealth and support" to all concerns in and around La Paz, with proper reporting to the club members.

I understand it's a voluntary club...and largely funded and run by retired cruisers. So at times it's difficult to create a strong organization.

The purpose of this email is to ask you to consider Dennis and Susan Ross' email message and take to heart and with serious consideration - their intentions for making this club something that it can better become.

My best,
Lola Torgerson
s/v Desire

February 19, 2018

To: Club Cruceros Board of Directors

From: Cathy McLeod, S/V ORION

Re: Board decisions, reactions, and the sad state of affairs.

I'm writing as a member that spends little, to no time, attending Club events or meetings. Yet I have been following the turmoil of the issues surrounding the Board decisions & transparency. I have heard all of the "Net" discussion, read all of the online postings, the Board minutes, even the bitter emails.

Regarding the issues at hand:

From my point of view, the focus of all this conversation should always be about successfully implementing programs for Kids that need our support.

Regrettably, I feel that much of the discussion recently follows a path that looks somewhat like this:

-The issue of The Board. It seems that the decision-making process has fallen apart. Politics, lack of total involvement by Board and Club members, and the absence of transparency with proposed decisions, are now overshadowing any good work that could have been accomplished. The spiteful and petty bickering amongst Club members is truly embarrassing behavior that reflects poorly on the Club.

Sadly, members of the entire cruising community have been drawn into this political mess.

-The Charity: A Board decision, whether the right or wrong process, was made to support the building of a library/study center at the Ville de Guadalupe. This is/was for the Kids to have a quiet place to study, vs. the distractions of small houses/large families. However, the questions raised through the transparency issue, become critical to the success of this decision.

After reading everything again and appreciating all the specific questions that should be addressed prior to the implementation of this kind of project, I don't see anything about **when** this will positively impact the Kids.

Is this a building fund, which, when enough materials and labor are available, the project will start? Or is this a project, start to finish, where the donations of the Club money will be enough for the immediate construction of the building?

Either way, bottom-line, when will the kids/community be able to use this facility?

If it is not in the immediate future, (The 2018-2019 school year, begins August 2018), are there other needs that can be met for the Kids of this community, sooner than later?

Please remember, all the turmoil aside, this really is about Kids that need our support.

Sincerely,
Cathy