

**Gulf Cove United Methodist Church**  
*Helping Everyone Meet, Know, and Serve Jesus*  
**Finance Leadership Team Meeting**  
**February 18, 2014 – 7:00 PM**

**Attendees:** John Furtado (Chairman), John McGuire (Vice-Chairman),  
Rev. Dr. Bill Fisackerly, Dawn Tesauro, Irv Hopkins, Ken Priest, Rick Starck,  
LuAnn Zink, Ilene Sokolich, Vic Costello, Keith Russell

The meeting was opened with the lighting of the candle representing Jesus Christ, followed by a prayer by John Furtado.

**CORRECTIONS TO PREVIOUS MINUTES**

There is one correction to the minutes from the January 21, 2014, meeting. In the paragraph *above* the “Reserve Fund Withdrawals” table, the first two sentences are deleted, and are replaced by the following two sentences:

Betty Hansell advised that after expenses, the Crafty Ladies’ net proceeds from the Arts & Crafts Fair were around \$3,000. The biggest selling item was the microwave bowl holder, which may also be used to hold a cold bowl of ice cream.

**REPORTS**

*2014 Budget:* The presentation budget dated November 20, 2013, was adopted by the Ad Council at its meetings on January 27, 2014. [A comparison of major categories from the four most recent yearly budgets is at the end of these minutes.]

*Pig Pickin’:* A special thanks to Alfred Current for bringing this event to Gulf Cove UMC. Our first Pig Pickin’ was held on January 24, was a success anyway you look at it, and resulted in the following:

\$7,248.16	Net proceeds from BBQ, t-shirt sales, and cookie dash
-500.00	Set aside for future events
<u>-674.82</u>	Given to the church for usage (electric, propane, etc.)
\$6,073.34	To Reserve Fund

*2014 Financial Picture:* John Furtado reported that spendable income received during the first three weeks of February is just under \$27,800 with one week left. After John’s short financial review given a couple weeks ago to the congregation, the Reserve Fund received a generous influx of donations. Adding to that the Pig-Pickin’ portion, the Reserve Fund total to date has risen to \$16,471.86.

*Reserve Fund Withdrawals:*

	2012	2013	2014		2012	2013	2014
January	\$0	\$0	\$0	July	\$1,000	\$8,500	?
February	\$0	\$0	?	August	\$8,000	\$9,200	?
March	\$0	\$0	?	September	\$4,500	\$0	?
April	\$0	\$0	?	October	\$4,000	\$3,500	?
May	\$0	\$0	?	November	\$3,000	\$0	?
June	\$0	\$0	?	December	\$1,000	\$0	?
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,500</b>	<b>\$21,200</b>	<b>\$0</b>

*Reserve Fund Balance 2/18/2014:* \$16,471

*Mortgage Balance 2/18/2014:* \$23,490

Thanks to the six-week matching fund challenge in late 2013, an extra principal payment of \$128,280 was made earlier this month.

*Debt Reduction:* We just started a new anonymous challenge to eliminate the mortgage debt. If the church raises \$9,000 by the end of May, it will be matched by the challenger with \$9,000. By adding to that the regular monthly mortgage payments, the church can eliminate its entire mortgage by July 1. This month the amount of \$1,595 was received from the 1% Club, and additional designated debt reduction donations equal \$1,575, for a total of \$3,170.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Health Tax Care Credit:* John McGuire inquired about a topic mentioned in the November 18, 2013, minutes:

Conference has notified us that this new credit is complex. They have made arrangements with the CPA firm of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP to assist all qualifying churches. It is expected that the \$500 fee (charged only to qualifying churches) will be far exceeded by the amount of the credit.

Dawn Tesauro said it was not pursued, as she has been performing the calculations since 2011. Last year, we received a credit of \$3,000. She was told that she could also submit the calculation for 2010, but Dawn advised that it is very time-consuming. It was decided that SPR should be approached about possible remuneration to Dawn for the additional time she spends on this credit.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Financial Peace University:* Brenda Dalton had arranged for Dave Ramsey's nine-week finance program to be offered starting on February 13. However, the decision to hold the program was not made until after the deadline for articles for the February Newsletter, and it was mentioned in

only the February 2 bulletin. The deadline to register was February 4. Because Dana Hanson learned about it only one week before the registration deadline, publicity to the community was minimal. As a result, no one contacted Brenda to register. In the future, it should be announced *at least* a month in advance to provide people with enough time to plan for it as well as to budget for the \$99.98 registration fee.

*After the Mortgage:* The ensuing discussion on this topic contained the following points:

- The church's goal regarding the Reserve Fund is to set aside an amount equal to one month worth of expenditures. That goal has never been met. This year's average monthly expense is \$37,000 (the 2014 budget of \$443,927 divided by 12 months = \$36,993.92).
- Although \$1,521.00 was budgeted, the actual monthly mortgage payment is \$1,455.25.
- John Furtado expressed his view of continuing to place into the Reserve Fund each month an amount equal to the mortgage payment. After it is fully funded (i.e., has a \$37,000 balance), that same monthly amount should be placed into some other account for current or future use (such as for physical expansion, van, maintenance, etc.). The actual account can be determined later.
- We are currently setting aside \$200 each month into the Air Conditioning Fund, so that a substantial amount will be available when we next need to purchase new air conditioners.
- Anything that we as a church designate can be re-designated.

After further discussion, *John McGuire moved, seconded by Ilene Sokolich, that after the mortgage is paid off, an amount equal to one month's mortgage payment be placed into the Reserve Fund until that account is fully funded; currently that account will be fully funded when it reaches \$37,000. The motion passed with unanimous consensus.*

*Super Boat Grand Prix:* Rick Starck advised that Charlotte County will be holding the First Annual Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix on April 11-13. A parade will be held in Punta Gorda on Friday April 11. Dry pit areas will be set up for Saturday April 12 at Englewood Beach, Chadwick Park Complex. Two boat races will be held on Palm Sunday April 13 off Englewood Beach on Manasota Key. Since this is the first annual event, the county estimates between 30,000 and 80,000 people could show up. Except for vendors, there will be no parking on Manasota Key; attendees will be bused over from mainland parking locations. [Three newspaper articles which contain more information on this event are attached to these minutes.]

The organizers are looking for vendors. Rick has already spoken with Alfred Current about the possibility of holding another Pig Pickin' outreach event. Alfred suggested we put up a 20x40 tent and hold a Saturday sunset service or Palm Sunday service. Rev. Bill suggested we might need two 20x40 tents. This would be a great opportunity to not only invite people to our church, but to help them meet Jesus. One consideration involves whether electricity is available or if a generator needs to be used. Expenses could easily reach \$5,000. The organizers' website is at

[www.chsbgp.com](http://www.chsbgp.com). Although Rick was told that the cost is not set in stone, their website indicates that vendor space is available at the following cost:

10x10	\$250	20x40	\$550
10x20	\$350	Trailer Display	\$650
20x20	\$450		

As of January 31, there is \$6,579 available in the Outreach Balance, account 330.009. This account could be used to pay for the initial expenses. Net proceeds from this Pig Pickin' at the boat race would first be used to repay the outreach fund, and second go into the reserve fund until it is fully funded, then third into the general fund. Assuming Ad Council approves, Rick will help form the ad hoc committee to pursue the matter.

*Ken Priest moved, seconded by Ilene Sokolich, that the Finance Leadership Team bring before the Ad Council the ability to fund up to \$5,000 for the initial cost as a vendor at the Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix, on Saturday and Sunday, April 12 and 13, as a ministerial outreach. The money used would be from dedicated funds in account 330.009. The motion passed with unanimous consensus.*

*Rewey Memorial Garden Upkeep:* It was decided that Mike Lackney will be asked to do the upkeep on this garden. There are funds available for this purpose. The matter must be referred to the Trustees to handle.

### SUMMARY

*Finance Committee Lights for Ad Council:*

Red:	➤ None. Yay!
Yellow:	➤ Reserve Fund.
Green:	➤ New mortgage pay-off challenge.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm with a prayer by Rev. Bill. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, March 17, 2014, at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dana Hanson

FOUR-YEAR BUDGET COMPARISON

Expense Category	2011	2012 as of 10/6/2011	2013 as of 1/16/2013	2014 as of 11/20/2013
Administration expense	23,271	23,271	23,971	27,421
Financial expense	700	700	0	0
Pastor expense	96,580	97,600	101,704	103,521
Apportionments	37,523	40,517	41,369	39,365
Lay staff salary	132,542	130,883	133,699	137,456
Utilities expense	42,300	39,150	36,012	35,712
Building & taxes expense	40,850	41,100	42,290	53,350
Mortgage expense	18,855	18,855	18,250	18,250
Payroll taxes	8,565	8,565	10,222	14,301
Education & programs expense	12,760	7,735	8,745	9,050
Worship expense	6,353	2,300	2,900	2,900
Music expense	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
Total of above	\$424,910	\$413,276	\$421,762	\$443,926
Total per Presentation Budget	\$423,699	\$413,276	\$422,262	\$443,926

## Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix April 11-13, 2014

Schedule from <http://www.chsbgp.com/schedule.html>  
Primary happenings currently scheduled during the weekend include:

### Friday April 11

4:30pm Boat Parade in Punta Gorda

### Saturday April 12

10:00am – 5:00pm Powerboats/Race teams in Dry Pits

12:00pm – 6:00pm Beach Party

2:00pm – 3:00pm Bikini Contest

### Sunday April 13

12:00pm Start of 1<sup>st</sup> boat race

2:00pm Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> boat race

## Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix a team effort

### **Charlotte Sun January 8, 2014 [no by-line provided]**

Super Boat International has sanctioned a race scheduled for April 11-13, 2014, in Charlotte County. SBI has a long history of producing races that create multimillion dollar economic impacts in host communities, such as the annual national championship event in Clearwater. An independent research firm estimated the overall economic impact of Clearwater's 2013 Super Boat race at more than \$17 million.

Clearwater is entering their sixth year of hosting a Super Boat event. This would be a first-time event for Charlotte County. This is an exceptional opportunity that can open opportunities for other events that spark the economy. It also comes with some challenges in regard to organization and implementation.

Although SBI handles all aspects of the race related to what happens on the water (such as wildlife protection, permitting and security), the local organizing entity Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix (CHSBGP, a not-for-profit corporation) is responsible for all landbased activities. The local organizers have studied and attended other SBI events and have met with many event coordinators. Now they are applying what they have learned to a Charlotte County venue, which is both similar to and distinctly different from the venues of other races.

An event of this scale requires the engagement of multiple county and municipal agencies. Unlike smaller events which may involve one event planner, these major, multi-venue events necessitate coordination with law enforcement, local, state and federal agencies, waste management, emergency services and more. The success of the 2014 Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix is contingent on the ability of the organizers and our community agencies to work together.

For both the organizers and the community, this is an event of unprecedented magnitude and complexity. It is also the event's inaugural year. No matter how well we plan and work together, problems will arise which were not foreseen. Such is the nature of a new event. Communication between the organizers and agencies has been efficient and straightforward, which will help solve issues as they arise during the event.

For the community the event will mean temporary changes. For example, there will be heavy traffic during the event. Fortunately, a majority of those attending are accustomed to this and will anticipate it, and our community will have ample time to plan ahead for it.

Our ability to work together will not only ensure the success of the 2014 Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix, it will put us in a much better position to host other large events in the future. Organizers of major events, such as sports for example, want to know a community has experienced success in hosting multi-venue or very large events. They are often reluctant to book an event in a community that has not had experience with multi-agency cross-coordination. Previous success in hosting major events puts Charlotte County on the radar of other, major event organizers.

There may be other bumps in the road to success. However, the first time for anything is the steepest learning process. As we make it through this first year, the road will smooth out and the payoff for our Charlotte County community, both at the end of the event and in the future, is exceptional.

Ray Sandrock is the Charlotte County administrator. Readers may reach him at [raymond.sandrock@charlottefl.com](mailto:raymond.sandrock@charlottefl.com).

## Boat race planning powers forward

By **STEVE REILLY**

**Charlotte Sun January 24, 2014**

ENGLEWOOD — Jerry York can hear a clock ticking.

“As we get closer, the days seem to get shorter,” York quipped at a meeting Tuesday of the organizers for the first Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix, scheduled for April 11-13.

York, president of the organizing group, said Super Boat International officials reported to him how there’s interest among racing teams to attend the inaugural event, which will involve high-powered boats racing from just north of Stump Pass to Charlotte County’s public Englewood Beach. Twenty to 30 or more boats are expected to compete.

Also, Peace River Distributing Inc. has donated two billboards, one along Interstate 75 and another along State Road 776. Organizers plan to begin print, radio and television advertising campaigns next month.

Peace River Distributing is the first large sponsor for the event. York told the other organizers to start soliciting additional sponsorship for the event. Special VIP packages are being offered for \$25,000, \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$1,000 sponsorships.

Businesses can also decide to sponsor individual events, such as the “bikini and beefcake” contest or the awards ceremony.

Organizers are also selling T-shirts from \$19.95 to \$24.95 at Babe’s Ace Hardware, Gasparilla Marina and on the race’s website at [www.chsbgp.com](http://www.chsbgp.com). They hope to sell T-shirts at other locations.

Local hotels are offering discounts to those who book rooms for the event on the race’s website.

The boat race is being promoted as a “no-parking event” on Manasota Key. Organizers have secured parking in the Englewood area and plan to bus people onto Manasota Key. The goal now is to charge \$15 in advance and \$25 on the day of the race for tickets. That includes parking and transportation to the race site at Englewood Beach, York said.

Last year, Charlotte County commissioners agreed to allocate up to \$250,000 over two years to help launch the boat race. At a commission meeting earlier this month, Englewood’s Rotary Club chapters lent their support for the boat race.

The Englewood Rotary chapters — Lemon Bay Sunrise, Englewood and Placida clubs — will be the beverage vendor at the race and will collect 60 percent of the proceeds from the sales. Rotarians expect to raise \$60,000 or more. The three chapters will split those proceeds to fund community projects.

For more information, visit [www.chsbgp.com](http://www.chsbgp.com) or Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix Facebook site.

## Security eyed for race: Authorities have plan for boat grand prix

**By STEVE REILLY**

**Charlotte Sun, January 30, 2014**

ENGLEWOOD — Outside of the Charlotte County Sheriff's District 1 office on San Casa Drive, postcard-size advertisements promote the Charlotte Harbor Super Boat Grand Prix, scheduled for April 11-13 on Englewood Beach.

Inside the office, the District 1 commander, Lt. Darrell Caparo, and other officers are fine-tuning the details for the security and public safety during the three-day event.

Caparo said the basic operational plan is in place and calls for a coordinated effort with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officers, the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary and the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office. He anticipated 50 law enforcement officers from the various agencies will be involved over the three-day event. Boat race organizers plan to hire a private security firm for extra help.

The CCSO and other agencies will have marine patrols on the water, Caparo said.

Beach Road will remain open throughout the weekend. To ensure traffic safety, Caparo said, "officers will be pre-stationed at specific locations to keep the traffic moving. The key point is to keep the traffic moving."

Officers will be stationed at Beach Road and South McCall Road, the roundabout at Gulf Boulevard-North Beach Road, at the public Englewood Beach where most of the events are being staged, and other locations. North of the Sarasota-Charlotte county line on Manasota Key, the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office is expected to have patrols on its side of the key.

The CCSO also plans to have bicycle and motorcycle officers patrolling the neighborhoods on South Manasota Key. A command post will be established on Manasota Key.

"We know it will be very congested," Caparo said. Organizers expect as many as 80,000 spectators attending the boat race. "This will be a learning experience. This is brand new for Manasota Key."

Caparo stressed several times that the boat race venue is promoted as a "no-parking event," meaning no parking will be permitted on Manasota Key and spectators will be discouraged from trying to drop off passengers at Englewood Beach. Instead, organizers have identified parking areas on the mainland and will provide bus service to shuttle spectators to the event.

"There isn't going to be anywhere to pull off, and they won't be able to stop on the street (on Manasota Key)," he said. "(Spectators) should take advantage of the bus transportation that will be provided."

CCSO officers also will be patrolling State Road 776 to alleviate any traffic hot spots on the mainland at parking areas and wherever else traffic control is needed, Caparo said.

Working with homeowners worried about the noise from bands and other activities, Caparo said he assured them the boat race should wind down between 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Private property owners will have the responsibility to protect their parking areas from unwanted spectators. Law enforcement agencies do not have the authority to tow vehicles from private property, Caparo said.