

Crane Lakes Homeowners Association, Inc.

Informational Meeting

Thursday October 15, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Laurie Garrison, president of the HOA. Members were invited to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Board members present:

Laurie Garrison – President
Bobbi Eskey – Vice President
Adrian Deschaine – Treasurer
Vita Loparco – Secretary
Angie Hucknall – Director
Pete LaRocca – Director

There were about 60 residents in attendance.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Vita Loparco reported the minutes from the September 10, 2026, meeting were posted on the HOA website. Vice President Bobbi Eskey motioned to accept the minutes. This was seconded by Treasurer Adrian Deschaine and approved by the Board.

Treasurer's Report

Adrian Deshaine reported that the bank accounts had been reconciled through the previous month. The financial report was posted in the financial section of the HOA website. Director Pete LaRocca motioned to accept the report. This was seconded by Bobbi Eskey and approved by the Board.

Adrian said the proposed budget for 2027 was distributed electronically with the election information. Residents with questions were encouraged to contact her using the email address listed on the HOA website and in the community newsletter.

New Business

Scam Prevention

Laurie Garrison cautioned residents about recent scams targeting members of the community, particularly as the holiday season approaches, and spoke about scam prevention.

Residents were reminded:

- Do not provide personal or financial information in response to unsolicited telephone calls.
- Contact banks and credit card companies using the verified telephone numbers on account statements or official websites.
- Remain alert for suspicious requests for information or money.

An educational resource on scam prevention from the April Courier will be posted in the educational resources section of the HOA website.

Laurie is also working to arrange for a representative from the Port Orange Police Department or Volusia County Sheriff's Office to speak at the November meeting about common scams and ways residents can protect themselves.

Membership Update

Bobbi Eskey reported there are 327 current member households and 5 renewals for 2027.

She said the 2027 membership forms were available at the meeting. Residents who submit their renewal applications by December 31 will receive a \$5 discount, reducing the annual membership fee from \$25 to \$20.

Election Update — Meet the Candidates

Karen Williams, Election Chair, updated members on the 2027 HOA election.

Electronic voting began on Monday, October 12, and will continue through November 12. Residents were encouraged to vote for the proposed board candidates and the proposed budget.

Additional reminders will be sent during the voting period. Election results will be announced at the November 12 annual meeting.

Karen also introduced Barb Namey, the candidate running for the 2027 Board.

Clubhouse Renovation Update

Vita Loparco gave an update regarding ongoing clubhouse projects:

- Ballroom chairs: About half the chairs have been refurbished. The remaining chairs will be completed in batches of 30.
- Sound system: Management is awaiting a quote for the planned sound system upgrade.
- Chair and table footers: Management continues to look for suitable replacements for the tennis balls currently attached to furniture legs.
- Library shelving: Suitable replacement shelving has not yet been identified.
- Art and library tables: These have been ordered, but a shipping date has not been provided.

Community Food Drive

Pete LaRocca relayed information about this year's Food Drive collection that was provided by chairs Kevin and Peggy Sullivan.

Donations will benefit the Port Orange Cops for Christmas food drive and Our Lady of Hope, which will distribute assistance to families in need.

Collection boxes will be located in the ballroom from November 23 through December 9, 2026. A special home pickup is planned for Sunday, December 6, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Residents wishing to schedule a pickup should contact Kevin Sullivan using the contact information to be published in the community announcements.

Donations should consist of new, unopened, nonperishable food items. Residents were reminded that food must be at least six months from its expiration date.

Monetary donations will also be accepted. Checks should be payable to Crane Lakes HOA, with "Food Drive" written in the memo line. They can be placed in the HOA box across from the gym.

Toy Drive

Chair Edie Gibbens provided information on this year's holiday Toy Drive, which supports children and families in the community through the Port Orange Cops for Christmas program.

The drive will begin November 9. Bicycles, skateboards, Legos, arts and crafts supplies, and age-appropriate gifts for children and teenagers are among the requested items. Electronics are not recommended.

Monetary donations are also welcome. Checks should be payable to Crane Lakes HOA, with “Toy Drive” in the memo line. Donations help the organizers purchase needed items, including gift cards for older children.

Edie thanked residents for their continued generosity and volunteer support.

Veterans Day Celebration

Laurie Garrison reminded residents that the Veterans Day celebration will take place on Monday, November 9, 2026, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The date has been incorrectly listed in some previous announcements.

The event will recognize approximately 40 resident veterans representing multiple branches of the military. Planned activities include:

- A color guard and guest speaker
- A photo montage of the veterans
- Recognition of veterans by military branch and individually
- A flag-folding ceremony
- Refreshments and an opportunity for residents to socialize

Photographs and information for the veterans’ memorial display are still being accepted.

The event is free and open to members and nonmembers.

Trash & Treasure Committee

Laurie Garrison introduced Barb Dylis as the new chairperson for Trash & Treasure. Vita Loparco will assist her.

Laurie also announced several opportunities for volunteers to help with the following events:

- Assistance with setup and cleanup for the monthly Monday Lunch and Learn events.
- Help decorating for dances and cleaning up afterward.
- Volunteers to host upcoming events.

Residents were encouraged to contact the appropriate committee chair if interested.

Craft Fair and Bake Sale

Sharon Snyder announced the Craft Fair and Bake Sale will take place on Saturday, November 7, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. More than 40 vendors are expected to participate. Residents were encouraged to attend and invite friends and neighbors.

Volunteers are needed on Friday, November 6, and Saturday, November 7, to assist with setup, vendor support, directing vendors and visitors, carrying items out to their cars and other event responsibilities.

The bake sale will operate during the Craft Fair. Donations of cookies, brownies, cakes, pies, breads, mini loaves, and other baked goods are welcome.

Baked goods may be dropped off Friday, November 6, between approximately 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., or Saturday morning before the event. Donors were asked to identify the items and, when possible, provide ingredient information to help residents with food allergies.

Upcoming Activities and Events

Director Angie Hucknall spoke on upcoming events:

- Music Trivia: Scheduled for the following evening. Tickets were still available for \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Residents were encouraged to attend with a team.
- Wine Tasting: Six tickets remained available at the time of the meeting. Tickets were \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers. The event includes six wines and palate cleansers, along with a charcuterie board.
- Halloween Party: Scheduled for October 31. Costumes are optional, and prizes are planned. Tickets were announced at \$15 for members and \$25 for nonmembers.
- Craft Fair and Bake Sale: November 7, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Veterans Day Celebration: November 9, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Dance with Are Friends Electric: November 13, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tickets will be available for members on October 26 and for both members and nonmembers on November 2.
- Lunch and Learn: November 19 at 11:00 a.m. AdventHealth will have a presentation on heart rhythm disorders and will have team members from the

Port Orange Health Park to answer questions on lab, imaging and physical therapy services.

- Bingo Bash: November 21
- Holiday Decorating: Saturday, November 28 at 10:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help decorate the clubhouse.
- Christmas Party: December 4. The event will be free for HOA members; nonmembers will be charged \$15.
- Holiday golf cart parade will be on Saturday, December 12.
- New Year's Eve Party: Thursday, December 31, from 8:00 p.m. to midnight with the band Tyme. Ticket prices are \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers. Light refreshments are planned.

Residents were encouraged to consult the HOA calendar, website, Courier, and email blasts for confirmed dates and ticket information.

Activities and Attendance

Angie asked for feedback about declining attendance for some events.

Residents discussed several possible factors, including:

- Ticket prices and rising entertainment costs.
- Preferences for different types of music and entertainment.
- Interest in a wider range of activities and price points.
- Whether new residents feel comfortable attending events without already knowing other attendees.

The Board encouraged residents to sit at tables with available seats and to welcome newcomers. A survey will be conducted to collect additional feedback and suggestions.

Patty Anderson said "Are Friends Electric" is a very good band. The dance floor is crowded when they perform.

Bill Heldt thanked the Board for the offsite bus trip to the musical "Come From Away" saying it was an excellent event.

The committee thanked residents who had attended recent events and encouraged everyone to share ideas for future activities.

Open Forum

Plastic Bag Mat Project

Donna Klaum announced the collection of clean plastic grocery bags for a volunteer project that turns clean, dry plastic grocery bags into crocheted sleeping mats for people experiencing homelessness. The mats are donated through Helping Hands. Bags can be left in the bin located in the Ballroom.

An informational meeting and demonstration are being planned. Volunteers are needed to flatten, cut, loop, and prepare plastic bags for crocheting.

Clubhouse Furniture and Management Feedback

Residents asked about the pool furniture and when they would be replaced. Laurie Garrison said she had not talked to management about that. She was focused on the clubhouse renovations. She encouraged members to share their feedback directly with management, as multiple resident comments can help bring attention to community concerns.

Welcome to New Residents

New residents were welcomed and invited to participate in HOA activities.

Next Meeting and adjournment

With no other business to be discussed, Laurie Garrison announced the next HOA meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2026. Election results will be announced at that meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Raffle

Following adjournment, a \$50 raffle drawing was held by Bobbi Eskey and Adrian Deschaine. Congratulations to lucky HOA member Teri Petrarca of Red Tail Drive.

Respectfully submitted;
Vita Loparco - Secretary