



## **Minutes: Meeting of the Bourbon Republic, December 8, 2024. Athens Grill.**

Our social hour started a bit early at 4pm with wonderful drink called “The Goat is Out of the Bottle” from Tom as a refreshing welcome drink. Lively conversation and yummy hors d'oeuvres, provided by Bee. Amazing hors d'oeuvres – oyster, clam, shrimp, chicken, cheese, pate... As usually our meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by Bourbon Republic Club President,

Andy Ziegler.

In the background, we displayed the images from Sugar River Bourbon Fest October 16-20. Just before Andy called the meeting to order, we played the Bourbon Republic Sea Shantee Song. (It's all about fun.)

Andy reviewed the various selections of bourbons which make great gifts. The Sugar River event brought in so many new folks. He thanked everyone for volunteering. The golf outing was also very successful. Kyle summarized the highlights of the golf outing. Over 12 sponsors, they raised over \$12,500 for Carbone Cancer Center. Kyle put an excellent team together. One element that needs to be decided is for next year, who should the non-profit organization that we choose?

Mike Schumacher will be stepping down from the Board. He's been a wonderful asset to the club, in on its beginning, and he is always welcome to come back. He was given a round of applause. Tonights meal, it was announced, will be lobster tails and standing prime rib roast. A round of applause to Bee and Andy. Andy informed everyone that next year, each meeting fee will be \$125 and the holiday fee will be probably the same as this year (\$150).

As it might be remembered, last meeting we didn't have a presentation. The group liked the idea that at least one meeting we don't have a presentation. Nick was introduced from Dancing Goat to make some remarks regarding the choices tonight. And though he had many, many interesting stories about the various Dancing Goat picks, this group was very, very talkative. In short, they truly enjoyed each other.

Andy suggested - should we grow and how big do we want to grow? Perhaps some general “social” meetings – not with presentations or fancy meals, just appetizers. This was a positive discussion item.

Everyone was given a raffle ticket before dinner and the option to buy various bourbons. In addition, there were many bourbon gift packs, aimed at the holiday market. They were very popular. The meeting ended with our now-famous raffles and everyone went home happy at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan Garfield, Secretary and Webeditor.

FYI, the Bourbon Republic Board for 2024:

President: Andy Ziegler  
Co Vice Presidents: John Zimmerman and Bee Khang  
Social Directors: Brandon Trefey  
Treasurer: Jonah Newton  
Membership: Nick Dilts  
Secretary/Webeditor: Alan Garfield