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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

**First Coast Guard District, Southern Region, Division 2**

**Flotilla 02-06**

**Monmouth Beach Cultural Center**

[**www.flotilla26nj.com**](http://www.flotilla26nj.com)

Minutes for the 16 January 2020 meeting.

Meeting called to order at 1930.

**Guests:** Arik Sevy, potential member.

**Awards:**  There were no awards presented.

A presentation on *Navigation Rules – Lights* was given by Dan Smuro. It featured multiple slides and member participation.

**FC (Fred Klapproth)** - Fred Klapproth expressed heartfelt thanks to all FSOs who served in 2019 and welcomed the new slate of appointed officers. He suggested the following goals for 2020: 1) Continued strong mission contributions in Operations, Aids Verification, PE, Marine Dealer Visits, VSCs, and Public Affairs events, 2) Reactivated Air Operations, 3) Increased publication and public affairs contributions including use of social media, and 4) Increased impact especially from newer members through certifications for PV, VE, Crew and IT and mission contributions , and 5) a primary focus on recruiting efforts (with special emphasis on female and minorities).

Fred provided a recap of what was discussed at the Division meeting the previous week. He noted an increase in the surface operations program during 2019. Stressed that the Division wants to avoid the “twelve (12) hour club” (those who only volunteer the minimum number of hours to stay current) in 2020. Inconsistences in timekeeper across flotillas was noted and the new procedure for IT certification was discussed. An inventory of brochures on hand will be done and compared to the flotilla's need for PV, VE, PE, and PA. Fred also reminded members that he and Bob McNamara have the keys to the storage room, so please contact them if access is needed.

Dave Radeschi’s and Joe Ruffini’s 2019 participation earned them the right for a parka paid for by the flotilla per Article B 2 of the Flotilla Appendices.

Fred also provided a list of upcoming events of interest to the membership, including:

·         February 16th, 2020 – Change of Watch for Division and Fl 2-6

·         March 6-8th, 2020 – District Conference, Newport, RI

·         March 29th, 2020 – ABS (Fl 2-6)

·         May 17th, 2020 – Ocean Fun Day at Sandy Hook

·         May 20th, 2020 – Fleet Week Parade of Ships

·         May 26th, 2020 – Memorial Day ceremony at MBCC

**VFC (Bob McNamara)** – Report submitted electronically. Division minutes also sent out electronically.

**FSO-SR (Catherine Dudley)** – Report submitted electronically. Expressed well wishes to the incoming FSO-SR (Dennis Mikolay).

**FSO-FN(Vince Mancino)** – Financial Report for the monthly period ending December 31, 2019 submitted electronically. Motion to accept made and passed.

**FSO-OP(Dan Smuro)**– Three reports were submitted electronically. Noted everything looks good. Requested new material for Flotilla Safety Inspections.

**FSO-HR(Fred Klapproth)**– Report submitted electronically. Adding new members continues to be a high priority for the flotilla. Arik Sevy has joined the flotilla. Questions regarding the appropriateness of targeted outreach to females and minorities were raised and Fred provided a direct quote from the Commandant regarding the Coast Guard’s efforts in this respect.

**FSO-IS(Dan Smuro)** – Report submitted electronically.

**FSO-MA (Walt Kudler)** – Report submitted electronically. Noted in the future he will wait between twenty-four (24) and forty-eight (48) hours to place orders that are sent to him via e-mail. This will allow time for clarifications or objections as to whether these purchases were approved.

**FSO-MS (Lou Krupkin)**– Report submitted electronically. Discussed dock safety and the often overlooked dangers of electric shock drowning.

**FSO-NS (Bob McNamara)** – Report submitted electronically. Noted latest Notice to Mariners (LNM) was released online and that dredging and shoaling continues in the vicinity of Sandy Hook.

**FSO-MT (Bob McNamara)** – Report submitted electronically. Invited new members to attend training on Friday nights in Keyport with Joe Antonaccio as well as other upcoming training opportunities.

**FSO-CS (Bill Szilasi)** – No report.

**FSO-PB (Amanda Prascsak )** – Report submitted electronically. Regularly consulting with Bill Szilasi (FSO-CS). Announced creation of Flotilla’s Facebook page and future plans to utilize social media for promotion. Anticipates approaching local newspapers in coming weeks.

**FSO-PE (Catherine Dudley)** – Report submitted electronically. The winter session at MAST has started with three (3) classes. Awaiting new materials from Lisa to do registration for boating class.  Dates and venues for 2020 ABS classes for recreational boaters have been set and promotion activities begun.

**FSO-PV(Tony Milillo)** – Report submitted electronically. Training for the position is complete and prerequisite test has been passed. Will meet with Fred to set dates for two (2) program visits.

**FSO-VE (Dave Radeschi)** – No report.

**FSO-CM** (**Joe Ruffini**) –Purchased a base station radio and wants to participate in AuxNet drills. Inquired about how to do so. Also requested the handheld radio loaned for the New York City marathon be returned at next month’s meeting.

**Aviation Advisor** – Doug Livornese shared interesting fact that Greenwood Lake is the only place in New Jersey where a seaplane can land and take off due to its being shared with New York.

**Uniform and Flag** – Lee Ward shared there is officially a new uniform that can be worn: Tropical Blue with long sleeves. He clarified wearing this uniform requires a tie, as well as a tie bar or the tie pin. Also, in response to question, emphasized a tie cannot be worn with the short-sleeved Tropical Blue.

**Committee Reports:**

      **Audit Committee**– (Vince Mancino) – submitted audit report and only received one (1) comment back. As such, audit report is completed. Walt Kudler discussed offloading of records from the former Flotilla 23 that was based at NWS Earle in Leonardo.  The Committee is dissolved.

      **Holiday Committee**– (Catherine Dudley) – December’s holiday party at Umberto’s in Fair Haven was a success. As such, the Committee has been dissolved.

**Old Business:**

      **FLOTILLA APPENDICES** **ARTICLE B-1:** A motion to change Article B-1 to the following was made by Lee Ward and seconded by Tony Milillo:

1.     “**Insignia**

a.     Flotilla will purchase insignia items for new members for ODU and Tropical Blue uniforms not to exceed $75.  This includes for the ODU: name and CG Aux tapes, member device, and sew-on collar devices.  For the Tropical Blue, this includes: Garrison Cap device, member device, name tag, and shoulder boards.  Members will initially reimburse the flotilla for these items but will be reimbursed in turn once they achieve IQ or BQ Status.”

b.     Flotilla will purchase rank-related insignia items for members who are elected to FC or VFC, or appointed as an FSO.  This includes all office-related insignia for the ODU and Tropical Blue uniforms.

c.     All uniform items provided by the Flotilla will be considered property of the Flotilla and will be returned if the person leaves the Auxiliary.”

Lee spoke about and fielded questions regarding the perceived benefits of subsidizing some uniform costs for new members. Several members voiced opposition to doing so and expressed concern such subsidies will make it difficult to balance the Flotilla’s budget. Some noted purchasing a uniform is a financial commitment that ensures potential members are serious about joining. Others felt that it would be beneficial to offset some costs for new members. Others voiced their belief doing so was a wise investment in the Auxiliary’s mission of promoting boating safety. It was also noted the current practice, which will be continued going forward, is to deplete current inventory before purchasing new materials. Walt Kudler asked for guidance as to whether the seventy-five dollar ($75) was to be construed to include shipping costs when orders were placed. It was confirmed the seventy-five dollar ($75) figure included shipping cost. A motion was proposed and seconded to amend the language of the proposed amendment from seventy-five dollars ($75) to fifty ($50) per member. The motion didn’t carry. The question regarding amending the language to allow for seventy-five dollars ($75) per member was called and passed.

      **ARTICLE B-3:** A motion to delete Article B-3 was made and passed.

·         Monica Cavanaugh was asked by members of Patten Point Yacht Club whether the Auxiliary could do anything to change the hours of local bridge operation. It was specified members of the Auxiliary could only lobby for such changes as private citizens.

      **BUDGET:**A motion was made and approved to amend the budget to remove the line item for the end of year meeting. Subsequently, a motion was made and approved to approve the budget as amended.

Motion to Adjourn.

Respectively submitted,

Dennis Mikolay, FSO-SR