

BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
3 MAY 2021

Attendees: Mike White, Rob Winneg, Mike Slein, Len Di’Lorenzo, Walt Wasowski, Peg Murray, Roy Callahan, Tony Cercena, Juan Garcia, Pat Burke, Jean Peterson, Rod Smith, Merrilee Zellner.

Meeting called to order by President Mike White at 1705.

Appreciation to:

- Pat Burke for keeping up with award recognition packages for OCS, etc.
- Rod Smith for continuing work on new website.
- Rob Winneg for Grant submission and follow up on status.
- Mike Slein for Castle Hill SOQ start up. Presentation by President White, and Board Members Mike Slein and Peg Murray on 30 April 2021. Photos taken for Newsletter. Mike Slein reported that contact has been made with Point Judith Coast Guard Station for SOQ future presentations.

Reports:

1. Secretary - Minutes of 5 April 2021 were distributed. Motion to approve as published by BM Mike Slein and seconded by Len Di’Lorenzo.
2. Treasurer – Distributed to Board and approved. Walt Wasowski reported a \$4,000 check was received from Business Associate (BA) Raytheon, as well as a rebate of \$1,700 from National. Expect another Community Associate (CA) in by end of July. Other potential BAs and CAs were discussed including General Dynamics (BM Mike Slein will send letter to Sean Davies, VP/GM, Quonset); BA Wyndham back on board; and Edward Jones.
3. Membership report – Len Di’Lorenzo reported a total of 186 members. More discussion of CA/BA visits. Calendar will be updated. Special plaque will be made for Raytheon (July) for their long-time relationship with the Navy League/Newport County (Mike Slein). Staples visit rescheduled for May (Mike White/Rod Smith). Discussion followed of criteria for BAs and CAs. Other potential CAs include Antonio Pizza (Juan Garcia) and Cardi’s Furniture (Walt Wasowski). Motion to accept and passed.
4. Sea Cadets – Discussion of new commanding officer, LTJG Bansemer, of the Sea Cadet Corps, is taking over from Jose Taboada. LTJG Bansemer should be invited to join Board. President White will send a note to Jose and ask if he would like to stay on Board.

Current Business:

1. Website update – In process of final review by Board. Need name for Twitter and password for account. Announcement E mail to Navy League Newport County members is being formulated.
2. Calendar update – Settled date for tentative Military Appreciation Night, 07 October 2021, posted to calendar. Go/no go date will be determined (Pat Burke) with Wyndham.
3. Community Affiliates update – see above under Membership.

4. Newport Spouses Association (MSON) – BM Juan Garcia updated Board on meeting regarding May events. There will be a “drive through” on Friday, 7 May 2021 on the Navy Base. Juan will represent our Navy League Newport Council. Gift bags will be given out and include a Navy League application.
5. President Mike White’s interview on WADK 1540 radio (Spotlight on Giving) was postponed. Waiting for new air date, but available on Podcast. Update: New date 8 May.

New Business:

1. Annual Navy League District Meeting attended by President White on 27 April 2021. Reported that all Councils are struggling with Covid restrictions. Noted that our Council has done more than most. Region leaders appreciated our partnership with NLUS as a positive initiative. A large unmanned vessel will be visiting Plymouth, MA the week after the 4th of July and we have been invited to participate with the local Plymouth NL council. More details to follow when available. Also, one initiative being considered by national is allowing active duty membership, but not sure if it will pass.
2. Our Council newsletter in draft, looking at early June release following NAPS graduation.
3. USS Providence recognition. Follow up decommission ceremony (August) by President White and Board Member Mike Slein. More discussion at next meeting.
4. Raytheon (Business Associate) recognition – Special plaque will be made. Board Member Mike Slein will follow up.
5. Walking tour (MSON) update – Board Member Merrilee Zellner reported on walking tours for spouses and their families. Very well received. Excellent turnout by spouses. Donations, if received, will be donated to the Navy League. BM Juan Garcia will give feedback to President White and Vice President Rob Winneg after Friday’s drive through.

Other Business:

1. Regenerate partnership with Vietnam veterans. BM Len Di’Lorenzo will follow up when full capacity opens (luncheon, speaker?). To be included in upcoming newsletter?
2. Card or letter for Peter Kyriakides, (Owner of Wyndham, Atlantic Resort) who had a fire at his home recently. (Mike White/Mike Slein)
3. Board Member Rob Winneg discussed NSC/NCC international students arrival of late August and picnic date of early to mid- September, based on quarantine.
4. Board Member Tony Cercena reported that he delivered Navy League coins to the Senior Enlisted Academy (SEA).

NEXT BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, 7 JUNE 2021, 1700, AT WYNDHAM, ATLANTIC RESORT, 1700. Annual CA recognition may be on agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 1807.

