

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES NEWPORT COUNTY
WYNDHAM ATLANTIC RESORT – MIDDLETOWN, RI
7 MARCH 2022

Attendees: Rob Winning, Mike Slein, Matt Griffin, Walt Wasowski, Pat Burke, Peg Murray, Tom Feeney, Brandi Bensemer, Jasminka Ottin, Tony Cercena.

Meeting called to order by Acting President Rob Winneg at 1705 – Pledge of Allegiance.

Appreciation to: Mike Slein for liaison with SWOS (attendance at Graduation on 24 February).

Reports:

1. Secretary – Minutes of 7 February 2022 Board of Directors meeting were distributed. Motion to approve as written.
2. Treasurer’s Report – Distributed to Board. Details, including monthly transactions and annual appeal contributions, were reviewed by Board. Noted receipt of additional gift cards from USAA totaling \$1,200. Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report. Passed.
3. Membership Report –Update by Len DiLorenzo at April board meeting. Board Member Walter Wasowski is in process of updating website with National. Report of 179 members. Further discussion of Community Affiliates (CAs) and followup. See listing of CAs on calendar. Motion to accept Membership Report. Passed.
4. Sea Cadets – Board Member Brandi Bensemer updated Board on the Sea Cadet Ball scheduled for 2 April 2022 at the Wyndham Atlantic Resort. Invitations will be e-mailed to all Navy League members with a RSVP of 25 March. Cost is \$35. Expecting 125 + guests. Brandi reported that she could not locate a recruiter in the area. More information to follow. Also noted that “drilling” at Coast Guard Castle Hill has been approved for the Sea Cadets. Waiting for answer from the Naval Station Newport, hopefully for new Sea Cadet year in the Fall. Brandi will reach out to Jose Taboada for requirements for the Theodore Roosevelt and George Wardwell Awards.

Current Business:

- a. Annual report was submitted to National by Board Member Mike Slein. Copy will be e-mailed to Acting President Rob Winneg. Included in report was a list of all events and Coast Guard Cutters SOQ.
- b. Calendar review for recognition events, Community Affiliate meetings, and Coast Guard Sailor of Quarter (Cutter Oak held on 11 January).
- c. USCG SOQ updates – Board Member Mike Slein will follow up with Cutters.
- d. Planning for active duty memberships:
 - Awaiting JAG opinion on contact methods, with a follow up on 4 March by Rob Winneg.
 - Information from National – what is value proposition for active duty?

- e. Sea Cadet Ball – 2 April. See report above.
- f. Meeting with NLUS National Vice President Chris Townsend and Acting President Rob Winneg. Discussion on “how to grow” by increasing memberships. Mr. Townsend stated that his Council in Orlando was very active and vibrant with many activities, including 5K/10K races, golf tournaments, and regularly scheduled social gatherings. We need comments and ideas from the Board.

New Business:

- a. Succession Planning for President update – In process (Rob Winneg/Matt Griffin). Board Member Rob Winneg agreed to be Acting President when Admiral White left the area. Rob is in discussions with Board Member Griffin about assuming a greater leadership role with the Newport County Council.

Other Business:

- a. Annual Meeting 2022 – Shift to October from May. By-laws will be reviewed, and change date if needed. Start planning NOW for annual meeting. Motion to review and passed.
- b. NCC Class (2023) picnic – follow up/discussion; Coast Guard Birthday (August) picnic, discuss options. Other SOQ, SOY, Jr. Officer – presentations.
- c. Order coins for SEA graduations. Check inventory.

NEXT BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, 4 APRIL 2022 AT THE WYNDHAM, 1700.

Meeting adjourned at 1810.