

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

Attendees: Rob Winneg, Walt Wasowski, Len DiLorenzo, Peg Murray, Roy Callahan, Pat Burke, Merrilee Zellner, Brandi Bansemer, Tom Feeney, Anne Huot, Jonathan Wolstenholme, Tony Cercena, Jean Peterson.

Meeting called to order by Interim President Rob Winneg at 1700 – Pledge of Allegiance.

Interim President Rob Winneg reviewed the ground rules for meeting: no side bar discussions between members after the start of meeting; directors must be recognized by the chair (Interim President) before offering comments; follow the meeting Agenda in order to maintain order and decorum.

Reports:

1. Secretary – Minutes of 11 July 2022 Board of Directors meeting were distributed. Motion to accept as written.
2. Treasurer’s Report – Distributed and reviewed. We are in good shape. Motion by BM Jean Peterson to accept and seconded by Tom Feeney. Passed. Discussion of Annual Appeal timeframe. Letter will be drafted by President Winneg and ready to release in early November.
3. Membership Report (Len DiLorenzo) – Total of 218 members. Received “active duty” brochures from National which will be available at the Naval War College Museum. Former Board Member Anne Huot printed sample brochure from website. President Winneg will speak with JAG and the Museum.
4. Sea Cadets – BM Brandi Bensemer reported that students were on summer break until end of August. Schedule for next year in process. Numbers are up slightly; school recruiting going on. Falcon Division should get in touch with President Winneg. G mail contact information should be sent to Walt Wasowski.
5. Military Appreciation Dinner – Confirmed for 27 October 2022 at the Wyndham Atlantic Resort. Meeting has been held with Guest Speaker Professor Marc Genest. His focus will be on Russia/Ukraine. “Save the Date” cards will be sent to members shortly.

Current Business:

- a. Calendar for events reviewed and assignments confirmed.
 - Coast Guard birthday celebration – 6 August – finalized details. Approximately 25 guests expected from local commands, plus Navy League members and civilians.
 - Coast Guard Cutters (Tahoma and Campbell) – arrival welcome ceremony scheduled for Thursday, 19 August, 1000 at Pier 2. Some requests received from the Campbell and President Winneg is working. Invitations to the ceremony were sent to the board of the Navy League, Newport Council.

- MOAA luncheon scheduled for Wednesday, 24 August, with speaker, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse. Invitations will be sent to all Navy League Newport Council members.
- b. Planning for active duty memberships - in process.
- c. USCG Fast Response Cutter Maurice Jester commissioning is scheduled for June 2023 in Bristol. (Rob, Len, Mike) Len is in contact with BMCS Nardello, officer-in-charge of the Coast Guard Facility in Bristol. Continuing.

New Business:

1. Military Appreciation Night - In process.
2. Website Proposal (Moonbird Studios) - Matt Griffin. Update in September.
3. International Students (NSC/NCC) - Postponed until September, possibly the 10th if available at Carr's Point. VFW Local Post members volunteered to provide manpower for cooking, etc.
4. Future Event Possibilities
 - a. Guest speakers
 - b. Team up with other local organizations to jointly host speaker series (VFW,MOAA).
 - c. Social gatherings (linked to Speaker events?)
5. Introduction of new member of our board: CDR Jonathon Wolstenholme, USCG.

Other Business:

Former Board Member Anne Huot discussed Military Spouses of Newport (MSON) and requested a donation of \$500 for the Welcome Social scheduled for 13 September. There were different levels of sponsorship. Treasurer reported that there is \$1,000 in the budget for a scholarship donation for the MSON. The Board reviewed and Board Member Roy Callahan made a motion to give MSON a donation of \$500 and a \$500 scholarship donation for this year, totally \$1,000. Board Member Jean Peterson seconded the motion. Accepted and passed by the Board. Also noted that the walking tour was a success and a beach picnic was planned. (Update: beach picnic was canceled).

NEXT BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2022, 1700 AT THE WYNDHAM.

Meeting adjourned at 1805.