

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

Attendees: Rob Winneg, Matt Griffin, Mike Slein, Peg Murray, Len DiLorenzo, Pat Burke, Roy Callahan, Tony Cercena, Tom Feeney, Anne Huot, Rich Rainer, Jonathan Wolstenholme, Joan McCarthy.

Meeting called to order by Matt Griffin/Rob Winneg at 1700 – Pledge of Allegiance.

Navy League Member Joan McCarthy was introduced to the Board.

Reports:

1. Secretary – Minutes of 3 October 2022 were distributed. Accepted with the following addition/revision to include two resolutions: one, transfer \$1,100 from June Navy League Award luncheon to President’s reception (for a budget of \$1,500); second, transfer \$1,000 from the Coast Guard Awards Luncheon to the Navy Ball Committee. Motion to accept and passed.
2. Treasurer’s Report – October financial statements were distributed (emailed) to the Board by Treasurer Walt Wasowski who is excused from today’s board meeting. Noted that it appeared we would most likely break even to slightly positive result of \$500 from Military Appreciation Dinner and Annual meeting. Proposed 2023 budget proposal was distributed to the Board which was drafted by Treasurer Walt Wasowski, President Rob Winneg, and Vice President Matt Griffin. A couple of questions about the budget were asked by BM Tom Feeney and BM Roy Callahan. President Winneg recommended discussion of 2023 budget be postponed and finalized at December board meeting with Treasurer in attendance. No motion made on budget, and tabled. All board members voted yes.
3. Membership (Len DiLorenzo) - No change in membership. Noted we should solicit more Community Affiliates (CAs). Presentation of plaque to CA Saccucci Honda at the Holiday Social, scheduled for 30 November at the Wyndham. E invitations will be sent to our business partners. Discussion of Navy League “sponsorships” in the past, i.e. USS Chaffee, CGC Tiger Shark.
4. Sea Cadets – Waiting for report from Brandi Bansemer.
5. Coast Guard (Jon Wolstenholme) – Distributed update to the Board. Summary: 1) Growth at Newport Naval Waterfront: Two Medium Endurance Cutters (TAHOMA and CAMPBELL) arrived in August 2022, each 270 ft. long with crew of 100. Offshore Patrol Cutters (OPCs) are scheduled to arrive in Newport in 2026 (PICKERING) and 2027 (ICARUS), CREW OF 126. The Newport cutters will be the first built in contract awarded to Austal USA in Mobile, Alabama. In partnership with Navy, NOAA has contracted Thoma-Sea Marine Constructors to build a new oceanographic research vessel that will be the third NOAA vessel. This will bring the Newport fleet from 6 to 10 vessels. Both Coast Guard and NOAA are actively pursuing improvements to the waterfront bulkheads and piers. 2) Board Members Len D’Lorenzo, Pat Burke, Mike Slein and Jon Wolstenholme will be attending the commissioning ceremony on 10 November 2022 for the FRC William Chadwick in Boston. This is the first of five Fast Response Cutters (FRC) to be homeported in Boston. Follow on commissioning ceremonies are being planned throughout New England. Newport Council will be sponsoring the FRC Maurice Jester in Bristol, RI.

Current Business:

- a. Military Appreciation Night Recap: All -went very well, amazing success from start to finish. Thanks to all who helped : Board Members Pat Burke, Walt Wasowski, Mike Slein, Matt Griffin, Tom Feeney, Anne Huot, Peg Murray, and Tony Cercena (photography). A meeting (Hot wash) is proposed for a “recap” to prepare for next year’s MAN to make it better than this year. To be scheduled before Thanksgiving. We need base e mail addresses for invitations. Propose to have meeting with CO of the base.
- b. Newport Council Holiday Social with CA/Business partners will be set up with a brief board meeting before social. Len DiLorenzo will set up at the Wyndham, date 30 November, for 50 guests. E mail invitations will be sent. Plaque will be presented to Saccucci Honda as a new Community Affiliate. Captain James R. McIver, USN, Naval Station Commanding Officer, will give an informal presentation, “A brief look into NS Newport’s Future” (additional ships and expansion).
- c. USCG Fast Response Cutter (FRC) MAURICE JESTER commissioning ceremonies, sponsored by Navy League Newport County Council, will be held in Bristol, RI in 2023 – Len DiLorenzo/Mike Slein/Pat Burke/Jon Wolstenholme.
- d. Expansion of Community Affiliates – Walt/Matt/Rob – continuing. Obtain list from Chamber of Commerce and assign board members. Fact sheet to be sent to board members (Mike Slein).
- e. Newport Council Gmail and Dropbox – Walt
- f. Fall Newsletter – Anne Huot - Including MAN, Photos, Homeport, and visit on board the Eagle by board members. In process. Holiday newsletter?

New Business:

- a. Website Proposal (Moonbird Studios): Matt. Under development, in process.
- b. Calendar events for recognition and CA meetings. Discussion of SOQ, SOY. Need to get back on board, i.e. discussion of social hour party (Ragged Island Brewery, Portsmouth was mentioned.)
- c. Annual appeal letter draft will be out by end of week.
- d. Future event Possibilities (Ongoing)
 - Guest Speakers
 - Team up with other local organizations to jointly host Speaker series (VFW, MOAA).
- e. Social gatherings (linked to Speaker Events. (Holiday Social – 30 November)

Other Business:

Board Member Mike Slein made a motion to elect Joan McCarthy to the Board. Seconded and passed.

NEXT BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2022, AT THE WYNDHAM 1700.

Meeting adjourned at 1802.