



FLOTILLA MEETING MINUTES

Flotilla 013-02-08

02 APRIL 2015

Attendance: 23 Members, BM3 Keegan, and 7 Guests:

Respectfully Submitted: FSO-SR Gladys Benshimol

Call to order-FC Costa 1900

Pledge of Allegiance-FSO-PB Hewitt

Introduction of Visitors-FSO-HR Marchi had the following guests introduce themselves: Susan and Jim McHugh, Daniel Laing, Adriana Orchoa, MaryJo Cooper, Jeff Allan, and Mark Gallagher.

Adoption of Minutes of previous meeting- FSO-SR Benshimol asked to amend MAR2015 minutes to replace all references to "CPO Keegan" with "BM3 Keegan". FSO-PV Ladrie moved to amend, FSO-OP Armstrong seconded. The motion carried; minutes will be amended.

Announcements, Additions to Agenda- SO-OP Hogan asked to discuss the Station Open House
Flotilla Staff Officer Reports

- a. **Additions or comments to Flotilla Staff Officer Reports**- FC Costa reminded Officers that FSO reports are due by the last day of the month. If the deadline is not met, "NTR" will be noted and affected Officers will need to incorporate information into the following month's report. FC Costa cited FSO-PE Grossi for the quality of his MAR2015 report noting recognition of Auxiliary members who had and continue to assist with PE classes. FC Costa also referenced FSO-VE Jamieson's concern that more "Manpower" is needed to host the AUX booth at Boat Shows and develop Kayak safety programs. LO-NH Many said a date for Kayak/Paddlesmart training will be forthcoming. FSO-PV Ladrie said he and FSO-PE Grossi will be meeting 08APR with Bass Pro Shop staff in Hookset to explore PE class opportunities.
- b. **Cutter Program**-VCDR Spiller asked FSO-PB Hewitt to recap his first assignment on the CGC TAHOMA last month. FSO-PB Hewitt presented a laptop slide show along with a discussion of his 02MAR TAHOMA assignment from Portsmouth to Florida. Highlights included; complicated procedures for leaving port, weather challenges, high winds, high seas, poor visibility, seasickness, an encounter with a rogue wave, deck markings (TACs) to indicate location aboard, evolutions with small vessels and with a helicopter. During the mission FSO-PB Hewitt was able to achieve his Lookout and Helmsman Quals and needs only his oral boards for sign-off. Take-away lessons included: Semper Paratus, physical fitness, a variety of opportunities from operations, to administrative, to training and more, and finally, a genuine feeling of respect and welcome from the Gold Side as part of the "team". Anyone interested in pursuing quals for the Cutter Program should see VCDR Spiller and/or FSO-PB Hewitt. Photos of his experience will be posted on the Flotilla website.
- c. **Public Education** – FSO-PE Grossi:
 - Kittery BS&S class is halfway completed. The Advanced Course will follow; maximum enrollment -18.
 - West Marine will register attendees and host an ABS class to be taught by LO-NH Many on Sunday 26APR-0900-1730.
 - Nautical Chart Reading will be held at Wells/Ogunquit Adult Ed 16MAY.
 - ABS will be held 6JUN at York Harbor Marine.
 - Guests at this evening's meeting who are pursuing membership are invited to contact FSO-HR Marchi or IPDCDR Raynor if they wish to attend classes.
- d. **Finance Officer's Report**- FC Costa summarized budget report from FSO-FN Wirth per document on file and emailed to members for review prior to the meeting.
- e. **Member Training** –FC Costa summarized the report from FSO-MT Heath indicating ongoing training for Boat Crew Break-ins. Trainees will move into actual on-water Operations once the season begins.
- f. **Great Northeast Boat Show/upcoming shows** – FSO-VE Jamieson:
 - Since Flotilla 28 was recently present at the well-attended Great Northeast Boat Show, FSO-VE Jamieson has declined an invitation to participate in the NH Boat Show in Bedford on 10, 11, 12 APR.



- Irwin Marine on Lake Winnepesaukee has invited participation on APR 17, 18,19. Volunteers are needed tin order to host the booth. Contact FSO-VE Jamieson if interested.
- Members were reminded of the recall of the plastic valve top, Kidde Fire Extinguishers dated JUL 2013 - NOV 2014.
- 2015 VE decals and forms are available from FSO-VE Jamieson
- The Station Open House is scheduled for 16MAY. Members and guests are invited to spread the word.
- SO-OP Hogan listed several demonstration and logistics topics being considered for the Open House among which include: VE Inspection, Kayak/Canoe for Paddlesmart, Damage Control, Fire Extinguishers, Marlinspike, Communications, Cold Water Immersion & Safety CD viewing, "Gumby Suit, Civil War Reenactment per FSO-MA Hanson, Main Gate and parking attendants, indoor options if bad weather prevails, Handicap Accessibility considerations, Potluck/Grill Luncheon, promotional Advertising/Media strategies , tours of the 47' & 25', pump and flare demos via the Gold Side if approved by Chief Andreeson.

Old and New Business

- a. 2015 Standing Rules** – FC Costa referred members to the previously emailed, proposed changes to the Standing Rules as noted in "Appendix I- Version 6". When initially presented to COMO Gordon for approval some items were flagged for revision. The "Appendix I V-6" documents the updated specifications cited by COMO Gordon.
 - DCDR Moe moved to accept the changes as described on "Appendix I V-6". FSO-PV Ladrie seconded the motion.
 - Motion was opened for discussion.
 - Per FSO-FN Wirth, two (2) checking accounts are held; one is specific to general flotilla financing and a second is specific to OPFAC income and expenditures. Per FSO-FN Wirth, both checking accounts require the signature of the FSO-FN; therefore, both are considered to be under the rubric of the general account. The purpose of separating the accounts under this rubric is for ease of tracking finances, greater transparency and clarity of accounting. VCDR Spiller noted that despite approval of this procedure, it does not and cannot prevent future FCs from changing the format.
 - The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.
- b. PPE Inspections-** FSO-OP Armstrong and BMC Smith are developing the process for PPE inspections.
 - All personal and issued safety equipment must be certified prior to members serving on patrols. FSO-OP Armstrong projects inspections will occur toward the end of April. EPIRBS will soon be issued.
 - Coxswains' PPIRBs must be inspected every 30 days. (Can bring to monthly meetings.)
- c. OPFAC Committee Update** – IPDCDR Raynor said the OPFAC is still under wraps. Volunteers are needed to prepare the facility for operations. Weekends and/or evenings are possible. Due to weather constraints there may be only short notice. Watch for emails for possible dates.
- d. Kayak/Canoe race, OPFAC T-shirts** –LO-NH Many announced the Great Bay Kayak/Canoe Race to be held on 15AUG. Organizers would like an AUX presence if possible. For this to occur, orders must come through Station Portsmouth Harbor.
 - FSO-OP Armstrong circulated a drawing of an OPFAC T-shirt the sale of which would go towards supporting maintenance and operations of the OPFAC.
 - LO-NH Many also proposed selling t-shirts at UNH, at the Station Open House, etc. FC Costa will request permission from Chief Andreesen.
 - VFC Joyce continues to investigate grant resources in the Lakes Region and will pass along information.
 - LO-NH Many offered to cover the initial investment for 39 OPFAC t-shirts and be reimbursed later: FSO-FN Wirth made a motion to accept the proposal. FSO-PV Ladrie seconded and the motion carried.
 - VCDR Spiller asked for approval to purchase 100 Station Patches, not to exceed \$300.00, the sale of which would go toward the OPFAC. LO-NH Many moved to approve. FSO-OP Armstrong seconded. The motion carried.



- e. **Station apparel ordering** – In addition to modeling an attractive station sweatshirt, BM3 Keegan also directed members' attention to sign-up sheets for a variety of station apparel available for sale. Payment will be due by the end of the month. Price is dependent on quantity ordered. FC-Costa will send an email to pass along information.
- f. **Award Presentations** – FC Costa presented the following awards:
 - FSO-NS Ciolino – Successful completion of the AUX Weather Course
 - FSO-OP Armstrong – “Rules of the Road” Requalification certification.
 - FSO-SR Benshimol – 5 Year Sustained Service Award
 - DCDR Moe – 3rd SNNE 500 Club Award for more than 1000 hours of service and a Challenge Coin.

Comments by Auxiliary and other Coast Guard personnel: BM3 Keegan said the Station continuance of ODU “sleeves down” would likely be one more week. He also asked FSO-PB Hewitt to share his photos of the TAHOMA mission for the Station Facebook page. BM3 Keegan will also ask Chief Andreesen if the West Marine ABS class may be advertised on their FB page.

For the Good of the Auxiliary-

- FSO-HR Marchi asked the guests to meet briefly at the close of the meeting.
- VFC Joyce thanked FSO-HR Marchi for his efforts and thanked the guests for attending. He encouraged them to explore the endless opportunities available through the Auxiliary.
- FC Costa extended greetings from MBR Cookson.
- BM3 Keegan asked all members to please share any photos for the Station Facebook page.

Closing Remarks, Adjourn business meeting: FC Costa asked guests to please stop and wait for the gate to close after entry to and exit from the station. FSO-CS McTaggart cited the recent article in the Portsmouth Herald concerning the tanker that broke it's mooring lines and hit the Long Bridge last year. He also cited last weeks' rescue of nine crewmembers from the replica Tall Ship “Liana's Ransom”. LO-NH Many moved to adjourn the meeting. FSO-OP Armstrong seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2025.

Next meeting 05 MAY 2015.