



Flotilla 013-02-08

FLOTILLA MEETING MINUTES

04 DECEMBER 2015

Attendance: 20 Members; MK3 Coyne-Station Portsmouth Harbor

Respectfully Submitted: FSO-SR Gladys Benshimol

Call to order- FC Costa 1900

Pledge of Allegiance- DCDR Moe

Introduction of Visitors- None

Adoption of Minutes of previous meeting – Motion made by FSO-PV Ladrie and seconded by FSO-MA Hanson to approve NOV2015 minutes. Motion carried, minutes were approved.

Announcements, Additions to Agenda – None

Flotilla Staff Officer Reports

a. Additions or comments to Flotilla Staff Officer Reports

- FSO-MA Hanson told members no additional PPE inspections would be performed until the spring of 2016 to coincide with the Station's schedule of inspections.

b. Public Affairs - Movie Opening- Division Update:

- DCDR Moe encouraged members to sign-up for the 1 day, D-Train training session to be held at the Quincy Marriott on 09JAN 2016. Flyers will be forthcoming. Information may also be found on the District Website.
- A 2-day, spring D-Train will be held in April. Dates to be determined.
- The movie "Their Finest Hours" heralding the T2 Tanker rescue off the New England coast in 1952 will premiere in theaters on 29JAN 2016. Efforts are being made to utilize the premiere as an opportunity for positive PR for the Gold Side as well as for the Auxiliary. Information will be forthcoming via email, with details about when, where, and how to participate. Volunteers are needed.
- DCDR will inform FSO-MA Hanson when and how to dispense supplies/materials for the upcoming promotional event.
- Division C.O.W. (Change of Watch) will be 15JAN 2016 at the Holiday Inn By the Bay in Portland. \$40.00
- Flotilla C.O.W. proposed date is 30JAN 2016 at the Regatta Room at Eliot Commons. Confirmation is pending. Target is for a minimum of 35 members to attend in order to reserve the room and cover costs.

c. Albacore Event:

- FSO-VE Jamieson will be playing Taps at the Wreath Laying Ceremony in Portsmouth at 1200 on Saturday, 12DEC at Albacore Park. Auxiliary members are invited to attend in uniform. Organizers also hope to have representation from the Gold Side.
- FSO-VE Jamieson invited old and new members to participate at the AUX booth for the Hunting and Fishing Expo at Rockingham Park- JAN09-10 2016. Hours: 1000-1900 Saturday, 1000-1700 Sunday. It is a great opportunity for exposure for the Auxiliary with upwards of 12-15 thousand attendees.

d. Website update:

- FC Costa said there was a recent issue with access to the website but it has been resolved and he is now able to enter data and to necessary updates. He hopes to complete updates by the end of the evening.
- FC Costa will also update the email list and will confirm with FSO-MT Heath that all BC Break-ins will be on the list and able to receive training schedule information.

e. OPFAC report

- FC Costa read a report from VCDR Spiller: Seasonal totals: 77 engine hours; 12 members crewed at least once; \$683.06 of SAMA monies were received.
- OPFAC is on the hard at Great Cove Boat Club in Eliot.
- Saturday, 05DEC will be a workday from 0800-1200. Assistance is requested and will be appreciated.

f. Aviation Training:

- LO-AV Hewitt recently attended the Annual Safety Training for Aux Aviation at Air Station Cape Cod. In light of recent high-profile incidents, the training was well attended with some 80 pilots and Air Crew.



- The SEPT 2015 aux air plane crash in NJ has resulted in significant reduction in flights scheduled as policies and procedures are reviewed. Efforts are being made to get schedules back “up to speed”, hopefully, by ice season, which is a critical time for these missions.
- LO-AV Hewitt said it was a highly worthwhile training, the importance of which was underscored by a video address from the Admiral.

g. Finance Officer’s Report

- FC Costa summarized the Finance Report from FSO-FN Wirth:
- Flotilla Basic Account balance \$7, 391.92
- OPFAC Account balance \$180.75
- Combined Account balance \$7,572.67
- 83% of dues paid to date
- FSO-VE Jamieson asked if insurance premiums are reduced during the winter. SO-OP Hogan replied that inactivity is accounted for in the overall cost and monthly payments are averaged annually.
- FC Costa, VCDR Spiller and SO-OP Hogan will meet to finalize financial records to date.
- FSO-VE Jamieson asked about status of refund of monies paid for persons who are no longer members of the flotilla. SO-OP Hogan said paperwork had been submitted by deadline so he thought the flotilla had gotten a refund for last year and that we should see another this year. DCDR Moe will confirm status with SO-OP Hogan.
- FC Costa said efforts would continue to refine the Financial Report to be included in the monthly Flotilla FSO report.

Old and New Business

a. Semper Paratus Award – Final Nominations:

- FC Costa reported 3 nominations to date and then requested additional nominations from the floor. None were presented
- Voting will occur at the 07JAN 2016 meeting. Instructions for absentee voting will be forthcoming.
- Nominees include: Retired member Ken Cookson, FSO-MA Hanson and SO-OP Hogan.

b. Staff (FSO) Openings - FC Costa said he is happy with current staff but openings remain for FSO-PA (Public Affairs) and FSO-PB (Publications)

- DCDR Moe encouraged members to step-up and assist, noting one gets out of the Auxiliary what one puts into it. No contribution is too small, everything done is important. He encouraged members to think ahead toward leadership roles for next year and for this year’s leaders to begin considering those whom they can mentor/train for the future. He also reiterated that anyone who assumes a position would always have support.
- FSO-MT Heath sent recent emails with a schedule for Boat Crew Training and sign-up reminder for the 1st Aid/CPR Training to be held on 06FEB 2016. He asked if email lists are current.

c. Commercial Fishing Vessel Examiners needed

- FSO-MS Dehne said there is need for examiners. Any members interested can work with MSD staff at the station and/or may contact FSO-MS Dehne. Once certified, members can develop relationships with vessel owners and begin to establish a clientele to be maintained on and individual basis.

d. Thanksgiving at the Station re-cap

- FC Costa thanked the crew that put-on Thanksgiving dinner for the Gold Side. He said the effort was greatly appreciated as evidenced by photos on the Station’s Facebook page. MK3 Coyne’s wife sent a pie for tonight’s meeting as thanks to the Auxiliary for the effort.
- **Volunteers are still needed to help with the Christmas dinner.** In addition to SO-OP Hogan who will coordinate the dinner, volunteers to date include: FSO-Grossi- to pick-up and deliver the food, MBR Kliman and his wife Debbie, FSO-SR Benshimol. “Maybes” include: LO-AV Hewitt, FSO-FN Wirth, and FC Costa.
- Extra desserts or side dishes are also welcomed contributions which may be dropped off at the station on Christmas morning.
- FC Costa will contact the Chief to get an estimate of numbers who might attend prior to consideration of inviting additional guests from the Cutter crews.



- e. **Change of Watch:** Per earlier discussion the Flotilla C.O.W. proposed date is 30JAN 2016 at the Regatta Room in Eliot. FC Costa will confirm.
- f. **Auxiliary OPFAC T-shirts and Stickers:** Members may contact LO-NH Many to purchase items. FC Cost will also procure a supply to be kept at the Station in the future.
- g. **Award Presentations-** None

Comments by Auxiliary and other Coast Guard personnel:

- Per a question from LO-AV Hewitt about Mandated Training: In order to remain eligible for patrols, awards, staff positions, etcetera, there are **6** online courses which must be completed by **31DEC 2015**. AP members have 1 year from the date of receipt of EMP # to complete the courses.
- SO-OP Hogan thanked members who nominated Semper Paratus Award candidates while suggesting that former MBR Cookson receive the award in light of his years of service to the Flotilla; leading it during some very difficult times. FSO-MS Dehne agreed. VFC Joyce noted the other 2 nominees will be around next year to be considered again for the award.
- MK3 Coyne will speak with the Station Chief to request a Gold Side presence at the Wreath Laying Ceremony on 12DEC per request from FSO-VE Jamieson.

For the Good of the Auxiliary

- FC-Costa informed members of FSO-IS Manning's recent accident resulting in significant injury/fracture to her knee joint. A card was sent on behalf of the Flotilla. Members are welcomed to send individual cards and notes.
- FC Costa also noted that FSO-MT Heath is making a good recovery from his summer injury.
- FSO-VE Jamieson asked how often security checks must be updated. DCDR Moe said every 5 years for Direct Support Auxiliaries i.e. coxswains, watch-standers, aviation personnel, and once at induction for others. If members have questions they may contact DCDR Moe.
- In answer to a question from FSO-MT Heath, members must be out of AP status prior to swearing in at the C.O.W., however, waivers may be requested.
- SO-OP Hogan said he had been "hacked" in the recent Government security breach. A 3-year identity protection service is available. The breach is also part of the backlog problem.

Closing Remarks, Adjourn business meeting:

Motion to adjourn was made by SO-OP Hogan and seconded by FSO-VE Jamieson. Meeting adjourned at 2008.

Next meeting: 07 JAN 2016