



FLOTILLA MEETING MINUTES

Flotilla 013-02-08

12 FEBRUARY 2015

Attendance: 11 Members, 1 guest – Chief Andreesen

Respectfully Submitted: FSO-SR Gladys Benshimol

Call to order- FC Costa 1905

Pledge of Allegiance- FSO-OP Armstrong

Introduction of Visitors- None

Adoption of Minutes of previous meeting- Motion to approve was made by FSO-OP Armstrong with second from FSO-MT Heath. Motion carried, minutes approved. Due to a quorum not being present, the January minute approval will be conducted again at the March meeting.

Announcements, Additions to Agenda-

- FSO-OP Armstrong announced he, FSO-MT Heath, FSO-MA Hanson, and VCDR Spiller will attend PPE inspection training to be held Saturday 21FEB at 0800 prior to BC Break-in Training. BM2 Smith will instruct.
- All gear will be designated as “issued” or “personal” on the PPE inspection form.
- EPIRBs are inspected monthly.
- A discussion clarified that MK 79 and/or MK 124 pyros may not be carried by AUX on SAR vest.
- Chief Andreesen had station crew Rainy clarify federal requirements.
- State regulations are more stringent requiring recreational boaters to carry Visual Distress Signals on waterways, therefore, the auxiliary will continue to instruct and encourage this. The Gold Side follows the “2 nautical mile entrance” specification for law enforcement.
- Auxiliary members may be able to carry personal, smaller VDS for safety but they are not part of the required inspection.

Flotilla Staff Officer Reports - FC Costa

- a. Additions or comments to Flotilla Staff Officer Reports-** FC Costa announced the Flotilla website had been checked-out and he has received approval for the anonymous “Suggestion Box” feature from the National Web Division. It will be available starting 13 FEB 2014, however some browsers may not support this functionality; work will continue. Suggestions will go directly to him with no information or data about the sender. He also noted a member of Flotilla 15 who is moving south has expressed interest in communications training. FSO-CM McTaggart will be the contact.
- b. Public Education –NTR**
- c. Finance Officer’s Report-** FSO-FN Wirth and VCDR Spiller presented an overview of finances. Costs were covered in full by receipts for JAN 2015 Change of Watch. Full report on file.
- d. Member Training –** FC Costa introduced FSO-MT Heath who reported the DEC2014 commencement of Boat Crew Break-ins’ training introduction. Shore side training began JAN2015 with 4 trainees. 12 Flotilla members attended First Aid, CPR & AED training 07 FEB2015. MBR Manning has achieved AUXOP qualification!

Old and New Business

- a. Change of Watch – FC Costa**
 - FC Costa thanked Chief Andreesen for his attendance at the JAN 2015 Change of Watch and also thanked all others involved with preparation for and participation in the well-attended, enjoyable event. An email will be forthcoming with further details.
 - FSO-PE Grossi was the 2014 recipient of the Semper Paratus Award. Since FSO-PE Grossi was unable to attend, FC Costa hopes to present the award to him at the MARCH2015.
- b. Committees (OPFAC, NSBW) –FC Costa**
 - OPFAC Committee Members include: VCDR Spiller, IPDCDR Raynor, FSO-OP Armstrong, FSO-MS Dehne, FSO-PV Ladrie, FSO-PE Grossi, MBR Forti, MBR Theve, FSO-IS McAndrew.
 - NSBW (National Safe Boating Week-16-23 MAY 2015) Committee Members include: FSO-MT Heath, FSO-CM McTaggart, FSO-PV Ladrie, SO-OP Hogan.
 - Additional members are encouraged to volunteer for either or both committees.
 - Station Open House date proposed for NSBW; 23 MAY 2015 per Chief Andreesen.



c. 2015 Budget –FN Wirth

- SO-OP Hogan recommended a short discussion prior to a vote on the budget at the MAR2015 meeting. FC Costa will re-send a copy of the Budget to all members.
- FSO-MT Heath suggested a line item be added to the OPFAC Budget for MSD supplies.
- Chief Andreesen said the MOU had been signed enabling the OPFAC to be docked at the station. He also offered space at the shop for maintenance/prepping/painting and for storage next winter if necessary.

d. Swear in new members- FC Costa: None

e. Semper Paratus Award Presentations – VCDR Spiller: n/a

f. Award Presentations

- On behalf of CAPT Gilda, Chief Andreesen presented FSO-MT Heath the **SNNE 500 Club 2014 Award** for greater than 500 hours in support of SNNE missions.

Comments by Auxiliary and other Coast Guard personnel: none

For the Good of the Auxiliary- FC Costa:

- VCDR Spiller reported that MBR Ernie Brown is recovering from a recent illness and is feeling better. MBR Brown has put in a request to transfer to the Newburyport Flotilla for the sake of accessibility.
- Members were reminded “For the Good of the Auxiliary” encompasses “illness and/or distress”. This is a time to acknowledge shipmates dealing with such issues, either personally or for those close to them, highlighting the Fellowship Cornerstone of the Auxiliary.
- Members are reminded of gate protocol. Stop and wait for gate to close upon entry to and exit from the station.
- Congratulations to Chief Andreesen and station personnel upon awarding of The Meritorious Unit Accommodation. The Admiral will present the award. Senator Jeanne Shaheen will be present along with members of the press.

Closing Remarks, Adjourn business meeting: FC-Costa: FSO-OP Armstrong moved to adjourn with a second from SO-OP Hogan. Meeting adjourned at 2008

Next meeting 05MARCH 2015.