



**Flotilla 013-02-08**

**FLOTILLA MEETING MINUTES**

**07 JANUARY 2016**

Attendance: 21 Members

Respectfully Submitted: FSO-SR Gladys Benshimol

**Call to order-** FC Costa 1900

**Pledge of Allegiance-** DCDR Moe

**Introduction of Visitors-** FC Costa introduced Brian Mullaney who will be transferring into Flotilla

**Adoption of Minutes of previous meeting** – A motion to approve DEC2015 minutes was made by FSO-MA Hanson and seconded by FSO-PV Ladrie. Motion carried.

**Announcements, Additions to Agenda** – none

**Flotilla Staff Officer Reports**

**a. Additions or comments to Flotilla Staff Officer Reports**

- FSO-MT Heath requested approval to purchase 7 training packets (sets of 3 per packet) for new Boat Crew trainees at a cost of \$380.45 per FSO-MA Hanson. A motion to approve was made by MBR Joyce and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by SO-OP Hogan. Motion carried.
- FSO-OP Armstrong said there would be a **4-hour TCT** training sometime within the next 3 weeks at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. FC Costa will email all members when details are finalized.

**b. Upcoming Events:**

- **Hunting and Fishing Expo; Rockingham Park-Salem, NH - 09-10JAN:** FSO-VE Jamieson asked for assistance at the AUX booth this weekend. MBRS Susan and Jim McHugh and FSO-SR Benshimol offered. FSO-VE Jamieson recommended that all new members be asked to commit to at least one (1) public event for 1 or 2 hours as an introductory and contributory activity to Flotilla 28.
- **ID Cards for new members or updates for others:** FSO-MA Hanson will be on station in the area of the Mess Deck from 0800-1200 on **16JAN** to take photos for ID's. (Uniform: Tropical Blue shirt with white Tee.)

**c. Email system issues:** FC-Costa continues to struggle with tech issues including a recent inability to login to the site. He is working on the problem and plans to update information on break-ins and general distribution lists a.s.a.p. For now he will send "blind copy" mail while exploring other alternatives. FSO-CS McAndrew will begin to assist.

**d. OPFAC report:** A crew prepared the OPFAC for winter storage at GCBC in Eliot. Major prep tasks were completed, the vessel is covered and on the hard. Remaining tasks will be done in the spring.

**e. Finance Officer's Report:** FSO-FN Wirth:

- Basic Account balance to date: \$7,559.25
- OPFAC Account Balance to date: \$626.61
- Combined Account Balance to date: \$8185.86
- Pending reconciliations: Christmas Dinner expenditures, and recent receipt of SAMA monies.
- FC Costa said efforts would continue to refine the Financial Report to be included in the monthly Flotilla FSO report and at meetings.

**Old and New Business**

**a. Public Affairs - Movie Opening** – DCDR Moe:

- National is encouraging the Gold Side and Auxiliary to undertake local promotions of the movie "The Finest Hours" depicting the 1952 US Coast Guard rescue mission off Cape Cod. The movie will premiere 29JAN. Members who wish to be a uniformed representative presence at a theater are asked to contact DCDR Moe stating preferred location.
- FSO-MA Hanson will supply AUX informational/promotional materials/displays for movie sites.
- Four Flotillas within the Division are participating.
- Interested members can view the movie trailer on youtube.

**b. Semper Paratus Award – Voting**

- A ballot vote was taken for the 2015 Semper Paratus Award. The winner will be announced at the Change of Watch on 30JAN.
- FSO-IS Manning asked if the winner could be announced at the conclusion of voting. FC Costa replied that the Standing Rules stipulate the announcement be made at the Change of Watch.
- FC Costa thanked and subsequently disbanded the Election Committee.



- c. **Staff (FSO) Openings** - FC Costa continues to work on filling staff positions. Those in AP status may hold an officer position if they have completed the Mandated Training and if a waiver is procured. FC Costa will distribute a list when the roster of Staff Officers is finalized.
- d. **Change of Watch:**
  - Flotilla C.O.W. will be held 30JAN 2016 at the Regatta Banquet and Conference Center in Eliot at 1800. An invitation was emailed and copies were made available at the meeting.
  - In addition to the 4 menu choices a vegetarian selection may be requested.
  - Uniform options are outlined on the invitation.
  - Members are encouraged to attend for an enjoyable evening of fellowship and intermingling with representatives of the Gold Side as well. Please contact VFC Grossi with any questions.
  - **C.O.W. checks should be made out to: USCGAUX 28.**
- e. **Award Presentations** – FC Costa
  - MBR Joyce 25 Year Service Award

**Comments by Auxiliary and other Coast Guard personnel:**

- MBR Susan McHugh asked when it is appropriate to wear uniforms in public. A discussion followed noting that since 9/11 and in light of recent developments around the world, discretion is advised. Be aware of your surroundings, be careful of your conversation and be conscious of your role as a representative of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. Members may also get guidance from the Auxiliary Manual.

**For the Good of the Auxiliary**

- MBR Wes Smith recently had knee surgery.
- FSO-IS Manning said she is making gains in her recovery from a knee injury.
- FSO-MT Heath is also reports making a good recovery from his summer injury.
- DCDR Moe reported SO-PB De Puy was recovering from a recent fall.
- SO-OP Hogan thanked members FSO- LO-Air Hewitt, MBR Kliman and his wife Debbie, FSO-MS Dehne, FSO-FN Wirth, VFC Grossi and FSO-SR Benshimol for assisting him with the Station Christmas Dinner.

**Closing Remarks, Adjourn business meeting:**

Motion to adjourn was made by SO-OP Hogan and seconded by DCDR Moe. Meeting adjourned at 1945.

**Next meeting: 04 FEB 2016**