



## FLOTILLA MEETING MINUTES

**Flotilla 013-02-08**

**05 MARCH 2015**

Attendance: 21 Members, 2 Gold Side guests –LT Metz, CPO Keegan

Respectfully Submitted: FSO-SR Gladys Benshimol

**Call to order-** FC Costa 1900

**Pledge of Allegiance-** FSO-SR Benshimol

**Introduction of Visitors-** None

**Adoption of Minutes of previous meeting-** Motion to approve was made by FSO-PV Ladrie with second from FSO-OP Armstrong. Motion carried, minutes approved.

**Announcements, Additions to Agenda-** None

**Flotilla Staff Officer Reports -** FC Costa

- a. **Additions or comments to Flotilla Staff Officer Reports-** FSO-VE Jamieson invited volunteers to assist with the Auxiliary booth for the Great Northeast Boat Show in Milford, NH 20-22 MAR 2015. A request to have a booth for the Boat Show at the NH Sportplex in Bedford 10-12 APR is pending. A request to have a booth at the New England Paddlesports Show in Durham 17-19 APR was denied due to space limitations.
- b. **Public Education –** FSO-PE Grossi said the BS & S class began with 14 students on 03MAR at Kittery Adult Education. An Advanced Course for 3 nights will be offered pending sufficient interest. A 1-day course on chart reading will be held at Wells/Ogunquit Adult Ed in MAY. MBR Many and VCDR Spiller are negotiating with West Marine while VFC Joyce is negotiating at the Lakes Region to host additional classes.
- c. **Finance Officer's Report-** Finance Report was distributed. Discussion occurred under **Old and New Business – Item c.**
- d. **Member Training –**FSO-MT Heath said the Boat Crew Break-in class of 3 is 1 month ahead of schedule having already completed abandon ship exercises.
- e. **Communications & IS Services-** FC Costa said all Flotilla-wide emails will be posted on the website: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=013-02-08> in the Members Only section under "unit notices". FC Costa also reported that National "likes our website" and it has been labeled "approved" per the National Audit. Members are asked to keep submitting pictures. CPO Keegan offered pictures from the Station website as well. Also on the website, the "guaranteed anonymous" Suggestion Box is now available for member use. Suggestions/comments are encouraged. FSO-CS McTaggart noted he was unable to access the photos. FC Costa will investigate.

### **Old and New Business**

- a. **DHS update and clarification –** FC Costa said the DHS shutdown is a moot point since funding was extended but should there be a shut down in the future, no Auxiliary activities may occur other than WebEx, emails and personal online training/courses per DCDR Moe's corroboration.
- b. **Committee Appointments -** None
- c. **2015 Budget Adoption –** VCDR Spiller
  - Per recommendation of FSO-MT Heath at the FEB2015 meeting a line item for MSD sanitary chemicals was added.
  - SO-OP Hogan initiated a discussion concerning inclusion of the OPFAC budget within the Flotilla budget versus as a separate budget. VCDR Spiller referenced the Standing Rules, which prohibit more than one budget. Approval was given by COMO Gordon to construct the budget as presented.
  - SO-OP Hogan requested a copy in writing of COMO Gordon's approval. His concern is that if the OPFAC budget is not approved members will be unable to approve the Flotilla budget.
  - IPDCDR Raynor said flotilla funds cannot be spent on the OPFAC. A separate checking account was established toward this end. Only income raised specifically for the OPFAC may be used.
  - SO-OP Hogan questioned projection of SAMA funds noting the scarcity of these. He reiterated the new mandate that patrol requests be submitted a quarter in advance.



- VCDR Spiller cited the difference between other OPFACs is that the Flotilla OPFAC is a vessel of the Coast Guard and therefore a public vessel of the United States versus a privately owned facility.
- SO-OP Hogan again expressed discomfort in having the budgets combined. FSO-VE Jamieson agreed that he was surprised to see them combined.
- IPDCDR Raynor suggested voting separately on the 2 items to inform where adjustments might need to be made should they be needed.
- VFC Joyce endorsed this suggestion.
- SO-OP Hogan moved to accept the OPFAC budget, FSO-OP Armstrong seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.
- FSO-OP Armstrong moved to accept the Flotilla Budget, FSO-PV Ladrie seconded the motion.
- During discussion, MBR Bradbury requested funds to reimburse her for monies expended to provide copies for 8 hour TCT Training to Cutter and Flotilla personnel.
- SO-OP Hogan suggested increasing the Member Training line item.
- VCDR Spiller moved to increase the Member Training Line item from \$250.00 to \$350.00 to be earmarked for printing costs, thus addressing MBR Bradbury's reimbursement concerns. FSO-PE Grossi seconded the motion.
- SO-OP Hogan suggested a line item be added in the future to cover this cost.
- Membership was asked to vote on adopting the Budget as amended.
- A vote was taken and the Budget was approved.
- d. **PPE Update** – VCDR Spiller reported he, FSO OP Armstrong, FSO-MA Hanson, and FSO-MT Heath had been through training with Station member Ryan Smith and they will serve as liaisons concerning PPE inspection.
  - The Committee will develop an implementation plan and FSO-OP Armstrong said inspections that will mirror the Gold Side, would occur in APR for Coxswains and Boat Crew. Spreadsheet handouts will be distributed outlining the process.
  - BM2 Smith will record results
  - PPIRBs must be inspected every 30 days
  - PPE must pass or members may not participate in patrols.
  - FSO-VE Jamieson asked about the inflatables given to VE inspectors and was told they do not meet the standard for boat crew. They are acceptable for performing VE's and are primarily designed to set an example and promote discussion from the public regarding recreational boating safety.
  - As part of the pre-underway checklist, coxswains will be responsible for making sure crewmembers' PPE meets the standard and has been duly logged.
  - The Station Chief or OOD can randomly check the binder for compliance.
  - Brown or Navy Boat Shoes are acceptable **only** on OPFAC patrols and VE inspections.
- e. **OPFAC Committee Update** – IPDCDR Raynor said the OPFAC is under a tarp but the batteries have been charged. An antenna was broken due to weather and will be replaced.
  - SO-OP Hogan asked about the status of grants
  - VCDR Spiller said 4 have been submitted and 4 are pending. He asked members to share any ideas for grant possibilities and or people who could assist with the writing process with IPDCDR Raynor.
  - SO-OP Hogan suggested contacting District personnel - COMO Gordon & DCOS McShane.
  - VFC Joyce will follow-up on the suggestion.
- f. **Swear in New Members** – None
- g. **Semper Paratus Award** – VCDR Spiller read the statement describing the Semper Paratus Award and presented the 2014 Award to FSO-PE Grossi. The Award includes a Sterling Silver Bosun's Whistle and engraved wooden case, which were given to FSO-PE Grossi. His name will be added to the Station Plaque.
- h. **Award Presentations** – FC Costa introduced LT Metz who presented "500 Club" awards on behalf of CAPT Gilda. Additional awards presented by FC Costa.



- FSO-Grossi- The SNNE 500 Club Award for 2014 for greater than 700 hours of service
- FSO-MS Dehne- The SNNE 500 Club Award for greater than 600 hours of service. LT Metz also presented each with a Challenge Coin.
- LT Metz encouraged members to participate with FSO-MS Dehne in the UPV program citing it as critical in augmenting the Gold Side. As MSD Supervisor he and his staff will help make this goal a reality. LT Metz is additionally looking forward to collaboration with the Flotilla OPFAC program to help his staff perform harbor patrols via sea.
- FSO-OP Armstrong – 8 hour TCT course
- FSO-MS Dehne – ICS 305
- FSO-SR Benshimol – Telecommunications Operator
- FSO-IS McAndrew ICS 800
- Flotilla 02-08 was also presented the Unit Commendation from the Commandant of the Coast Guard. A copy of the citation was distributed. All members are eligible for the Unit Commendation Citation star or ribbon, available through FSO-MA Hanson.

**Comments by Auxiliary and other Coast Guard personnel:** CPO Keegan encouraged members to purchase tees, long-sleeve, pullover and/or zip hoodies, crew neck sweatshirts with station logo. He will email the order spread sheet to FC Costa for Flotilla distribution and posting on the website.

**For the Good of the Auxiliary-**

- VCDR Spiller said FSO-PB Hewitt is in transit aboard the TAHOMA enroute to Florida representing Flotilla 28 having achieved quals in the Cutter training program. This is a commendable "first"!
- SO-OP Hogan encouraged all Coxswains and Boat Crew members to assist FSO-MT Heath with shore side training of break-ins on Saturday mornings.
- 4 Hour TCT trainers are needed. At this time, members must be Instructor and Coxswain qualified. But MBR Bradbury suggested checking with the Gold Side to see if there might be alternative avenues, per request from FSO-CS McTaggart

**Closing Remarks, Adjourn business meeting:** FSO-VE Jamieson moved to adjourn the meeting; FSO-MA Hanson seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2043.

**Next meeting 02APRIL 2015.**