

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
FLOTILLA 79 MEETING MINUTES
Monday August 21, 2017
South Kingstown Police Department, 1790 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, RI 02813

1. Meeting Called to Order-1900 hours by FC Olsen
 - a) Pledge of Allegiance
 - b) Moment of Silence
 - c) A quorum was present for this meeting
 - d) Guests Introduced: BM2 Grant, SC Beasley, Mike Pignataro, and Ken Saint Amour

2. Mike Pignataro was guest speaker who gave an interesting power point presentation highlighting his career as a helicopter pilot both in Vietnam and around New York City during a period that included the tragedy at the World Trade Center.

- 3.. Flotilla Commander's Remarks / Report

The FC, Olsen commended the effort of members who worked on paddle craft inspections/ training, and requested additional members support for this effort.

The FC asked that members who haven't completed Mandated Training redouble their efforts.

Elections for Flot 79 Staff Officers will be in November. Interested candidates should submit letters of intent to the Nominating Committee (Dave Johnson) at or before the October meeting.

4. Reports/ Remarks of Vice Flotilla Commander and Staff Officers
 - a) VFC Hanson

Appealed to FSO's to submit monthly reports in accordance with the schedule provided. (Only 4 out of 14 FSOs submitted July's reports on time.)

Appealed for volunteers to conduct VSCs. The equipment required to participate is modest, i.e., a kayak, a paddle, a life jacket and a whistle.

 - b) FSO PA Ouderkirk reported that radio station WPLQ [1230 A.M.] will air an interview with members of Flotilla 79 at 10 AM on Tuesday 8/22/2017
said that he can get advance publicity for Auxiliary courses in the *Independent*

 - c) FSO VE McElroy reported that to date this year 164 VS checks were completed.

 - d) FSO-FN Griffith reported that there are presently only 7 members' dues outstanding.
The Flotilla's balance will drop significantly soon when District dues are remitted

 - e) FSO IS Griffith reports that he is struggling, but winning the war with niggling computer/ systems challenges.

 - f) FSO PE Johnson reported that he received and deposited funds from the Sea Cadets and from the Guild.

 - g) FSO OPS [Johnson for] Beardsley reported that three "P5" pumps had been repaired

5. Division Updates

Division Commander Cunniff provided the following:

Flotilla Officers and Staff Officers who would like to be considered for election to fill positions on the Div. Staff should submit letters of intent/ application to the Div Nominating Committee Chair, Kit Griffith II, prior to the next Division meeting.

There have been 29 deaths due to paddle craft accidents in 2017.

The Division had conducted 249 paddle craft exams so far this season.

Division enrollment goal of over 300 seems to be unattainable. Current enrollment is 224.

BM@ Kevin Grant received a “Shout Out” at the division level for his regular participation with Flotilla 79

6 Ongoing Business

All members are encouraged to recruit new Auxiliary members

The Flotilla needs more participants in VE and VSC.

5. New Business

Interested members can sign up for watch at the Newport International Boat Show on line at CGAUXRI.org

7. Awards.

None presented.

8. Motion to Adjourn was presented and passed without abstention at 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Rudegear