



# U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

## Flotilla 65

### USCG Auxiliary, Flotilla 65 Agenda Monthly Business Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 7 February 2012  
Time: 19:30  
Location: [Elks Lodge](#), 6304 South West 78<sup>th</sup> Street, South Miami, Florida 33143-4928.

- I. Call to Order: FC Anthony Lapicola
- II. Roll Call: sign-in sheet circulated
- III. Presentation of colors, pledge of allegiance: Anthony Lapicola
- IV. Inspirational message: Anthony Lapicola
- V. Business meeting, FC Anthony Lapicola
  - A. Call for additional agenda items—none.
  - B. Guest introductions: Jonathon introduced by Enrique Ventura
  - C. Approval of meeting minutes: Fred Jaca moves, seconded by Roy Hellman.
  - D. Member welfare: Anthony Lapicola hospitalized on 26 January 2012, two blocked arteries, got out, feels fine.
  - E. Division meeting report, given by FC Anthony Lapicola by the minutes with elaboration by Aberlardo Lopez de Queralta: Motion was made to prepare a wish list of things ideally wanted and Aberlardo Lopez de Queralta submitted the list from the prior year which had not been acted upon. Elena Cohan notes there should be an addition to the list that they respond to the list. Bob Meyers learned the Division had \$20000 to spend for the whole Division, not really a whole lot for the entire Division.

List includes skiff hooks, first aid kits, public safety lights, PFDs for 50-mph, etc. Tri-colored chem sticks suggested by Gary Ellis.

On 3 March 2012, there will be USCG Appreciation Day, ODU's may be worn, 45' response boat will be demonstrated, members may get rides. Flyer available for review.

Aberlardo Lopez de Queralta distributed belt packs to the coxswains and crew members. Members have to sign for these items. Fred Jaca had PFDs available for members at cost.

Goals: all FCs were asked to come up with 3 goals to accomplish this year. The Flotilla 6-5 goals are:

1. To move all IQ [initially qualified] members to BQ. When members first join they are applicants, once paperwork submitted and background check is completed. Right now, Flotilla 6-5 has 3 applicants who are awaiting their background checks. Once member takes BS&S and completes it, they are moved to BQ.
2. We need more vessels, right now we have five active vessels. Three more are decertified which Anthony Lapicola is working to have certified. Someday, Anthony Lapicola may bring his own vessel about and add at least enough to get to 10 vessels.
3. Vessel Examiners and Examinations. Efforts at last vessel examination at Black Pointe were recounted. Anthony Lapicola needs to have a group effort. This may be the easiest exam as it is online and open book and once the member has five examinations, then the

member becomes qualified as a Vessel Examiner. Member Training, IS, and HR need to coordinate to increase our numbers. Annual mandatory is still in place, but it is uncertain as to whether it is being enforced. FSOs are to come up with their own goals to increase the corps of Vessel Examiners.

Message from Admiral Papp regarding hazing reviewed. All members should recognize hazing, sexual harassment, etc. and ensure its prevention.

National has come up with standardized Standing Rules [SR] for all Flotillas. Name of Flotilla, meeting time, election date, quorum are the only exceptions and these items are filled in by each Flotilla. For all elections, even if there is only one candidate, there must be voting by secret ballot. Financial officer's duties are amplified within the SRs. Articles reviewed, e.g., quorum, annual dues;

SR Amendments offered by Anthony Lapicola:

1. Emergency expenditures should be amended from the current \$50 to \$250.
2. Audit committee to be set in September.

Standing Rules instructions and distinctions between SRs and Auxiliary Appendices distinguished.

3. Issue as to number of persons required to sign checks discussed. It was agreed that only one signature was required as this had never been amended for two signatures.

Question called: Will the members accept the standardized rules as amended above? By acclamation, the SRs are adopted with the two amendments. No members opposed.

## VI. Reports, VFC Abelardo Lopez de Queralt calls for FSO reports:

Committee Reports

Staff Officer Reports

- A. FSO-FN Robert Meyers: *See* attached financial report. COW dinner, Elks raised price from \$20 to \$30 per person. Suggested to have a COW committee to investigate other locations. Three members participated in the COW dinner, but failed to pay. T-shirts addressed, as many were ordered, but many failed to pay.

New Division or District missive: sales tax exemption for flotillas. Tax exemption broadened so flotillas may claim an exemption if assigned to duty; if paid with unit funds. Purchases by individuals on the organization's behalf are taxable even if it is later reimbursed by the organization. FC has to issue an

order, member carries it out; FC gives FSO-FN an order who then writes a check to the vendor, then the member may acquire from the vendor along with the resale certificate. Food items are never tax exempt as they never become flotilla property. See attached Tax Exemption message.

If this Flotilla needs to buy a sizeable items where sales tax in excess of about \$40 may be saved, then the purchase should be made through the Flotilla. Anything less, continue to make individual purchases.

Dues: Flotilla received billing from the Division. If roster is incorrect, it makes no difference, Flotillas must

pay whatever they are billed. This Flotilla is being billed for 66 members, even though we do not have 66 members. Two of the new members had paid cash. One person was no longer a member, but her name carries over. Research will be done on member due payment [and was subsequently done, apologies to David Neal]. Imperative that dues be collected in August and will be first discussed in June. Please advise if you will no longer continue as a member of this Flotilla so you may be removed from the roster so that future billing is not incurred.

Roy Hellman asked about tax exemption for the Hut repair, but it was doubtful this was tax exempt as this was not Flotilla property, even though it is used by the Flotilla. Can purchase items through the Elks Lodge and use their tax exemption.

- B. FSO-CM Frank Sullivan—no report
- C. FSO-CS Vacant
- D. FSO-HR Alfredo Nardi, see report previously distributed. On 18 February 2012, there will be an orientation and processing meeting at Sector Miami. Any officer or member who would like to attend—it starts at 0900, processing begins at 1300. Call or email Al, but there is also a Boat Show and our patrol weekend.
- E. FSO-MA Ian MacBaradit, absent.
- F. FSO-MS James Guilmartin, absent. Elena Cohan, reported as to the Lincoln Marti Camporee which was a joint effort. About 1000 youths, Officer Snook present, USCG brought out a static display, a vessel. Very successful event with many members participating. Another marine safety event at Elks Lodge,

Festival of Freedom on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. US Army will attend, US Navy will attend. Need volunteers here at 1000 on 25 February 2012 at the Elks Lodge.

- G. FSO-MT Christopher Cohan—Ivan Ruiz and Scott Blumenthal passed their dockside exams. Navigation Rules Examination completed by: Eric Jones, Fred Jaca, and Gary Ellis. There will be member training on 15 February 2012 at 1915.
- H. FSO-MV Fred Jaca. PV is part of the RBS program. MV works well.
- I. FSO-NS Enrique Ventura
- J. FSO-OP Eric Jones—patrol weekend is the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of February. Two openings, North Bay on Saturday and South Bay on Sunday. Recruitment ensued, email will be sent. Division has requested facilities for a special operation. There is a list of members who are Helo-qualified. Fred Jaca suggested training to get members Helo-qualified. 13 members present were interested in this training.
- K. FSO-PA Bob Hopps—Boat Show is coming up next week Thursday through Sunday. We have a Thursday time slot 1400 to 1800. If interested, contact Bob Hopps. Boat Show is located at the Miami Beach Convention Center. ODU is the uniform of the day. Aberlardo Lopez de Queralta notes that at Division meeting that if Flotilla passes a motion to pay for member parking at the Boat Show, it can do so; rather than parking at the Station and then making their way over to the Boat Show. Elena Cohan makes motion, Chris Cohan seconds—no discussion. Passes by acclamation.
- L. FSO-PE Fred Jaca—First class will be at Rosentiel, so far only three

students. Depending on how many students show up, there will be a determination as to whether to have the course. Decision to be made. Do not want to jeopardize relationship with U of Miami. Class starts on 13 February 2012. Frank and Eric suggested that the first course of the year should start after the Boat Show.

Elena Cohan—youth safe boating event--help needed for this event.

- M. FSO-SR María T. Armas—no report
- N. FSO-VE Clifford Harrison, absent. Anthony Lapicola gave report as to the one inspection done at Black Point of *Sabot*.
- O. FSO-AV Steve Cruz, on 3 March 2012 there will be an aviation stand down at Opa Locka Air Base. Same day as the Appreciation Day at Sector Miami. Members need their identification to get through the gate.

#### VII. Old Business

Cook-Off, Coast Guard Bowl T-shirts addressed. Names of folks who ordered T-shirts, but have never collected or paid for their T-shirts noted.

#### VIII. New Business.

Fred Jaca—would Flotilla be interested in assisting the Elks Lodge with getting a public address system by paying for half of the expense. Anthony Lapicola asks that an idea of the expense be provided first. Would like to have members also join the Elks Lodge.

Comments from the Floor—None

Standing Rules—Previously addressed

Awards

- Past Commander's Association: Fred Jaca entered into that Association.
- Navigation Rules Examination completed by: Eric Jones, Fred Jaca, and Gary Ellis.
- Steven Cruz presented with a Letter of Commendation for efforts on Saber 12 patrol in support of Sector Miami when a young student pilot reported being lost but was not heard by air traffic control and for which he received a standing ovation.
- Norberto Menendez for Aux-Communications exam completion; Certificate of Recognition presented for FSO-CS efforts.
- Steven Cruz presented with Certificate Recognition for FSO-AV efforts; Chris Cohan presented with Certificate Recognition for FSO-MT and PE support and

Thanks conveyed for Helo-Ops participation. It was suggested that Helo-Ops participants should have a hockey helmet; Gary Ellis noted that should already be on the vessel.

Frank Sullivan noted that when Flotilla flies there should be interaction with the Flotilla vessels who are also on patrol. Steve commented that the fliers take a pre-determined route, but if they fly close enough to a surface patrol, he will be happy to communicate with surface vessels so long as the fliers do not deviate from their path as avgas is expensive.

- P. FSO-PB Enrique Ventura—we have a draft for the *Prop* which should be released the week of 22 February 2012. Any articles members would like to write or suggestions for articles, please contact Enrique.

given his appointment letter. Elena Cohan presented with Certificate Recognition for FSO-SR, and support of MS and PE. Fred Jaca presented with Certificate Recognition for FSO-MV and appointment letter. Eric Jones presented with appointment letter, FSO-OP.

Meeting adjourned @ 21:15.

Setting of date for next business meeting: 6 March 2012