



# U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 65

## USCG Auxiliary, Flotilla 65, Miami South Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, 01 February 2017.  
Time: 19:30 hours.  
Location: [Elks Lodge](#), 6304 Southwest 78<sup>th</sup> Street, South Miami, Florida 33143-4928.

- I. Call to Order: FC David Neal.
- II. Roll Call: Sign-in sheet to be circulated.
- III. Presentation of colors, pledge of allegiance: Pledge led by William Ambrose.
- IV. Inspirational Message: Moment of silence.
- V. Business Meeting, directed by FC David Neal:
  - A. Call for additional agenda items - (Members wishing to have items discussed must submit for addition to the agenda.) No items added to agenda.
  - B. Guest introductions: Robert Schurr, ADSO-MT, Assistant District Staff Officer - Member Training, presented new member training goals. The Auxiliary wants a few more members to participate with the Miami-Dade County Emergency Operations Center. The Auxiliarist would become the Agency Representative for the Coast Guard during emergency events, such as hurricanes and would need to commit to staying on a 12-hour shift during the storm. The main office is located at USCG Station Opa-Locka. The Coast Guard wants Auxiliarists to be able to do more. Other goals for member training focus on adding more specialization and developing a set of expectations to qualify new members to fill positions for watchstanding, food service, and including roles for surface operations, aviation, administration and pollution response. Robert encourages sending new ideas for member training.

New visitors: Bob Hopps introduced Giovanni Penagos, who teaches aeronautics and is a pilot and interested in the aviation operations. Also, visitor Ramon Arcas, who wants to volunteer for the Auxiliary. Enrique Ventura introduced Pierre Hayeck, who is involved with the marine power squadron.
  - C. Approval of meeting minutes: December 2016 business meeting minutes circulated for consideration. Motion to approve - first by Tony Lapicola; second by Bob Hopps. Motion approved by acclimation.
  - D. Member welfare: No members noted.
  - E. Swearing in of FSOs: David Neal swore in FSO's James Guilmartin, William Ambrose, and Stephen Cruz.
- VI. Reports: VFC Carol Moppert reviewed Flotilla Goals for 2017. Goal 1) - Member Training - getting more people qualified and certified. Goal 2) - Public Education - need members to help publicize public training classes. Goal 3) - Recruitment and Mentoring

Plan - we need to add new members and especially those who have boats and may be encouraged to add their boat as a facility. We should consider recruiting at the local university level. We need training to develop new mentors. Goal 4) - Fellowship - we need to plan more events and may want to establish a "social committee" as a new idea. We want goals where members will want to participate. We also need to develop future leaders.

#### Committee Formations:

- 1) Change of Watch 2018: Enrique set up a committee, however, the decision has been made to hold the COW at the Miami Shores Country Club.
- 2) Fellowship - Social Committee: Tony Lopicola and Frank Sullivan will lead a social committee. Mel Sandberg offered to join the committee. Our Flotilla wants to try to do more social activities. For example, we could set up a barbeque at Black Point Marina. The committee will look into future events.

#### Staff Officer Reports - Distributed with the agenda as a separate document.

A.	FSO-FN Frank Sullivan	K.	FSO-PA vacant
B.	FSO-CM Frank Sullivan	L.	FSO-PE Carol Moppert
C.	FSO-CS William Ambros	M.	FSO-SR James Guilmartin
D.	FSO-HR Bob Hopps	N.	FSO-VE vacant
E.	FSO-MA Dan Berger	O.	FSO-AV Steve Cruz
F.	FSO-MS James Guilmartin	P.	FSO-PB Enrique Ventura
G.	FSO-MT David Neal	Q.	FSO-DV vacant
H.	FSO-PV Scott Blumenthal	R.	FSO-CC vacant
I.	FSO-IS Tony Lopicola		
J.	FSO-OP Ross Gibson		

#### Notes to Staff Officer Reports:

1. Tony Lopicola - Information Services: If you have an ID number, fill out the 7029 form to build up our hours and get more involved. The USCG gets \$28 per hour for our hours so they can increase their budget. Robert Schurr noted that when the Coast Guard gets money, the allocation is based on hours logged by district. So, if one district is not doing as much activity, the funds get allocated to more active districts.
2. Eric Jones - Operations: Scheduling for February 18th for normal boat patrol. Facility *Howdy* with Eric will do North Bay; facility *Sunrunner*, with Tony will do south bay.
3. David Neal - Member Training: More crew training will be set up at the Moose Lodge located at 9900 SW 77th Avenue. Operations requires a mandatory training workshop for Boat Crew. There is one at Station Miami Beach on February 16th. David will set up a separate training another time and another place. It's a requirement that's done about every five years. Vessel Examiner has a workshop required every year,

which can be done online. Helo Ops - a time for this training can be set up. See David Neal if members are interested. David is also looking into doing something online. David asked who wants to be an instructor for Member Training; Enrique Ventura, Jim Scholz and Roy Hellman expressed interest. This can be done in a one day session. David is the Division Officer for Member Training.

## VII. Old Business

- A. Need for 2017 FSOs - Public Affairs, VE, Diversity, Public Affairs, Career Counseling (works with CG Academy to help recruit for the Academy.) Contact David if interested.
- B. Update your member information online - updates send to David Neal. "Skills Bank" - the Coast Guard is looking for help via the Skills Bank, which is a list of skills developed by the government, but there could be other needs to get expanded on the list. You can list your skills, such as things you've done in your careers, jobs, and experience.

## VIII. New Business

- A. Boat Show - Coming up, starting Thursday, February 16 through Monday, February 20th. The Auxiliary has a kiosk display inside the show.
- B. Mentoring - We have a sign-in sheet for who wants to be a mentor, to be assigned to a new member, to guide them with requirements, uniforms, etc. We have many different things members can do. We can help new members get into new programs.
- C. New Flag for Elks Lodge - Frank Sullivan made a motion to buy a new American flag for the Elks Lodge wanting authorization to spend between \$70 to \$100 for the flag. Motion received a first by Eric Jones; a second by Mel Sandburg. Motion approved by acclimation.
- D. Awards: Creating a new higher level of awards was proposed to be based on achievement at higher levels of participation. The awards would be more than a certificate. Members would be responsible to keep track of what you've done and show proof.

Awards announced previously at the change of watch, but for members that were not in attendance at the COW: William Ambrose and James Guilmartin for National Safe Boating Week. Patrick Powell - Vessel Examiner and Marine Safety. Eric Jones, Stephen Cruz, Roy Hellman, Rene Arca, James Guilmartin - Recognition to Contributions in Surface Operations. Eric Jones - Outstanding Participation in Training, and 2016 contributions to Public Education, and Outstanding Contributions in Publications program. To Patrick Powell - Participation in the Aviation Program. William Ambrose - Coast Guard

Meritorious Service for National Safe Boating Week team. (Statistics for NSBW). To Eric Jones - Auxiliary Member Award - 15 years.

E. Comments from the Floor:

Setting of date for next business meeting: Wednesday, 01 March 2017 at 1930, [Elks Lodge](#), 6304 Southwest 78<sup>th</sup> Street, South Miami, Florida 33143-4928.

Next month, District Commodore Judith Hudson will be here. Please be in uniform if you can.

There is a Tropical Blue Uniform available - free of charge.

If you have old collar devices you no longer need, you can give them out to new members.

Motion to adjourn the business meeting was made by Roy Hellman. Motion received a first by Stan Flanders; seconded by Mel Sandberg. Motion approved by acclimation.