

UNIT NO.		UNIT NAME (As recorded in AUXDATA)		Members Present BQ + AX	
0700611		Miami		15	1
DATE	MEETING TIME	MEETING LOCATION	TYPE OF MEETING (X)		
020221	1938	Zoom Meeting	X	REGULAR BUS.	
				SPECIAL BUS.	

UNIT OFFICER PRESENT (List office abbr. and last name only)

FC Pauquet de Villejust, VFC Lamery, FSO-CS/SR Betterson, FSO-FN Montes, FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras, FSO-IS Krauss, FSO-MA Mendez, FSO-NS Canteras, FSO-OP/DCDR Freire and FSO-VE Adams

GUESTS PRESENT

J. Fred VerPlanck, Klauber Rocha, Ramon Sellers, Laurent Nicoud, Ludovic Bricks, Alexandre Sidi, Alec Bollorino and Soni Espina

CONDENSED VERSION OF REPORTS AND MOTIONS VOTED ON (List)

QUORUM ACHIEVED (11 out of 41 members needed)

- 1938 Meeting called to order by FC Pauquet de Villejust.

- Pledge of Allegiance led by David Adams.

- Invocation led by Eddie Lim.

- Introduction of guests (see above).

FC REPORT:

- There is a strong consensus throughout the Chain of Leadership for Auxiliary activities to resume soon. Hopefully we'll be able to resume over the summer or before the end of the year.

- We have several members who would like to move forward with crew training. The division is putting together a training program. Currently, there is a landside training program being conducted every (2) weeks via Zoom with David Neal of FLOT 65. FC Pauquet de Villejust encourages interested member to sign-up for the training. Members interested in crew training should reach out to VFC Lamery.

- The financial audit has been completed; and the 7025 Financial Report of Auxiliary Unit (for 2020) was filed today (02FEB21).

- The signatures have been changed on the flotilla's bank account at Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) to reflect the 2021 FC, VFC and FSO-FN as signatories.

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UNIT TRAINING TOPICS PRESENTED

FLOT 65 is conducting a bi-weekly virtual landside training program via Zoom ([calendar here](#)) for members interested in becoming coxswain or crewmember certified. Contact David Neal, FSO-MT 65, via e-mail at marino48@aol.com to register. See page 4 for operations training currently scheduled for the month of February.

REMARKS (Include special events, future plans, awards presented, etc.)

See page 6 for list of awards presented.

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING (Give Time, Date and Location)

1930 - 030221 - Zoom Meeting

DATE SUBMITTED	SIGNATURE OF PERSON SUBMITTING REPORT
030321	

FC REPORT (cont'd):

- Under our recruiting initiative “Strength in Numbers,” we received 12 potential new member applications; of which 4 have been completed. FC Pauquet de Villejust will meet with Vickie Aponte at DIRAUX next week to process the 4 completed applications. If you have friends interested in joining, let the flotilla bridge know and they will be contacted.

MOTION #1:

Lamery introduced a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the 05JAN21 flotilla meeting. Motion was seconded by Montes. **MOTION CARRIES.** (8-Yes/4-Abstain ... 8 out of 12 “Yes” needed for 2/3 vote).

FSO REPORTS:

Finance (FSO-FN) Report:

- FSO-FN Montes reports one check (#349) was written in the amount of \$75.00 for the flotilla-rented storage unit. The NFCU bank balance as of 18JAN21 is \$12,530.39.
- FSO-FN Montes confirmed the flotilla currently has 3 bank accounts: (1) operations, (1) savings and (1) Bravo Zulu (BZ).
- FSO-OP Freire confirmed the Bravo Zulu account was opened to separate SAMA funds from the flotilla’s operating funds. The savings account was opened to maintain the majority of the flotilla’s funds; as NFCU advised that checking accounts with limited activity were typically subject to fraudulent activity. With that rational, the operating account; which was the flotilla’s main checking account, would maintain at maximum \$200. Pursuantly, funds would be transferred as checks were written.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust relayed the excessive balance currently in the operations account should be transferred into the flotilla’s savings account; leaving a reasonable balance in our operations account. The flotilla will need to decide what will be done with Bravo Zulu; before deciding whether the BZ account should be terminated.
- FSO-OP Freire confirmed when BZ was taken out, the flotilla received on average \$130 - \$150 for an 8-hour patrol.

Communication Services (FSO-CS) Report:

- FSO-CS Betterson reports the flotilla’s WOW website ([click here](#)) has been updated to include a flotilla calendar, a hyperlink to the division’s Operations calendar, the flotilla’s meeting minutes (from 2012 to present), Photo Corner and Past Flotilla Commanders and Vice Flotilla Commanders.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust commended FSO-CS Betterson for all of the work put into updating the flotilla’s website.
- VFC Lamery relayed he would be meeting with FSO-CS Betterson next Thursday regarding the possibility of being able to use credit cards on the flotilla’s website to pay dues; instead of needing to send checks.

Human Resources (FSO-HR) Report:

- FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras relayed there were some guests on the Zoom teleconference that will hopefully be joining the flotilla. Once their paperwork is completed and meets all the requirements, the applications will be forwarded to the Director’s Division Security Liaison (DDSL) to start the vetting process. Once the applicants passed the initial background check, they will be input into the system; then the potential new members will receive their Auxiliary number. They will be entered as Approval Pending (AP) status; until they are approved by the Coast Guard. If they have their boating safety class, they will be Basically Qualified (BQ).
- FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras relayed new members will also have to take Basic Qualification Course II (BQII). They will be Initially Qualified (IQ) until BQII is completed ([course info here](#)). BQII is mandatory for all new members.

FSO-REPORTS (cont'd):

Human Resources (FSO-HR) Report (cont'd):

- FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras relayed the flotilla needs to establish a mandatory program to guide new members; and provide information on the other courses they'll need to complete in order to become BQII.
- FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras relayed the most important courses new members need to take is the Auxiliary Core Training ([AUXCT](#)) and BQII. Once these courses are taken, new members can focus on other areas. However, new members need to start working on these courses as soon as they get their ID number.
- DCDR Freire confirmed AUXCT and BQII courses are on-line; and that members should log into the Auxiliary Learning Management System (AUXLMS) website ([click here](#)) to complete them. Once completed, members should [e-mail](#) Nicholas Krauss, FSO-IS, to verify the course completion reflects in your AUXDATA record.
- DCDR Freire encourages members to keep a copy of their course completion certificate.
- VFC Lamery asked FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras to send an initial e-mail to the potential new members regarding the required courses they'll need to start taking. FSO-Garcia-Barreras confirmed he would do so.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust informed FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras that he had about 12 applicants at the moment; and that he would have 5-6 applications ready by next week. FC Pauquet de Villejust relayed he would meet with FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras at DIRAUX so that he could review everything; and as Julie Bouchard, DDSL, may be at DIRAUX as well, maybe the process could be speed up.
- FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras confirmed the applications need to go to DDSL Bouchard as she is the DDSL for the division.
- **Swear-In of Appointed Officers (FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras and FSO-MA Mendez) conducted by FC Pauquet de Villejust.**

Information Systems (FSO-IS) Report:

- FSO-IS Krauss relayed he had no formal updates to give. He further relayed there have been a lot of changes made with the new AUXDATA II ([AD2](#)); and next month he'll be focusing on getting up to speed on everything.
- FSO-IS Krauss will check-in with the SO-IS and have a report ready for the flotilla next month.
- VFC Lamery asked FSO-IS Krauss to come up with a Zoom training to assist members with how to use AD2.

Materials (FSO-MA) Report:

- FSO-MA Mendez relayed she had nothing to report. She further relayed she's waiting on FC Pauquet de Villejust to determine when the remaining brochures could be moved from the Miami Outboard Club (MOC) to the flotilla's rented public storage.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust relayed the public storage unit would be addressed later in New Business.
- FSO-MA Mendez relayed we have a lot of brochures at the MOC; and some of them will be expiring soon. She further relayed we need to go through the inventory of what we have to decide what we do and don't need first. Then we can order whatever is needed. However, she urged that material orders be kept to a minimum, as we have two places with materials and there are a lot of brochures to go through; especially at the MOC.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust relayed the plan is to move all of the materials currently at the MOC to the flotilla-rented public storage facility.

FSO-REPORTS (cont'd):

Vessel Examinations (FSO-VE) Report:

- FSO-VE Adams relayed we are still unable to conduct vessel safety checks (VSC) since we still have not received the 2021 VE decals from IPFC Davis. FSO-VE Adams stated he would conduct a VSC training for members interested in becoming certified as a Vessel Examiner. He relayed that the training would give members a good understanding of the various types of boats and how to inspect them.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust relayed Vickie Aponte would be meeting with IPFC Davis sometime toward the end of the week to pick-up the 2021 VE decals. He further relayed he would pick-up the decals from Vickie to give to FSO-VE Adams; so we could get to work on conducting VSCs.
- DCDR Freire relayed the division would be willing to give 6-11 an initial allotment of decals in the interim.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated he currently needs 12 decals; as he has friends with a fleet of boats looking to get them inspected for his charter company. They've been asking to have them inspected since last year and are still waiting. He further relayed he needs about 15-18 stickers; and hopefully we'll be getting the decals from IPFC Davis this week.
- DCDR Freire asked that 6-11 not allow the current lack of 2021 VE decals to hinder our ability to conduct VSCs, as the division has plenty of stickers to issue.
- VFC Lamery asked if any potential new members had any questions regarding VEs. He further asked FSO-VE Adams to explain the importance of VSCs for the Coast Guard Auxiliary.
- FSO-VE Adams explained that VSCs are basically for the recreational boats that are on the water. It's a safety exam that checks basic safety gear, navigation lights and things of that nature. There's a form that is filled-out as the VE inspects the boat with the owner. If the owner meets all of the requirements on the form they get a sticker that is affixed to the vessel.

Operations (FSO-OP) Report:

- FSO-OP Freire shared the division Operations calendar ([click here](#)). The calendar shows all of the upcoming missions. The only facility 6-11 has is FSO-Freire's vessel, PlayRound. For the month, PlayRound is conducting helo-op on 05FEB21, 12FEB21 and 19FEB21. Two of the helo-op missions may end up being combined with Maritime Observations Missions (MOM); which the station commander has requested so their small boats can focus on illegal charters.
- FSO-OP Freire stated 6-11 continues to be hindered by our lack of crewmembers; so he has to ask other flotillas to supply crewmembers. FSO-OP Freire further stated to FC Pauquet de Villejust that it is pivotal for 6-11 to certify or recertify folks who used to be crew back into the crew program.
- FSO-OP Freire relayed that he and SO-OP Betterson have been working on getting personnel from Station Miami Beach as Qualified Examiners (QEs) for Auxiliary. The Station QEs have been qualified. LCDR Earthat has relayed Station has (3) QEs. So by making members ready with all the underway missions that we've had, between FSO-OP Freire and VFC Chiappone, we should be ready to start qualifying members throughout the division in March.
- FSO-OP Freire relayed if anyone is ready to go, please see him and he'll put you on a boat, go over the initial drill; and if he feels your qualified to survive a QE, we'll put in the request and have candidates come out with FSO-OP Freire and the Station QEs and conduct the QE to get your certification back in good-standing.

AUXILIARY – RECORD OF UNIT MEETING

Page 5 of 13

070611 | Miami | 020221 | 1938 | ZOOM Meeting | Regular Business Meeting

- Potential new member, Soni, expressed she had been trying to become a member for the past year and a half. Soni stated she had submitted her application last year, but she hadn't gotten any answer yet.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated he's not sure what happened last year; but asked Soni if after the Zoom meeting she would send him an e-mail. He further stated he's hoping to have Soni in – in the next 30 days.
- Potential new member, Soni, stated she has ideas for the flotilla to get more people involved; because she's pretty sure a lot of people want to get involved but the resources are not available.

VFC REPORT:

- VFC Lamery stated we're still waiting to fill open flotilla staff officer (FSO) positions. He further stated the flotilla would greatly appreciate members who are not currently FSOs and have time, help the flotilla become more active.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust conveyed we still have the FSO-CM, DV, MS, MT, PA, PE, PB, RBSPV, and R&SS positions open.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated the FSO-MS is a good office to have as you get to work with the cruise ships, tankers, and active duty. He further relayed we had a FSO-PV last year, Christopher Castro; but we somehow dis-enrolled him. He stated we are working on re-enrolling Castro; and perhaps he will take over his old position.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust asked members who are interested and somewhat qualified, please let him know and we'll work with you.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit Committee Report:

- Chairperson Betterson relayed the 7025 was completed, however the audit report was not yet completed. Betterson further relayed the report would be presented at the next flotilla meeting.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust relieved the audit committee (*Betterson, Adams and Montes*). He further thanked the committee and recognized that the completion of the 7025 was a difficult process.

Budget Committee Report:

- Chairperson Adams relayed the budget committee is still working on the budget. He stated the committee was waiting on tonight's flotilla meeting to hear what would be happening with the storage and the flotilla-owned asset, Bravo Zulu.
- VFC Lamery asked Adams about his prior conversation regarding a storage place that Adams may be able to obtain for the flotilla.
- Chairperson Adams stated he spoke with one of the board members at his apartment complex regarding storage, and got an "okay;" however, he hasn't been able to speak with the other board members.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust asked Chairperson Adams if the committee would be able to present a budget to the flotilla in March.
- Chairperson Adams stated he thinks by March the budget will be ready to be presented and voted upon.
- DCDR Freire reminded Chairperson Adams that there is a lead time to submit the budget for member consideration. He further relayed that Chairperson Adams could see him after the meeting if he needed more information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (cont'd):

Electronic Payments Committee Report:

- Chairperson Lamery stated he is still in the process of meeting with committee member Betterson to go over the financial procedure to enter the data and get the payment on-line. He further stated he would have a report at the following flotilla business meeting or the officer's meeting.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust further emphasized hopefully we'll have something to present next meeting so the flotilla can make a decision and we can start that process. As the idea is that by the time the membership dues are due, we'll have a system in place that can allow electronic payments and make it effortless. So we don't have to chase people for checks or have them lost in the mail, or for people not comfortable with sending checks through the mail.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated this project is rather important; as hopefully toward the end of the year in September and October, when dues are due, this will make our lives a lot easier. The idea of the electronic payment is that on our flotilla's WOW website ([click here](#)) there will be a direct connection to our flotilla bank account so members can use their credit card to pay their dues on-line without having to send a check.

AWARDS PRESENTATION:

- New Member Certificate for Ashley Krammer.
- Basic Qualification II Certificate for David Adams.
- Appreciation plaque for Lt. Heberlig (prior Station CO).
- Appreciation plaque for IPDCDR Roger Kidder (prior DCDR for 2019).
- Appreciation plaque for OPS for Daniel Prezebel.
- 2018 Member Appreciation Award for VE for Eddie Lim.
- 2018 Member Appreciation Award for Thierry Pauquet de Villejust.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Form 7025 had been submitted
- Eddie Lim asked how many members were dis-enrolled last year. FC Pauquet de Villejust stated he was not sure, however, he stated the flotilla went from 71 members to 45 members.

MOTION #2:

Adams introduced a motion that the flotilla absorb the 2021 membership dues for Ashley Krammer (a current USCG active duty officer). Motion was seconded by Lamery.

MOTION CARRIES. (11-Yes/4-Abstain ... 10 out of 15 "Yes" needed for 2/3 vote).

NEW BUSINESS:

AUXFAC BRAVO ZULU:

- FC Pauquet de Villejust led a discussion regarding the flotilla-owned asset, Bravo Zulu (BZ). BZ has a Formula One hull; which is a rare and famous brand. It has (2) 200hp engines. The engines, as well as BZ, were inspected (3) weeks ago. FC Pauquet de Villejust stated the engines are in very good shape. They're new; with less than 100 hours each, powerful and well-maintained. The trailer that carries the boat also appears to be in good shape. We may need to put air in the tires and change the lights, but it's looking good.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust relayed that unfortunately the boat was left outside for many years and not really attended to. Consequently the outside of the hull is in excellent shape. The trailer is in good shape. However, the floor of the boat is in really bad shape. Because the boat has been left outside for many years, we believe that some termites got inside the hull and they ate the wood that is under the floor. Consequently the floor is cracking and it's now unstable. So if you put 2 or 3 people on the boat it's only a matter of minutes before one of them ends up through the floor.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

AUXFAC BRAVO ZULU (cont'd):

- FC Pauquet de Villejust further relayed the hull is in excellent shape, the trailer is good, the engines are good. All of the expensive parts are really good. The problem is the floor needs attention. It needs to be redone professionally; and the boat cannot be reused until that's done.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated the boat was well-equipped. It's still well-equipped. The GPS, radio, and all the original bells and whistles are there. When it comes down to the small equipment, the accessories like the flag, life vest, water pump and flare gun, are unfortunately in bad shape; and most of them were discarded. But this is not a big deal.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust further stated the boat is a good boat; and when we take it out it brings us money. But the floor of the boat needs to be repaired; and this is something that we need to consider. We need to decide if we want to keep the boat or not. Personally, FC Pauquet de Villejust believes the flotilla should have a boat. BZ is there, paid for, ours, and when we take it out we get money. It also gives the members of the flotilla an opportunity to have a boat they can use without having to use Marcelo's boat; which is the only boat we have in our flotilla.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust relayed there was a controversy regarding the engines and the trailer; because originally the engines were provided by Station Miami Beach; as well as the trailer. So we own the hull; but we didn't own the engines and the trailer. After further investigation, we came to the conclusion that at this time we do own the engines and we do own the hull. FC Pauquet de Villejust wasn't sure whether we had the right to sell them, because they were originally provided to us by active duty, by Station Miami Beach. But we do own them and we have the possibility to use them at will and they're in great shape.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated he believed a few years ago, a motion was presented to the floor to either keep or sell BZ. He remembered at the time the motion passed to sell BZ. But after passing this motion, he realized then, when you're trying to sell a boat that you don't have the registration for because it's not available; and you don't really own the engine or the trailer, and you just have a hull that is aging, it's not that easy to sell a boat. So all the great ambition of getting thousands of dollars turned out to be maybe we'll get \$500.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated consequently the boat was never sold and it is still part of our inventory. And there was a common concept that the boat was in really bad shape. After carefully being inspected, we realize it's not in bad shape. The hull, engines and trailer are great. The only thing we have problems with is the floor, because it's wood under the fiberglass; and when you leave a boat outside for so many years it was eaten by the termites.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated we need to decide whether we want to move forward with trying to get rid of the boat for a few pennies; or if we want to try to keep the boat, fix it and use it as a facility. FC Pauquet de Villejust further stated it is a lot more complicated than it sounds, because if we decide to keep the boat then we have to go and get it fixed and someone or a committee needs to take care of that. As it is something that needs to be attended to that will be time-consuming.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust further stated once we've repaired the boat, then we need to figure out a place where we can keep the boat. We used to keep it at Station Miami Beach, but right now they're full and they don't have any space for it. So we need to keep the boat somewhere. That means that either someone has to volunteer to put it in his backyard in between missions. Meaning that members are going to come and go from your backyard to pick it up and drop it off. Or we have to put it somewhere in a marina; being in the water or dry-dock storage. That's going to come with a financial cost for the cost of storing the boat in a marina; which is something we need to take into consideration.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

AUXFAC BRAVO ZULU (cont'd):

- FC Pauquet de Villejust further stated if we keep the boat, the boat has to be maintained. Meaning someone, or a group of members, have to make themselves responsible to actually take care of the boat. Because if you don't take care of the boat, soon it's going to end up being exactly the way it is right now. With a broken floor or something else and it would be out of order.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated if we are motivated about keeping BZ, then it is a great asset. The biggest asset of our flotilla. A boat that we can use in missions every week. Every member will be able to take it as long as there is crew willing to go along. This is a boat we can use for display as well because it's on a trailer. We can use it for boating or safety week, or whatever other activity we decide to have.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated more importantly every time we put it on the water, BZ is going to bring us money. As you know our source of revenue is very limited in our flotilla. One of our biggest revenue is the \$70 a year we each put in. Every time we put BZ on the water, we'll be getting somewhere between \$130 to \$150 at a time. Which is significant if the boat comes out twice a week we're looking at \$2,400 a month; and maybe \$20,000 a year. So it could be a big money maker for us; and it can also be a nice asset that every member can use.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated he does not recommend we make a decision today because we need to find out how much it would cost to fix the floor. As right now we do not know. We heard \$1,000 on one hand and \$4,000 on the other. But we really don't know.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust relayed perhaps someone would like to join a committee that could be working on getting estimates that can be presented at the next meeting. With the exact cost of how much it would cost to fix BZ, and a plan as to where we can store BZ, and how we can use it. And if everybody is enthusiastic about it, perhaps we can save the only flotilla-owned asset we have; and continue to use this asset.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated we were lucky enough that the hull was donated to us. And the engine and trailer was donated to us by Station. So a lot of people have been involved with making those gestures to make sure we had a boat and that we can use it.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust further stated he thinks it is a shame that we have left it to go into a fermented scenario where it is now in bad shape. I think this is unbecoming of anyone receiving a gift. And I think we should do our best to put it back to its utmost condition; and make sure that we maintain it. As we were entrusted to do so by the people who have worked hard to donate that boat to us, and the people that were in command of the bridge at the time that dedicated long hours making sure the boat had a tag and that it was seaworthy; equipping it, cleaning it, and finding a way to put equipment on it that wasn't there. This has been a lot of hours and support from our members and previous commanders. And I think we owe it to them to honor them and try to keep our asset in good condition and use it for the future. But that is just FC Pauquet de Villejust's opinion.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust opened up the floor for further discussion on the future of BZ.
- Guest and potential new member, Alexandre Sidi relayed he had 2-3 potential new members he was trying to recruit. Alex stated all 4 of them are very good at doing fiberglass work; because they do it for the University of Miami sailing team. Alex relayed he had friends who worked in the boating community who could provide a quote for the floor repairs. He further stated if they're accepted into the Auxiliary they could continue maintaining the boat in the future. He also said he could see if he could get a quote or potentially free from the Biscayne Bay Yacht Club to keep the facility there. Or he could work with the U.S. Sailing Center as well, as he has contacts in both.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

AUXFAC BRAVO ZULU (cont'd):

- DCDR/FSO-OP Freire emphasized the need to form a committee with volunteers to explore the possibilities, then present the options to the membership, and certain motions which can be clarified by the FSO-SR will need a majority vote. DCDR Freire further emphasized 14-day advanced notice would need to be given on what needs to be voted upon.
- FSO-IS Krauss asked who conducted the recent inspection of BZ. He wanted to know if it was someone who inspected boats for a living. As he recalls being told that the hull was soft in some spots. He further stated he remembers specifically being told that if we put BZ in the water it would sink. So just because it looks good doesn't mean that it's actually going to hold the boat up.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated when we looked at the hull, the hull is solid from the outside. If you put it on the water, you're not going to sink. The engines and the hull were inspected by a professional marine mechanic. We check the compression of every engine. He took a look at the hull and the floor. According to him (the marine mechanic) and those who were present (Philippe, David and Vickie), the hull seems in excellent shape. Maybe we missed stuff. It's a big hull. Maybe we missed a little point where some fiberglass repair is needed or gel coat; but overall the hull looks good. The only thing that seems problematic is the floor. We need to put new wood; and then new fiberglass on top of it.
- FSO-IS Krauss stated one of the reasons he joined 6-11 was because it had a boat. It is an object of pride and it does give us many opportunities that other flotillas don't have. He further stated he would certainly like to see it up and running. But he doesn't feel anyone should be disillusioned by the discussion about making \$130 to \$150 every time we take it out on patrol; because boats are very expensive to maintain. And BZ likely could be a drain on our flotilla and not necessarily a revenue source. So just keep in mind they are expensive. If something goes wrong with the engine you have to get it repaired. There's the constant oil and other things that have to be purchased.
- FSO-OP Freire stated FSO-IS Krauss brings up very good points. He added it takes a special kind of person to own a boat. We had a special group of people in the flotilla. He thinks we can have again a special group of people in the flotilla that will take pride in rebuilding, maintaining and operating the boat.
- FSO-OP Freire sought to clarify a statement made by FC Pauquet de Villejust that stated the boat can be used by anyone. The boat can only be used by qualified coxswains and crews in the flotilla; which we currently only have one, and that's FSO-OP Freire.
- FSO-OP Freire emphasized he is willing to work with members to become qualified. He further stated that if members do the on-the-water training and the QEs, we could easily get 4-5 people qualified this year in 6-11 alone.
- FSO-OP Freire further emphasized that in the past the program was only successful because although the boat was primarily owned by 6-11, the flotilla also entered agreements with other flotillas to leverage their crews and their coxswains to operate the boat as well. That's when a consistent cash flow was flowing into the flotilla. The purpose of this organization is not to make money, but to give back to the community. And having a search and rescue asset that can be readily available to launch; and also serve the missions that we are currently not able to serve by not having enough boats, I believe would be greatly appreciated by the community.
- FSO-OP Freire stated it's a great responsibility that the collective needs to agree they want to take on. Where are you going to store it? When you need to launch it, who's going to launch it? It requires a quarter ton or half ton truck to pull it; as the boat is 8,000 pounds. Then after the boat is used it has to be washed. Then it needs to be put back where it was found; because the boat needs to not be encrusted by salt and other things.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):**AUXFAC BRAVO ZULU (cont'd):**

- FSO-OP Freire emphasized part of what got BZ in bad shape was the lack of tender love and care that it was getting in the beginning; which it was not getting towards the end. He further emphasized that BZ needs a group of people; and the responsibility cannot be put on one person. He went on to state it ended up being only one person who had responsibility of the boat. What FSO-OP Freire remembered was at one point and time only Dan Prezebel was the Operations Officer that was dealing with it; and later he kind of gave up on dealing with it because nobody else was helping him out. The boat was launched and then nobody retrieved it. One example, it sat there at the MOC, there were a couple of storms, it flooded the boat, the boat sank at the dock, it had to be retrieved; so all those things contributed to the state that the boat is right now. So the termites are not the only reason. There were other elements that caused the boat to be in the situation in which it is.
- FSO-OP Freire relayed BZ was conceived as a result of dedication by a commanding officer of Station Miami Beach, to facilitate a series of things for the flotilla to have the boat. He facilitated engine DRMOs. He facilitated the use of the outboard shop at Sector Miami. He facilitated the painting of that hull at great risk to his own career; as he was investigated after the fact on the hull painting job. Which was above board, but there was some dubious people that raised concerns about how the painting came to be. It cost a lot of people a lot of stuff; and then it just fell to the wayside. It was just completely disregarded. FSO-OP Freire went on to say he would hate to see BZ reemerge for 6 months and then not have continued passion for it. He further emphasized it's a collective responsibility of the membership of the flotilla to make sure that that doesn't happen ever again, if you're willing to get the boat back in fully operational mode.
- FSO-VE Adams encouraged FC Pauquet de Villejust to appoint a Bravo Zulu Committee.
- **Bravo Zulu Committee appointed (*Lamery-Chairperson, Garcia-Barreras, Mendez and Pauquet de Villejust*) to work on getting estimates for repairs on BZ.**
- FSO-VE Adams also asked that the BZ Committee also bring forth the operating costs, insurance, and everything back on the report. Not just repairing the vessel; because it take more than just repairing the vessel to actually operate a vessel.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust confirmed the BZ Committee could put together a budget with maintenance, oil, storage, insurance factored in. He further confirmed the committee could put together a financial spreadsheet that shows, to the best of their knowledge, how much the maintenance would cost; which can be included in the discussion next month.
- FSO-OP Freire relayed that two-stroke oil is a reimbursable item, however, the flotilla has to front the initial cost of the oil prior to reimbursement.
- FSO-OP Freire stated at some point he'd like to know why someone had removed the facility number from the bow of BZ. He stated the boat had the etched facility numbers that was designated by the Coast Guard and somebody took it off; so it needs to be put back on. FSO-OP Freire further relayed the facility number was 230611; and it is an active military ID number for BZ.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust asked whether the etching was a specific size and type of font to put the facility number back on BZ.
- FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras confirmed the facility number was on BZ before; and that it shows on the paperwork in the permanent file for the flotilla at DIRAUX.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

AUXFAC BRAVO ZULU (cont'd):

- FSO-OP Freire confirmed BZ has an associated vinyl leather bound book that he created, that has the original certificate of documentation, the destruction of the title of the vessel, the designation of a military vessel, the assignment of a facility ID, which is nationally recognized. Two three means 23-feet and 0611 means it belongs to 6-11 as a flotilla.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust asked where he could find the leather bound book.
- FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras confirmed the book was on BZ. He stated Arnaldo had it; and he should've returned it with all the things he had in storage. He further stated it should be in the flotilla-rented storage. He says the book was on BZ but because of the termites they took it off the boat in order to save it.
- FSO-OP Freire suggested getting on a Zoom call with all the past flotilla commanders (Victor, Arnaldo, Monica Zima, Matt Paulini) and determine who remembers what so that maybe the book can be reconstructed. He further emphasized the need for handover notes from command to command. There is a book that talks about the ownership of the vessel; and the log book for the usage and maintenance of BZ. Because if one day the engines go bad, the Coast Guard will also do a catastrophic damage claim that will pay for repairing those damages; but they want to see the log book to see what happened to the boat. And now we may not have a continuation of that log book since the inception of the boat. We need to find all these documents.
- FSO-OP Freire relayed that BZ does not need a Florida or federal registration. It is designated a military vessel so it does not require that. The only thing it does require is that while it's not a facility anymore, we may have to get a temporary liability insurance for the boat; so we can move it around. While it's not a facility and it cannot be offered for use while it's not operational, we're not covered by orders and it's not covered by federal insurance.
- FSO-OP Freire stated he will offer to be a consultant but he's not able to serve on the committee. He further stated he already did it once, so now someone else needs to do it.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust asked FSO-MA Mendez to go to storage to see whether she could find the BZ book.
- FSO-MA Mendez confirmed she would go to the flotilla-rented storage to look for the BZ book.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust asked FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras to call Arnaldo Perez (former FC for 2017) to ask him if he still had the BZ book.
- FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras confirmed he could try to contact Arnaldo regarding the BZ book.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust asked both FSO-MA Mendez and FSO-HR Garcia-Barreras if they could report back to him next week on their findings.
- FSO-OP Freire stated the facility hull follows a specific set of rules on how it should be marked from a standardization manual. He further stated the color of the racing stripe, the markings, the size of the letters is all designated and specified. The numbers on the bow are one-inch blocks the same as Florida registrations. However, it's all numbers, no letters.
- FSO-OP Freire confirmed he shared the Operations Manual with FC Pauquet de Villejust. He further stated there is a whole section in that manual that addresses unit-owned assets.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

AUXFAC BRAVO ZULU (cont'd):

- FSO-OP Freire emphasized the flotilla would need to get a tag for the trailer. Someone needs to budget the cost of the tag; as well as its annual renewal. FSO-OP Freire stated the trailer previously had a Homeland Security tag on it. However, the prior two Station commands transferred the trailer to the flotilla; and since the flotilla does not have the ability to secure a Homeland Security tag, the flotilla will have to request a Florida tag to transit with the trailer on Florida roadways. He further emphasized there is a process that'll need to be followed to request a tag for a government agency; and there is a fee. FSO-OP Freire stated the flotilla would have to get the yellow tag for a government entity.
- FSO-OP Freire further emphasized someone would need to handle all of this; and that it is not an easy process. He stated it was almost a year from concept to actually putting the boat on the water.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust respectfully stated we have 46 members, 12 more in the pipeline, and we'll probably at most have close to 100 members at the end of the year. If we can't find 3 or 4 members to take care of BZ and work on it, then we are not functioning as a flotilla.
- FSO-OP Freire stated a good target would be 10 members. As at the time the boat was built, we were at 120 members; we were the largest flotilla of Miami-Dade County. FSO-OP Freire believes we really need at least 10 people to work on BZ; as the 3 members will get burned out. But if we have 10, we'll have multiple weeks of continuation that we don't have today.
- FSO-OP Freire relayed BZ will need 3 sets of crew and 3 sets of coxswains. He further relayed fortunately BZ only needs 1 coxswain and 1 crew due to its size; which was done on purpose so 3 people weren't required to operate the boat. It only needs 2.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust thanked FSO-OP Freire for the additional information on BZ. He stated he's going to try to track down the paperwork, the committee is going to work on putting together a business plan that makes sense; so everybody is aware of the pros and the cons. FC Pauquet de Villejust further stated we're going to try to get estimates so we'll have a real idea on how much it will cost to try to make BZ seaworthy. As well as how much it will cost to operate the boat. Once we have all that, we'll send it to the flotilla (2) weeks in advance. We'll put it to a vote and figure it out.
- FC Pauquet de Villejust stated it is his greatest intentions to try to provide enough enthusiasm to our members so we can keep the boat and use it as a facility because we do need one. It is a great asset to have.
- Awards Committee appointed (*Lamery-Chairperson, Krauss, Adams and Betterson*) to work on member eligible for award consideration throughout the year.

MOTION #3:

Freire introduced a motion to adjourn the 02FEB21 meeting. Motion was seconded by Adams.

2147 Meeting adjourned.

– END –



**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 6-11, Miami
Tuesday, February 2, 2021 | 1938 – 2147
Zoom Meeting | Regular Business Meeting**

MEETING ROSTER

25 Participants ▪ 17 Members ▪ 8 Guests

Member(s):

1. Nichole Betterson (BQ)
2. Felix Montes (BQ)
3. David Adams (BQ)
4. Charles Monnin (BQ)
5. Nicholas Krauss (BQ)
6. Marcelo Freire (BQ)
7. Eddie Lim (BQ)
8. Matthew Paulini (BQ)
9. Ekaterina Belyakova-Wise (BQ)
10. Thierry Pauquet De Villejust (BQ)
11. Philippe Lamery (BQ)
12. Roxana Mendez (BQ)
13. Pedro Barquin (AP)
14. Frank Singleton (BQ)
15. Victor Garcia-Barreras (BQ)
16. Victoria Aponte (AX2)
17. Wagner Canteras (BQ)

Guest(s):

1. J. Fred VerPlanck, USCG Captain (ret.)
2. Klauber Rocha
3. Ramon Sellers (on phone w/ Belyakova-Wise)
4. Laurent Nicoud
5. Ludovic Bricks
6. Alexandre Sidi
7. Alec Bollorino
8. Soniliz Espina