

DIVISION 16 MINUTES

14-January, 2012

Palm's at Pelican Cove, St Croix, USVI

transcribed by SO/SR Pamela Carpenter

10:30 Good Morning greeting made by Lee Elvins VCDR

INTRODUCTIONS:

Lt John Atkins was there to swear in new members at Change of Watch. Lee Elvins passed out copies of the agenda and also stated that the meeting was being provided "free of charge" very graciously by the Palms at Pelican Cove.

ROLL CALL:

Paul Lordi FC- St Croix Malcolm Sprauve FC- St John

Duane Minton IPDCDR-St Croix Lee Elvins VCDR-St Croix

Absent John Melucci FC-St Thomas and James CC Kreglo - DCDR St John

A quorum is present.

Minutes of October division meeting were approved, motion made by Paul Lordi accept as written, approved by Malcolm Sprauve.

DCDR REPORT: being emailed in by DCDR CC Kreglo

FC REPORT ST JOHN- FC Malcolm Sprauve (16-3)

Malcolm stated that from January 1st until December 31st 2011 St John had 12 active members and one disenrollment, 18 hours of training, Public Affairs- 4 hours, Operations-1 hour, they only have one coxswain.

They did 7 hours 4 missions, 4 vessel examinations, 735 marine dealer visits .
Specialty Courses were Communications- 1
Seamanship-3
Public Education-1
Total hours 8

Speaking for St John --Duane Minton added that St John Flotilla did 3 surface patrols in November using CC Kreglo's vessel.

FC REPORT ST CROIX- FC Paul Lordi (16-01)

Paul stated that St Croix did 2300 hours of operational support for the US Coast Guard. They had 1 new air observer. 3 bronze stars 750 hours. noted though that St Croix lapsed on Public Education. St Croix Foundation with the AED Fund gave one defibrillator with a value of \$ 2500.00 and will be on the vessels when on patrol. Paul spoke about how the defibrillator works.

FINANCE REPORT: Robert Evans SO- FN

Bob discussed figures for the year end of 2011 \$732.06 for Division 16. Stated that the report must be sent up by the end of January early February.

Discussion regarding the Telephone bill. \$400.00 receipt was requested. Do not want to pay the bill until they see the receipt. Receipt was requested from Tim Futrell and/or Innovative so the bill can be paid.

STAFF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Duane Minton reported that sadly it was his last day on the board but he was glad to say that now he gets to sit back and throw "spit balls" at Lee!!

Division Operations Officer-Duane Minton

3328 underway crew hours, saying that it was 'remarkable' how many surface patrols and air patrols that St Croix had done. There are 105 active members currently in the Division. Duane stated that "fresh new membership and fresh new leaders was needed" !

Material and Marine Safety Officers-Cheryl Boynes-Jackson and Michael Jackson

Cheryl stated that Anything needed will be ordered.....she will make it happen. They did a waterway watch program and a marine safety program last year. This position changed from Michael Jackson over to John Harrison in St Croix.

VCDR Lee Elvins made a special announcement as Kelli came into the meeting to thank Kelli Barton for being secretary for the past two years.

Human Resources-David Richardson

Duane Minton has been very busy signing up new aviation members. 9 new members added to the St Croix Flotilla. "Growth Awards" 9 members are AP in STX. 2007-2008 there was a 40 percent increase although no awards were given. These requests were sent "up the chain" yet no awards were given? Stated that now ALL security packages need to go through Duane. he is now the DDSL Direct Security Liaison. Duane stated there needs to be more fingerprint technicians. he said he had spoken to Elmo Rabsatt and David Richardson. about becoming fingerprint techs. St Thomas has a new member Penelope Carpenter.

AVIATION REPORT- Chuck Fischer AC

October through December- Doug Hansen is leaving and Chuck Fisher is taking over. 63 completed aviation missions, 159 flight hours, 118 hours,SAR missions, 2 LE missions. They located 30 " migrants on a small boat" and another vessel with "14 migrants" on board. 37 hours full missions.

Commander Denby, Doug Armstrong , Lee Bertman flew to St Croix, PR, Miami and Guantanamo Bay. Noted that Commander Denby is getting quite active with the USCGAUX.

New members are coming into the program. Feb 25 and 26 is a special Sector Meeting and the March 3 and 4 Borinquen workshops coming up. Duane Minton the Assistant Aviation Coordinator to Air Station Borinquen has signed up 9 new people from Puerto Rico to the St Croix flotilla. Duane hopes to bring in more new people to the program and replace people that have moved or lost in the system .

SURFACE OPERATIONS-16-1

Duane Minton said 809 underway crew hours, 213 Screaming Eagle and Pure Pleasure safety patrols. 57 regatta patrols. St Thomas did 27 surface missions and 2 regatta patrols. St John 3 marine safety patrols.

MEMBER TRAINING:

Bob Evans spoke about ATONS and ATON patrols. Lt Atkins mentioned there is a lot of work to be done. He is working with other agencies in the territory to get things in order. Cruz Bay and Red hook especially need to get things in order he stated. Duane Minton went to St John to teach a course on Radio Communications and an ABC class. 6 members in St Croix have been attempting to learn how to clear ships for entry into ports.

Mentioned that active duty has been short handed and the help is needed. Member training officer will make a specialty course calendar. Spoke about test proctors for St Thomas/ St John since Klaus Willems has retired.

Klaus Willems has officially retired :

"NOBODY KNOWS MORE THAN KLAUS"

VESSEL EXAMINATION REPORT:

John Melucchi sent his report for 16-2 -- 57 vessel examinations, 16-1 29 vessel examinations St john 145 for 2012, projection to go up to 250. Cheryl Boynes-Jackson discussed that the ferries not seeing the vessels (dingys) without lights as they go in and out of Cruz Bay. Mentioned about a dingy that recently got run over by water Taxi.....later noted that it was the Caneel Bay ferry. Duane suggests that division wide everyone should reach out to the local newspapers and to allow auxiliary to have a regular boating safety column. He went on to suggest the idea of using government channels to reach out to the community. He noted that community education was greatly needed.

LT John Atkins spoke about more needed boating safety and a accident where a man had to have his leg amputated due to an collision off Green Cay St Croix. He stated that VIPD noted that there are a lot of people who swim way off shore at the beaches and there is NO requirement or designation for swimmers. It is very dangerous especially for tourists who do not know the water.

Duane mentioned a SAR he did out to Virgin Gorda where someone decided to swim out to a little rock and couldn't get back. The helo was called in and had to save him! More conversation about water safety and swimming dangers in the territory.

OLD BUSINESS

Lee Elvins stated that is very important to remember

"OUR NUMBER ONE JOB IS BOATING SAFETY"

Discussions about boating safety week May 19 -26 National Safe Boating week. Lee wants each island to do something this year and he mentioned that last year the rain ruined everything!

Also inflate Your Life Jacket Nationwide Campaign and please explore the websites. lee wondered if CC's report had come in yet and mentioned again that he had not seen the telephone bill.

Lee then spoke about the fact that Division Commander James CC Kreglo had a very difficult year. Both of his parents had passed away and he also was hospitalized for serious colon surgery.

Lee thanked CC for all of his help and said how much he really appreciated the hard work and effort that CC Kreglo has put into the division.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lee made up manuals for each flotilla . Logs of how to swear in new officers and other things. Please look and note any mistakes in these manuals. There was mention of problems in St Thomas with swearing in new members.

February 4th there will be another election meeting. Lee read the different classifications. 4 basic categories. Look on the website for a new copy of the new standing rules. they need to be approved and corrections made and then voted on. Corrections made and then voted on by 2/3 of majority vote. After they are passed then they must be signed. The process may take as long as three months to do it. Chuck fisher mentioned that you need 2/3 of membership to vote on the standing rules. Cheryl spoke about new rules on the website.

Duane mentioned that District wants basic standing rules for all flotillas.....and then would be published as an addendum.

Lee said the standing rules and aux manual are critical. Spoke about unsolicited gifts and that over 50k have to be forwarded to the National Board. It was noted that Lt John Atkins gave an unsolicited gift. Authorized activities can be given orders from San Juan.

Lee thanked John Atkins for all of his assistance.

Lee spoke about how you need to be careful how you talk to people, you never know WHO may be listening. More discussion about training, administration functions, teaching and trying to coordinate boating safety efforts. trying to get more surplus government property. We received one naval government surplus boat and how Coast guard can give it to the AUX.

Code regulations says that surplus Coast Guard equipment CAN be given to the AUX. Boats, desk, laptop computers, computers, general merchandise.

Discussed the Customs & Boarder Protection had started to work on a "Flotilla Plan" . It is to establish a way to make it easier for boaters to come to the Caribbean, mostly to and from Florida. Working with CBP inter agency communication, on going from port to port throughout the Caribbean.

2011 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Duane explained that he has been doing a lot of research and that the AUX should be doing more to mentor members and instructors. he said that specifically what you need to do is ask new members "What do YOU want to do to help the auxiliary. Duane talks more about member training and the need to "reach out" to new members. He would like to see everyone work on this and to try and not lose inactive members. Each member should get a new member handbook.

Any comments: no ok

AWARDS:

Division Captain Award Alexander Hamilton Award goes to Paul Lordi for 2011. Mentioned past award recipients.

Discussion about a new award coming in the future called the "Bill Dunn Award"

SWEARING in of new officers by Lt John Atkins,
Lee Elvins DCDR, Cheryl Boynes-Jackson VCDR

John Harrison FC STX
Doug Armstrong VFC STX
Malcolm Sprauve FC STJ
Elmo Rabsatt VFC STJ

NEXT MEETING: April 21, 2012 hosted by St John Flotilla 16-3

Motion to adjourn made by Malcolm Sprauve second by Cheryl Boynes-
Jackson

Meeting adjourned at approx 12:15pm