**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

**Flotilla 07-04, San Antonio, Texas**

**Division 7, 8th Coastal Region**

**The Civilian Component of the U.S. Coast Guard**

**(Authorized by Congress in 1939)**

**Minutes**

**01 June 2019**

**Call to Order/Pledge/Attendance/Guests**

The meeting was called to order at 1400 hrs., by FC/HR: McNamara. The pledge was given; attendance was taken; guests (Viesturs Ansbergs, Jason Kardos, Bessie Souris, Geoff Souris, and Kirstiana Welch) were introduced and welcomed.

BQ = 13

AX = 1

AP = 1

IQ = 0

Pending = 0

Guest(s) = 5

Total = 20

Any classes/training taught – GAR2.0/TCT. BOSN4 Rice, Lead; Aux McNamara – Ass’t.

Any classes/training to be taught – AuxSEA [Sep19]; AuxCOM [Nov19] – BSTW.

**Old Business**

A motion to accept the minutes was made by member R. Lathrop, seconded by FSO-CM: Puharic. The April and May, 2019 minutes were approved as written. The March minutes are pending additional information and will be voted on at the next meeting.

There were twenty-eight students from six flotillas in the division (7-1, 7-2, 7-4, 7-5, 7-10, 7-11 + 6-12) that participated in the GAR2.0/TCT training, conducted at Blue Skies of Texas! Many thanks to the instructor: BOSN4 John Rice, USCG, for a job well done! We salute you!

TCO qualifications should be posted within two weeks.

Send all FSO Reports to the FC, FVC and SR, by the end of the month. Thank you!

**Reports**

CM: Puharic – Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting; received permission to start watch stander training at Port O’Connor; requested orders for watch standing from Steve Smith; participated in USCGAUX 80th anniversary celebration at Canyon Lake with wife.

CS/MS: Shapovalov – Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting; spent 2 days working in Waterway Office at Sector Corpus Christi; helped set-up & participated USCGAUX 80th anniversary celebration at Canyon Lake with family; did 6 VEs & helped Roberto Ortiz-Diaz get his VE qualification; worked as Waterway Mgmt. Assistant & State Control Examiner PQS

DV: Moore – Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting; diversity training/town hall meetings; participated in the CGAUX 80th anniversary celebration at Canyon Lake; continue to volunteer with the Alamo Area Medical Reserve Corps, as a health administrator (AAMRC).

FN: Gawron Rosario – Checking account balance=$\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*; Savings account balance=$\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

HR: McNamara – Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting. No new applications for membership; forms sent to perspective members-3 have initiated (Horton, Meil & Dibrell) but have not completed their packets; potential transfer of member from Massachusetts has been signed & is in transit to 1N DirAUX to provide to HR; he has attended meetings in Feb, Apr, May & Jun & participated in boat crew opportunity in June; applicant inquiries forwarded from SO-HR, Dennis Patterson of resident from San Antonio, Juan Garcia & S A Boat Show a second time. Information, application, welcome letter sent; they have not responded to date; current status-members=28 (Aux Directory 25 JUN 2019); no net change-BQ=24, AX=2, IQ=0, AP=2, \*Pending status change from BQ to AX-1 completed change from AP to BQ. Completed Aux-23, AuxSEA & AuxCOM requirements for AuxOP; attended ICS/G-141 in June, as prerequisite for becoming a FEMA instructor for the District (ICS-449 needs to completed, no date has been set). Participated in diversity training/town hall meetings and in CGAUX 80th anniversary celebration at Canyon Lake with husband; completed 2 VEs. Approved for Aux-12 (PA) school at NACON (Aug). NACO Diversity Award application submitted along with Moore & Shabaaz for 2018-award granted for the second year in a row.

IM: Ortiz Diaz – No report received. Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting.

IS: Gawron Rosario – Continue to log hours for Flotilla 7-4 members as they submit them; send reminders to members; will schedule review & mentoring on completion of 7029 forms.

IPFC/LP: Dittman – No report received. Attended 7-4 meeting.

MA: Mendez Rodriquez – No report received. Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting.

MT/PE: Lathrop, K – Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting; participated in USCGAUX 80th anniversary celebration at Canyon Lake; mentoring along with husband Robert, new member, Rick Harris; supervised and completed vessel exams w/Darlene Beeson who completed her certification to do do VEs at Canyon Lake; attended Division AuxPAT webinar & working with member to participate in AuxPAT training; 3 members participated in on water training; encouraged members to complete the Youth Protection Course, so that we will all be prepared when the charter process with the Sea Scout Ship 7-4 is ready.

NS: Zucker – No report received

OP: Manganiello - No report received

PA: Poppen – Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting. Worked on C-School AUX 12 pre-requisites; obtained a proclamation from the TX Governor’s and San Antonio’s Mayor’s Offices recognizing the USCGAUX and National Safe Boating Week.

PB: Poppen - Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting. Worked on C-School AUX 12 pre-requisites; gathered articles for & published flotilla newsletter and updated flotilla *Facebook* page.

PV: Rosario – Continue to seek opportunities to schedule PVs San Antonio to Kerrville; encourage members to refer interested parties to me to schedule visitations; continue to mentor members

SR: Shabaaz – Attended TCT course & 7-4 meeting. Participated in diversity training/town hall meetings; participated in the CGAUX 80th anniversary celebration at Canyon Lake; CGAUX storage area cleaning & organizing supplies; continue to take courses to reactivate APRN license (Family Practice); continue to volunteer with the Alamo Area Medical Reserve Corps as a health administrator (AAMRC).

VE: Rosario – Attended 7-4 meeting; follow-up with Guadalupe River Authority for participation in the River Clean-up; contact for members who want to participate in the booth to supply lemonade, water & fruit during the river clean-up effort; continue to mentor members.

CPR/First Aid certification cards were distributed to all who paid for the cards and completed the class. Everyone who took the classes previously received certificates. Congratulations!

Remind members to send a copy of your certificates for any courses or training to FSO-MT: Lathrop, for the USCGAUX records.

**New Business**

***Awards & Decorations:*** FSO-IM: Ortiz Diaz was recognized with two awards for participating in the USCG Public Affairs Video! Congratulations for a job well done!

***Division Report:*** IPFC/LP/Acting Div. CDR: Dittman shared the following information: 1) 01 JUN 2019 – First day of hurricane season; 2) Need to be 100% ready; 3) All members need to complete the Risk Management Course; 4) Emergency Action Plans need to be updated; 5) All members will need to take the Youth Protection Training every two years, since we will be working with the Sea Scouts; 6) Encourage recruitment

***Birthdays:*** Member Darlene Beeson was recognized for her June birthday. Happy birthday Darlene!

***Departures:*** Member Ben Feinstein is temporarily resigning from USCGAux because he is going to college in another state and time commitments in college, July 2019. He will have completed 2 year of active auxiliary service. Ben, you will be missed!! Please stay in touch!

***Illnesses:*** Members who are or were ill during Jun: (Ben, Debra, Jeanne, Nathan, and Warren) were sent get well cards. Members were encouraged to contact member Nathan, due to a prolonged recovery.

***Public Affairs:*** FSO-PA/PB: Poppen, obtained a copy of a proclamation about the USCGAUX from the Governor’s and Mayor’s Offices. He read them during the meeting. Go Russell!

There was discussion about the USCGAUX 80th Birthday Celebration. The celebration will be held on 22 JUN 2019, 0900 hours, at Canyon Lake, in Comal Park, Ramp 3 (GPS states that it is Ramp 4). Members and guests are welcome to participate. The uniform of the day will be ODUs or the summer ODUs. Everyone should bring breakfast foods. Contact Kristin Shapovalov, to let her know what you will bring for the breakfast. After breakfast and fellowship, vessels exams will be conducted, public education information will be distributed, and recruiting will be done. Games will be available for the children. The Sea Scouts will join Flotilla 7-4 for the celebration.

***Sea Scouts:*** All Flotilla 7-4 members are encouraged to take the “Youth Protection Training” course, in order to be able to work with the Sea Scouts. The course is offered online, takes approximately two hours, and is mandatory. 5 scouts and 2 leaders participated in the day at Canyon Lake. They learned about VEs and distributed water as a PA outreach.

***Diversity:*** An application for the “NACO Three Star Award for Excellence in Diversity” was submitted in May, 2019. An announcement will be made if our flotilla receives the award for 2018. If we receive the award, it will be the second consecutive year, in the fifty - three years for our flotilla!

***VEs:*** FSO-PV/VE: Rosario informed the members about an opportunity in Kerrville, through the Upper River Authority. It was suggested that Flotilla 7-4 members set up a booth to serve lemonade, water and fruit, during the clean up activity on the Guadalupe River. This effort would help keep all the volunteers hydrated during this much needed activity. This opportunity would also be used for advertising, public education, and vessel exams. There was discussion about river clean up initiative, 27 JUL 2019, in Kerrville. The event would be from 1000 - 1200 hours. Group participation will be confirmed by the end of June and members will be notified via email. Thank you for your support!

***HR:***  Security background checks are now being done annually on all auxiliary members.

***Admin:*** There was discussion about considering changing the meeting day to the second Saturday of each month in 2020. This would avoid holidays and conflicting activities that occur on the first Saturday of each month, i.e. 4th of July and Labor Day. A motion was made to change the Flotilla 7-4 monthly meeting day to the second Saturday of each month, starting in January 2020, by IPFC/LP: Dittman, seconded by member Darlene Beeson, and by majority vote, the meeting day was changed.

There was discussion about having some future electronic meetings. Some electronic visual meetings might be possible. If the members choose to conduct electronic meetings, the standing rules will need to be changed. Elections for FC and VFC cannot be done electronically without clearance from DirAUX.

***Elections:*** Elections for FC and VFC will be held in November 2019. Anyone interested in running for office, must submit all necessary paperwork by September 2019. Prerequisite courses include: Introduction to Risk Management and 1 Leadership Course: APC, FLC, AUXLAM – A & B (not necessary to take in sequence), and/or BQCII.

***Silver Oar Update:*** There was a discussion about the requirements for Silver Oar Award and different individual awards. All are encouraged to participate in as many activities that a person’s schedule allows in order to achieve this award for the flotilla. There are 9 qualification categories. 5 must be achieved at a rate of 100% or better to earn the award. In 2018, we only broke 100% in 1 category.

***Upcoming Training:*** The next AUX Seamanship, two-day class will be held on 7 & 8 SEP 2019. The flotilla meeting will be held from 1130 - 1300 hours during the class lunch break on Saturday, 7 SEP.

**Announcements/Comments/Q & A**

Jason Kardos is now a member of Flotilla 7-1, in Corpus Christi! Also, Jason got married! Congratulations Jason!! What a wonderful year of special accomplishments and memories for you!!!

FC/HR: McNamara will be at the AIM Program, for the USCG Academy. If you need uniforms, call and give her your size, so that she can purchase them at half price, while she is in Connecticut.

**Next Meeting**

**There will not be a meeting in July, due to meeting twice in June and the numerous PA, VE and On-the-Water events scheduled for July.**

The next Flotilla 7-4 meeting will be held at BST-W, Saturday, 03 AUG 2019, at 1000 hours. After the meeting all members, their families and guests will meet at the gazebo for a picnic lunch, fishing, games, door prizes & swimming (at the indoor pool)! Plan to come enjoy the day with us!

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by FSO-PA/PB: Poppen and seconded by FSO-MT: Lathrop. The meeting was adjourned at 1430 hours.

Ahia Shabaaz

FSO-SR: Shabaaz