Minutes of the March 3, 2020, Flotilla Meeting –

Meeting called to order at 18:35 by FC Jim Frick.

New member Scott Basel welcomed. He is a transfer from East Lansing and is interested in aviation.

Guest Rachel Sherman was introduced by Dianne Walker. She worked on helicopters in the Marine Corp.

Minutes of the January 7 meeting were approved by voice vote.

FN – Dick Lavanture - $7756.01 as of 1/1/2020. We paid dues to District and bought books for ABS class. Present balance $6088.21. Finance report accepted by voice vote.

Long time Flotilla members Donna Daciuk and Larry Kidd attended and were honored. Each has more than 35 years of service in the Auxiliary.

Dan Kolhagen is District Officer for Public Education and Linda Kolhagen is District Officer for Public Affairs.

A Meritorious Team Commendation is awarded to the Coast Guard, including the Auxiliary, for support during last year’s Cherry Festival. The Auxiliary efforts are recognized in the Award and many members of our Flotilla were specifically recognized for our participation.

There will be a uniform Inspection at the next meeting. The alternative was a program about uniforms. The inspection was deemed preferable.

AV Dave Montgomery – Ten Aux missions were flown for ASTC in February, five by 9West and five by 9Central.

AOM ends March 31. All mission orders must be completed in OAM and approved by that time or they will disappear.

Dave Montgomery – We are working to establish a mobile communications unit to assist the Coast Guard. On Saturday, March 28, the first of three training sessions will be held at Gaylord Airport at 10:00. Expect to be done by 13:00. Contact Dave for more information and to participate.

HR – Jim Frick for Joe Cruzen – Working on one new member.

IS – Kathy Fix – Discussed upcoming changes in recording and entering time on Form 7029. A new system will be rolled out next month.

OPS – Mike Harbin – Met with Chief Collison Station Charlevoix. Sta. Charlevoix is understaffed and needs our help, especially with airshows and events. Chief is considering the Coast Guard getting out of these events altogether. They are time consuming. Requests the Auxiliary take on more of these responsibilities. Chief Collison also wants us more involved in SAR activities. Looking at scheduling surface patrols for times when likelihood of SAR cases is greatest.

Boat School will be June 5 – 7 at Sta. Charlevoix.

Chief Collison needs our support for Cherry Festival. The Air Show is July 4 and 5 and practice is July 2 and 3. The Festival is July 3 – 11 with fireworks July 4 and 11. He offered the Auxiliary could join Station Charlevoix with a boat on a trailer in the parade July 11.

NS – Jim Frick – Planning ATON verification activities for this year. If you can help, it requires an afternoon of training.

Boat Show this coming weekend at the Civic Center. Need help staffing a table Friday evening through Sunday. Contact Linda Kolhagen.

Linda Kolhagen – The Pit Spitters may allow an Auxiliary tent and table at some games. May do Friday Night Live again this year and Boats on the Boardwalk (if it happens).

PE – Dianne Walker – Handed out a schedule of upcoming classes – ABS, Knots and Radio, Navigation, GPS, and Marine Weather.

PV – Mike English – We have three Visitors. Need more to cover the area.

VE – Dan Kolhagen – June 6 and Father’s Day events are on the schedule to offer Vessel Exams. Need more Vessel Examiners.

If you would like a weather radio, contact Kathy Fix by letter or email. The first five requests will be honored.

Mike Harbin is looking into grants. May use to buy Ipads for GPS classes or to equip a communications trailer. Looking into other needs.

Kathy Fix and Dave Montgomery are now CTC Trainers.

Contact information for the company that made our T shirts is on the Flotilla website.

Mike Harbin – Chief Collison offered to assist with Auxiliary recruiting possibly by bringing a Coast Guard boat to the Maritime Academy for an open house. Or Elmwood Marina.

There are five FAA certified drone operators in our Flotilla per Jim Frick. It is an easy certification to receive if you are already a pilot.

Meeting adjourned 20:19.

Respectfully Submitted, Tom Power