

**SURFACE NAVY ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES (Draft)
21 July 2004**

OFFICERS

VADM L Gunn, USN (Ret), *President*
CAPT D. Lee, USN (Ret), *Secretary*
VADM H Giffin, USN (Ret), *East Coast VP (via phone)*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CAPT R. Rushton, USN	RADM S Locklear, USN
CAPT R Ingram, USN	VADM D Robinson, USN (Ret)
VADM D. Katz, USN (Ret)	CAPT F Lugo, USN (Ret)
CAPT P. Rinn, USN (Ret)	CAPT R Jenkins, USN (Ret)
RADM D. Conley, USN (Ret)	
CAPT B. Erickson, USN (Ret), <i>Executive Director</i>	Ms. Julie Howard, <i>Staff</i>

The meeting was called to order at 1715.

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

The minutes were distributed electronically and were approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT REPORT

An email has been prepared that will go out under ADM Hogg's signature to all Board of Director members asking them to identify areas that they can specifically help the Association. Examples include chapter support, recruitment within a members region, ROTC, etc. Admiral Hogg had hoped to attend this meeting. He still hopes to attend an ExCom meeting when his schedule permits.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

We have 56 corporate sponsors. We also have interest from other companies which will be exhibiting at the West Coast symposium. 2004 corporate income is budgeted at \$148,000 with current projections at \$152,000.

Jim Brooke is doing very well after his surgery and is resting comfortably at home.

Remodeling of the David Taylor Model Basin at the Washington Naval Yard has been completed and the building has been accepted by the Navy Museum/Navy Historical Foundation for use as a museum with a focus on the Cold War Era. RADM Toole has been asked to be the SNA liaison along with a representative from the Navy Submarine League and the Association of Naval Aviation to provide technical expertise. We intend to use *Surface Sitrep* to request assistance from our members for areas requiring specific help. Concept is to foster walking access from waterfront in the Anacostia area and hopefully this will increase attendance to the museum.

This is the first year that SNA has presented an award at the Navy War College. This year's recipient is COL David C. Fuquea, USMC who is now the Deputy Commandant at USNA. We have asked if we could publish the article in a future issue of the SITREP and he has indicated he will send us a copy. If/when we publish the article VADM Gunn will send a copy with a letter to the Superintendent.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

At direction of the ExCom, a committee was established to examine the nominating process for Board

Members and to examine potential changes to the term length. The committee looked at two questions:

- 1 Do members serve too long? Currently, a Board Member can serve two consecutive four year terms
- 2 Does the make up of the Board fairly represent the demographics of our membership?

On term length, three proposals were put forward:

- 3 3+3 (Committee Comment: better but still too long)
- 4 3+2 (Committee Comment: allows for easier alignment with active duty assignments)
- 5 3+1 (Committee Comment: 3 year tour and allow for an additional year by invitation of the Chairman. This proposal had committee consensus)

The Committee also discussed the demographics of the Board (Active/Retired, Officer/Enlisted, Reserve and Coast Guard representation). It was recommended that the Force Master Chiefs for the Surface Force Atlantic and Surface Force Pacific should be automatic members of the board while serving in the position. Another issue that was considered is the role of committee chairs. It was decided that more clarification is needed on the role of committee chairs' roles in relation to the BOD/ExCom.

The Committee recommended that at the start of the nomination process, the ExCom provide a demographic goal for the coming year based on departing members and the current demographics of association. The Nominating Committee will then solicit nominations as usual from the membership but will also put a special request to Chapter Presidents to nominate individuals they think would make good Board Members.

The Ballot would be re-structured with nominees placed in a category. Members would vote by category.

To make all of this happen, a transition plan needs to be developed.

Even though ExCom has power to make these changes it is worthwhile getting BOD input before January.

ExCom Discussion:

- 1 Terms of Board Members. A motion was made to accept the 3+1 proposal. It was discussed as to why have the extra year and it was proposed that the extra year should be an exception rather than norm. An amendment was proposed to add wording that 1 year extension is exception rather than norm. Also, the motion was modified to reflect a three year hiatus before being eligible for re-election. Motion accepted unanimously.
- 2 Representation on Board. Board composition could change as membership demographics change so membership demographics would be considered on an annual basis. Motion was made to take this forward to the Board. Flexibility is good. Thought was to steer direction of BOD by having categories to pick from. We should consider having an At-Large category so that a percentage of them are open. Nominating Committee must take on challenge to get good candidates. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3 Force Master Chiefs be members of BOD while serving in that billet. A motion was made proposing that the Force Master Chiefs for the Surface Force Atlantic and Surface Force Pacific be automatic members of the Board while serving in the position. Questions raised: What if it extends beyond 3 years? Would they be additives to the numbers that we have or take away from those slots? What is motivation to include this or to have them on the marquee of the association? Typically want a volunteer on BOD as they have an interest where as an assignment position is already busy. Community at waterfront in Norfolk is now responsible for professional associations. Hopefully in San Diego this will also be the case. There is a lot they can do for us. Motion was accepted unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

No categories have over-expended yet. With the Symposium revenue coming in higher than what budgeted, the Association's financial health is very good.

Treasurer would like some guidance on what he can sign for without coming to ExCom for approval and has asked for a reaffirmation that he can spend within a line item up to the budgeted amount. Any item requiring visibility will be brought to the ExCom. As a matter of policy, only the Treasurer and President can sign checks. The Executive Director only gives advice and history. Without exception the above policy was accepted.

Newport Sailing Regatta. Chapter is asking for \$3,000 from SNA to support event. This is not only a fun day but also a membership drive. We do have money to support it and they do have an entry fee. The Chapter is expecting 21 boats to participate with more than 70 competitors. Potential members are expected to come from SWOS, the Senior Enlisted Academy, and the Naval War College. A large number of SNA members have signed up for the event. A motion was made to allocate \$3,000 to support the event. Motion carried unanimously.

SYMPOSIUM REPORT

The West Coast Symposiums (San Diego and Monterey) are next week and each have a strong program of events. National will have a presence at both events. In San Diego, we will be doing more than just registration as we have 10 companies who will participate. The detailers are also expected to be there.

National Symposium. No invitations have been extended. However, it is hoped that this is the final planning session with the ExCom so that we can move forward. Theme is "Surface Navy Contribution: Sea Shield and Seabasing." The proposed agenda was reviewed with the following recommended changes proposed:

- Change Tuesday 1545 session to "Surface Navy Requirements for Sea Shield" and just have RADM Mark Edwards as speaker.
- Change Wednesday 1545 session on "Total Ship Training System" to "World Class M&S: Modeling the Sea Base."
- Change the "Naval Heritage Lecture" to the "Surface Navy Heritage Lecture."
- Add PEO IWS to the Thursday 0915 session.
- Missile defense rep is RADM Hicks
- We need to advertise the Board of Director's Meeting as open to the general membership.

Typically the sessions have been report cards. This year we would like to get the speakers to focus on forwarding thinking. Letter to invite speakers should explicitly task them with what we want. In November VADM Gunn should call and then reinforce what message we want to get from them.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Committee Chairman provided a status report on the Association's annual awards. Messages are drafted and hope to get them out in August. The George Sirian Award will be presented August 26th onboard the USS Constitution. An "Old Tar" selection process has commenced as Force Master Chief Heffernan retires in October. A NAVADMIN message has been prepared for release by the DNS.

Decaüter Award. SNA recognized 266 NJROTC schools. For the Junior Award, SNA now presents a coin but it is not really what students would like to have. They prefer something they can display on their uniform such as a medal or a ribbon. The cost is

approximately \$2 per item more. It is likely this course will be pursued by the Awards Committee.

Hall of Fame. Some of long standing committee members want to have a permanent location either in Newport or Norfolk. The Committee is looking at locations for this. A recommendation is "On hold" unless the ExCom says otherwise. A request was also made of the ExCom to identify potential inductees for future Hall of Fames.

Original theme for Special Recognition was Evacuation of the Chinese Nationalists from the Taychen Island. A change has been proposed to recognize the Battle for Leyte Gulf as it is the 60th anniversary of the action. The committee intends to extend an invitation to members from each of the 4 ships. We could also have this as the theme for the Heritage Lecture. This action will be coordinated with the Heritage Committee.

NROTC Award for Distinguished Graduates. Navy League doesn't really do anything. A few local SNA chapters take this on but nothing is done nationally. This still leaves about 25 units that don't have coverage. Reviewed proposal from last month and would like to renew motion to have this award as a temporary award for a three-year trial period. Motion made that we set aside \$3,000 per year and make swords available for the DV candidate that selects Surface Warfare. Motion carried unanimously. Need to also look at what is done at the Academy in Annapolis.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Hanging steady but need to do more still to get Enlisted, etc. Most areas are doing well. Two of our larger chapters have been slipping in overall membership. Efforts have been undertaken to revitalize.

Looking at proposing a life member pin for our life members and thought that this might be a great idea.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Working to get press out for the West Coast Symposiums.

HERITAGE REPORT

Next meeting date. Some time in early September.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned.