

**Surface Navy Association  
Executive Committee Minutes (Draft)  
October 22, 2009**

**In Attendance:**

VADM Ron Route, USN (Ret) President  
CAPT David Lee, USN (Ret)  
CAPT Jim Tackett, USN (Ret)  
VADM Tim LaFleur, USN (Ret) (By Phone)  
VADM Kevin Green, USN (Ret)  
RADM Jay Foley, USN (Ret)  
VADM Bill Earner, USN (Ret)  
VADM Doug Katz, USN (Ret)  
RADM David Hart, USN (Ret)  
RADM John Tozzi, USCG (Ret)  
CDR David Bretz, USN  
CAPT Bill Erickson, USN (Ret) Executive Director  
Ms. Julie Howard, Director of Administration (By Phone)  
Ms. Debbie Garry, SNA Staff

Meeting was called to order at 1704. Minutes from September 16, 2009 EXCOM meeting were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Draft minutes and status of action items from National Symposium are posted on BOD website. Admiral Hogg has requested that same format for BOD meeting and General Membership meeting be used at 2010 National Symposium.

The Hall of Fame commercial spots were submitted to AFN and approval is pending.

The *USS Wayne E. Meyer* commissioning was well attended. SNA Philadelphia Chapter President, Admiral Joe Hare, presented a check to ship's MWR fund on behalf of SNA.

At the request of some members of the EXCOM, it was decided at the previous meeting to reopen the issue of SNA funding of Ship Commissionings. Prior to any discussion the minutes from the July 2009 meeting were reviewed. Minutes stated that SNA National will consider donating to a Ship Commissioning on a case-by-case basis and that requests should be from a Navy League Chapter or from a local SNA Chapter. SNA National contribution would not exceed \$1,500 per Ship Commissioning and actual amount will be based on an assessment of the request. Contribution would be made to the Ship's Welfare and Recreation Fund and there would be an acknowledgement of SNA's contribution at the Ship's Pre-commissioning Reception and in official program. SNA National would no longer provide funds to a local Navy League Chapter from the Antietam Fund to support a ship commissioning. EXCOM members had been asked to

send comments to Dave Lee regarding the program and their comments were presented to EXCOM. Comments received were that SNA should provide funding for all commissionings, not require a “request for funding”, include amphibious ships even if commanded by Aviation Warfare Officer and include Coast Guard ships. Consider giving SWO and ESWS plaques, a supply of pins in lieu of money or provide funding designated for pins. Provide the funding with no restrictions attached.

Proposal to include all ships with 2 plaques and \$500 for pins would most likely cost between \$5K and \$7K per year. Some EXCOM members recommended giving the ship the pins instead of monetary contribution. Consensus was to give the funds with recommendation on how contribution should be used. Admiral Hare had been contacted about SNA making donation and feels that it is within SNA’s charter to do this.

***Action Item: Dave Lee to make suggested guideline changes and email to EXCOM members for vote.***

***Action Item: SNA staff to research plaque costs.***

## **CORPORATE SPONSOR REPORT**

We currently have 69 Corporate Sponsors. Cobham PLC and Sensis Corporation have both submitted applications and payments are pending. On track for 2009 corporate payments. All invoices for the year have been sent.

## **SECRETARY REPORT**

The deadline for Board of Director nominations was September 30. We have received 21 nominations and we have reviewed the expiring terms list. A proposed ballot structure was presented with recommended categories. EXCOM approved ballot. Voting will be open from November 1 – 30, 2009. Result validation to be completed by December 15.

## **TREASURER REPORT**

Reviewed current finance report. Reviewed recent chapter disbursements. Reviewed investments.

Individual membership dues are down and may not meet budgeted goal for 2009. This could be attributed to the half price promotion. Indications are that SNA soon could be sending out more money in dues sharing than actually receiving in dues. Members who received complimentary memberships are counted in dues sharing. Contract support line will come to budget by end of year. SNA budget is currently in the black and the expectation is that we will close the year out in the black.

***Action Item: The Treasurer will show gains/losses of investments on a quarterly basis.***

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

No Report.

## **SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE**

Reviewed status of schedule and speakers. SNA will go live with agenda and registration on November 1. Admiral Hart will meet with RADM Pandolfe and RDML (Sel) Phillips regarding N86 role in Symposium.

## **AWARDS COMMITTEE**

Special Recognition names have been sent to N86 for endorsement.

Currently working on speakers and have several leads for speaker(s) for the Heritage theme, Battle of Inchon.

Old Tar award presented in Hampton Roads on October 21. At same luncheon, the 2009 Arleigh Burke award was officially presented to an awardee who had been unable to attend the 2009 National Symposium.

Nominations for Burke, Zumwalt and Photo awards are being received. Nomination deadline for all 3 awards is November 2, 2009.

## **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Need to consider options to cast net more widely among SNA membership for applications. Recommend start earlier with PR about scholarship program. Advertise at National Symposium, Symposium SITREP issue, etc. **Action Item: EXCOM members to send ideas to Admiral Gunn.**

Reviewed corporate initiative proposal. Program would be for 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> year scholarship recipients with 3.0 GPA and a scientific/engineering major. Recipients would receive summer internship. Letters have been sent to corporate sponsors to determine interest in program and Bill Hancock has started to contact corporate sponsor POCs. Many have expressed broad interest. **Action Item: Letters to be sent to scholarship recipients to gauge their interest in program.**

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

The total current membership as of September 31 is 6734. Total paid members are 4998. Reviewed numbers from December 2008 – September 2009. Numbers are down slightly but participation is positive. Numbers should increase around National Symposium.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT**

Communications Forum will be held on November 12 at the Army-Navy Country Club in Arlington. Event is open only to media, active duty and corporate sponsors. Reviewed agenda. Message has been sent to corporate POCs.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT**

Great Lakes Hall of Fame display proposal has been sent to museum. Approval pending.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The next EXCOM meeting will be held the week of November 16. Details will be emailed.

Meeting adjourned.