

**Surface Navy Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes (Draft)
December 8, 2010**

In attendance:

VADM Ron Route, USN (Ret), President
CAPT Dave Lee, USN (Ret), Secretary
CAPT Jim Tackett, USN (Ret) Treasurer
VADM Hank Giffin, USN (Ret) *(Phone)*
RADM Dennis Conley, USN (Ret)
VADM Bill Earner, USN (Ret)
VADM Lee Gunn, USN (Ret)
RADM David Hart, USN (Ret)
CAPT Paul Rinn, USN (Ret)
CAPT Jon Kaufmann, USN
CAPT Kim Parker, USN *(Phone)*
VADM Doug Katz, USN (Ret)
RADM John Tozzi, USCG (Ret)
CDR John Wilshusen, USN
CAPT Bill Erickson, USN (Ret), Executive Director
Ms Julie Howard, Director of Admin *(Phone)*
Ms. Debbie Garry, SNA Staff

The meeting was called to order at 1704.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A motion was made and carried unanimously to accept minutes from the October 19, 2010 meeting.

Admiral Route thanked all the committees for the tremendous amount of work that had been done since the October meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

SNA Executive Director met with the Board of Directors of the SNA Greater Washington Chapter on December 1 to discuss the recommended changes to the financial relationship between National and GWC. GWC wanted to make sure the changes did not negatively impact the following: : maintain a balanced chapter budget, preserve the GWC financial corpus and preserve tasking support from Howard Associates.

Reviewed the current financial arrangement: GWC receives 10% of Symposium profit and receives quarterly dues sharing but no additional funding from National. The chapter also gives back \$16K to the National scholarship fund out of the Symposium profit they receive. In the past, GWC provided onsite support at the National Symposium but these duties have been absorbed into the HA contract.

Reviewed the proposed financial arrangement. GWC would be treated like all other SNA chapters and would receive no Symposium profit, would continue to receive quarterly dues and could request funds from National for special events. The scholarship donation of \$16K would be eliminated and National would fund the HA contract. National would also pay the tax preparation fee starting with the 2011 tax year. This proposal would create only a \$2400 shortfall in the current GWC budget which could be offset by fund requests to National. This

arrangement would eventually reduce tax filing requirement, reduce chapter fiduciary responsibility and eliminate other chapters questioning "special treatment" of GWC.

GWC requested that SNA have a MOU drafted by HA to be reviewed by Admiral Hare to cover GWC duties until the next National contract between HA and SNA is signed. EXCOM approved the execution of a MOA.

The new financial arrangement has been approved and will go into effect on January 1, 2011.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The meeting scheduled for the 2011 Symposium was reviewed:

- 10 January BOD Meeting
- 11 January General Membership Meeting
- 14 January Chapter Presidents Breakfast

Agendas are being prepared for the meetings listed above. Newly elected Board Members are being invited to attend the January 10 board meeting. Funding will be provided as needed.

Executive Director will work with Committee Chairs on Goals, Objectives and Program items for the 2011 Board meeting agenda.

The USNA YP Squadron Change of Command ceremony is scheduled for December 13 and Admiral Katz has agreed to be the SNA representative at the event.

CORPORATE MEMBER REPORT

SNA currently has 79 corporate members. Kilgore Flares Co LLC and Aydin Displays Inc have recently joined as corporate members. We should exceed our proposed income for corporate membership dues for 2010.

SECRETARY REPORT

The timeline for BOD election was reviewed. Voting was open online from November 1-30 and required a minimum of 10% of SNA qualifying membership to respond. Over 10% of SNA members voted and the final results were presented to EXCOM for approval. It was noted that vote tallies were not for publication. The EXCOM validated the results and the new board members will be contacted and invited to attend the National Symposium. Executive Director requested permission to invite 2 of the new members, LT Robert McFall and LT Sarah Petit, to serve on the Midshipmen panel. EXCOM approved.

TREASURER REPORT

Corporate membership dues are expected to exceed budgeted income for 2010. Financial reports were reviewed. Currently in the black for about \$42K. Reviewed chapter disbursements and to date over \$100K has been distributed to chapters in 2010.

The 2011 budget will be presented at the January EXCOM.

Removing or lowering the amount budgeted for ship commissionings on the 2011 budget was discussed. EXCOM would like to review past minutes to confirm what EXCOM had previously approved before making final decision. This was tabled until the January EXCOM meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

After reviewing the current SNA Certificates of Deposits it is recommended to renew as is.

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

Reviewed the 2011 agenda and speakers. Speaker invites have been sent and SNA is in good shape on responses to date. The CNO has accepted to be the banquet speaker. SNA is inviting Senator Wicker to be the Capitol Hill representative at the Symposium.

Admiral Hart will need volunteers to serve as emcees and hosts. He will email EXCOM members the specifics and review at next ExCom.

Exhibit space is currently sold out and a wait list is in process.

The 2011 Spouse program has been finalized and registration to open on December 9. Thanks to Mrs Route we have secured Mrs. Deborah Mullen as the speaker at a brunch on Wednesday and this will be followed by a tour of the CIA for up to 30 participants.

SWONET will provide coverage of the 2011 event. Live streams will be aired of the JO panel, interviews and portions of the banquet. The rest of the seminar presentations will be broadcast the next day .

The Coast Guard events to be held during the Symposium were reviewed. Admiral Papp will meet with attendees after the Coast Guard Update session on Wednesday but will only accept questions from Active Duty. There is also a Cutterman's Call on Thursday.

Action Item: Request USCG POC to advertise events to USCG.

Action Item: Send out an email to SNA members highlighting the Coast Guard events.

Discussed the value of having an Editors luncheon the week prior to the Symposium. Admiral Hart and Julie Howard do not feel we get much of a return on our investment with this luncheon. Suggested moving the event to the week of Symposium and invite reporters in addition to editors to attend. CHINFO is ready to work with us this year.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Captain Rinn reviewed the 2011 Special Recognition names selected by the Awards Committee and approved by the EXCOM: BM1 John Nugent and CAPT Ed Hebert. Both have been notified by SNA of the award and invited to attend the Symposium.

A slate of 42 nominations was received for the Admiral Zumwalt Award for Visionary Leadership. The names and bios of the winners selected by the Awards Committee were presented for EXCOM approval. LT David LaFavor, USS MOMSEN and GSM1 Chandardatt Ramlakhan, USS O'KANE were approved by EXCOM.

A slate of 24 nominations was received for the Arleigh Burke Operational Award. Paul Rinn presented names and bios of those selected by the Awards Committee. BM1 Anthony Osbourne, USS ELDRD; FC1 Vito Scardetta, USS MILIUS; LT Kurt Albaugh, USS CARNEY; LCDR Micaela Golding, USS CHANCELLORSVILLE were approved by the EXCOM.

Once again SNA received high quality photo submissions for the CAPT Raymond Komorowski Photo Award. Winning photos selected by the Awards Committee were presented. All photos were reviewed for safety violations by the Committee. First place – CAPT Robert Lang; Second Place – LT Adam Borsman; Third Place - ETC (SW) Craig Stommel; and Honorable Mention -

ETC (SW) Craig Stommel; Honorable Mention - LT K. Madison Carter were approved by EXCOM.

The Literary Award winners selected by the Awards Committee were First Place, CAPT Kevin Eyer, USN (Ret); Second Place, George V. Galdorisi & Scott C. Truver; Third Place, LCDR Benjamin Armstrong, USN. All were approved by the EXCOM

Hospital Corpsman Award winners are HM1 (SW/FMF) Marty L. Golightly, USS PRINCETON (CG 59) and HM1 (SW) Mervin P. Santos, USS WINSTON CHURCHILL (DDG 81). Approved by EXCOM

Shiphandler Award winner is LTJG Billy Griffin, USS PELELIU and the runner up is LTJG Chris Peters, USS MASON. Approved by EXCOM

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

At the October EXCOM meeting it was recommended that the Scholarship Committee meet with the Treasurer and Finance Chairman to discuss future of scholarship program finances. In 2005, SNA started to increase the number of new scholarships awarded each year but did not bring in new funding. A meeting was held on November 18 as requested.

The attendees at the meeting proposed the following:

1. Award 65 New Scholarships in 2011
 - 50 Renewals
 - 15 New Scholarships
2. Determine Number of Scholarships for 2012 in December 2011 after evaluation of Fund Raising Efforts in 2011
 - Corporate Donations
 - Individual Donations
3. Conduct an Analysis of Scholarship Funding in Relation to Other SNA Programs

The group felt that awarding 15 new in 2011 will be consistent with the number of new scholarships awarded over the past few years. SNA will seek corporate and individual donations to replenish the scholarship fund. At the end of 2011, SNA will review fundraising results and make a decision on how many new scholarships to award in 2012. The current chart shows a maximum of 10 new scholarships to be awarded starting in 2012, finances permitting. If funding allows, more new scholarships could be given based on that report. EXCOM approved that 15 new scholarships would be awarded in 2011 then a maximum of 10 new per year unless finances allow for more. **Action Item: Treasurer and Executive Director will conduct an analysis to present to EXCOM at the Spring (March/April) meeting.**

A draft precept letter for 2011 was presented to EXCOM. Draft included 2 changes in Paragraph C.

Paragraph C: Please take extra care to evaluate the records of applicants with Enlisted sponsors among the four principal candidate groups: dependent high school graduating seniors, students with one or more years of college or university attendance, active duty members, and spouses.

Recommended that Paragraph C be rewritten so that purpose is clearer.

A new precept letter will be written each year. The precept letter was approved by EXCOM with changes to Paragraph C as noted above.

Scholarship Committee is still reviewing possible options of a merge with Anchors Scholarship. These options could be factored into future scholarship finance decisions. Final recommendation on merge to be presented at 2011 January Board meeting.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Membership statistics and trends, as of November 30, were reviewed. Reviewed Enlisted and Officer trends. Numbers of paid memberships has slightly increased since beginning of the year.

The Membership Committee met on November 9 to select the Chapter Excellence winners for 2010. Each committee member was asked to rank the applications submitted and to provide rationale for votes. Received tremendous inputs from chapters outlining their outreach programs, events, charity work, etc. Selection is based on programs that support the SNA mission and not recruiting/retention numbers. The Committee requested that the EXCOM approve awarding the Excellence Award to six chapters. Admiral Conley reviewed the current award criteria instruction and the proposed instruction change. Recommended that the purpose and selection section of instruction be updated removing any numerical quota. This recommendation has been endorsed by the Awards Committee. EXCOM Approved.

The 2010 Chapter Excellence Award will be awarded to Hampton Roads, San Diego, Pearl Harbor, Newport, Mid-South and New London. EXCOM Approved.

The format for the 2011 Chapter Presidents Breakfast is being changed. Will select a few chapters to present specific programs they have developed instead of full presentations from all chapters. Questions and discussion topics will be solicited from Chapter Presidents in advance of the breakfast.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Date for 2011 Maritime Security Forum is being researched.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Propose January 5 for the next EXCOM meeting.

Meeting adjourned