

**Surface Navy Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes (Draft)
March 8, 2012**

IN ATTENDANCE

VADM Admiral Route, USN (Ret)
CAPT Dave Lee, USN (Ret)
VADM Hank Giffin, USN (Ret) *(via phone)*
VADM Bill Earner, USN (Ret)
LT Rob McFall, USN (Ret)
RADM Robert Reilly, USN (Ret) *(via phone)*
CAPT Paul Rinn, USN (Ret)
RADM Dennis Conley, USN (Ret)
RADM John Tozzi, USCG (Ret)
RDML Mike Mahon, USN (Ret)
CAPT Mark Sedlacek, USN (Ret)
CAPT Matt Sharpe, USN *(via phone)*
CNOCM(SW) Harry Kantrovich
HMCS Brian Hock, USN *(via phone)*
CAPT Bill Erickson, USN (Ret)
Julie Howard *(via phone)*
Debbie Garry

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The meeting was called to order by the President at 1710. Admiral Route welcomed all attendees to the meeting. The minutes from the 5 January 2012 Executive Committee Meeting were approved with no changes. Admiral Route thanked the Greater Washington Chapter for hosting the recent Dining Out.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The Executive Director announced that VSE is in the process of moving to their new office building and that SNA must vacate their office NLT April 30, 2013. The new VSE offices are not suitable for SNA's needs and would be double the rent/fees from what is currently being paid. Julie Howard is working on a plan to try and maintain the IT contract with VSE.

SNA has received and started to distribute copies of the Civil War video. To date, 250 copies have been provided to the Hampton Roads Naval Museum and a video is being included in the Stephen Decatur award package shipped to NJROTC units. BOD members and Chapter Presidents were also provided copies at the January Symposium.

The Hampton Roads Chapter recently submitted a proposal to distribute Surface Warrior yard signs displaying the SWO/ESWS pins for chapters and members to display in their yards, etc. The Hampton Roads Chapter would take the lead on the design process. SNA National sent out a survey to approximately 4500 members to gauge interest in this project and to ask if members would be willing to pay for a sign. SNA received 240 responses which were mostly positive especially in the retired military demographic and most were willing to pay a minimal cost. Matthew Sharpe said that Hampton Roads Chapter is proceeding with an order for their area. Once the process is established, he will provide details to National on how other chapters may place orders for their area.

The Executive Director discussed the upcoming OPNAV Realignment that would go into effect on March 12. This information is For Official Use Only.

The Naval Historical Foundation (NHF) has requested that SNA provide \$50K in support for surface navy-related projects at the Navy Museum's Cold War Gallery. Of that amount, \$42,100 would be used to fund 2 videos and \$15,000 would be used to support STEM Teacher Fellowship summer program. The Executive Director said that SNA typically has not supported exhibit funding requests in the past with the exception of SNA exhibits at Great Lakes, Newport and Navy Memorial. These are SNA owned/hosted exhibits. Some members questioned a 501(c)(3) organization funding another 501(c)(3). EXCOM wanted to know if NHF has solicited funding from corporations. Some corporations may already have videos that could be used or modified to reduce costs. The Executive Director mentioned that SNA has supported this project in nonmonetary ways such as article in the SITREP, email to membership and pro bono space at the National Symposium. After much discussion, the EXCOM voted to defer any decision until the upcoming SNA Finance Offsite was completed. SNA needs to make sure it can meet its own financial obligations before providing support elsewhere.

Action Item: Ron Route/Executive Director to respond to VADM Dunn's letter.

CORPORATE MEMBERS REPORT

SNA currently has 86 corporate members. American Rheinmetall, Inc recently joined as a new corporate member. On target to meet budget.

SECRETARY REPORT

No Report.

TREASURER REPORT

Reviewed the current finance report including chapter disbursements. The Symposium profit was included in the current report. Expenses were slightly higher this year but SNA came close to making same profit as 2011 event. It was noted that Symposium revenue is important as it helps fund SNA's events but it should not be forgotten the importance of "chemistry" this event creates for the organization and members. It was noted that we need to continue to monitor corporate sponsorship revenue as 80% of SNA revenue comes from that category.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Admiral Earner reported that funds remain the same as reported at last meeting. Requests that on future reports, subheadings are created under the reserve fund line item.

SYMPOSIUM REPORT

The minutes from the February 15 Symposium Hot Wash Up were emailed to EXCOM for review. The Executive Director presented the Symposium financials and Symposium attendance numbers. Reviewed year to year comparison. This information is available from the Executive Director on request. Active Duty attendee numbers were slightly lower this year. Need to research ways to better advertise event to Active Duty. Attendees often look at speakers when making decision to attend.

2013 Symposium will be the 25th Symposium. Reviewed timeline. Will begin soliciting theme suggestions in April.

AWARDS REPORT

SNA has started to accept nominations from NJROTC units for the Stephen Decatur, Jr NJROTC award. Committee is accepting suggestions for the 2013 Heritage Lecture theme.

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The proposed 2012 Scholarship Selection Committee was presented. The timeline for this year's process was reviewed. The precept letter was signed on March 8. The deadline for applications was March 1. To date, SNA has received 59 new applications and 43 renewal requests.

Reviewed proposed instruction change. Recommended that instruction now state "*Member can be serving, retired or honorably discharged and must have earned a Surface Warfare Officer pin or Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist pin.*" This change would make instruction consistent with Coast Guard requirement. EXCOM approved. Also recommended that SNA make it clearer that members and their dependents which include spouses can apply for scholarship.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Reviewed membership statistics. Trend slides and numbers are stable. Slight growth in paid memberships.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

The Maritime Security Forum is scheduled for March 14. Reviewed agenda. Currently have 6 exhibitors signed up to display at event.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

Next meeting scheduled for May 2012. The Executive Director will email proposed dates to EXCOM.

Meeting adjourned at 1839.