

Division 7 Board Meeting Minutes, 6 June 2022

Present:

DCDR
VDCDR Mike O'Connor
IPDCR Mike Reidy
FC 71
VFC 72 Eric Riznyk
FC 74 Walter Roberts
FC 75 Bill Lipscomb
VFC 77 Evan Tilly
FC 78 Barry Wilde

SO-IS Carol Saar
SO-HR Ray Birnbaum
SO-PB Linda Lakin

Six out of nine board members present. We have a quorum.

Minutes for the May 2022 were not taken, and therefore unable to be approved.

Flotilla 71

Flotilla 72 is pooling their Personal Locator Beacons in order to conduct operations. VDCR O'Connor pointed out that it would be a wise move for anyone offering their PLB for use in the Flotilla pool to get a hand receipt to relieve themselves of liability in the event the PLB is lost. Issued equipment remains Coast Guard Property.

Flotilla 74 – Report submitted electronically. Judy Probolus, A 30+ year member of the flotilla has died. The DCO has been notified. The husband did not want an Aux presence at the funeral. The current FSO-FN is stepping down and Daniel Lew will be taking over. Change of FSO-FN requires a new finance report be generated. Bob Russell resigned as FSO-MT, Walter Roberts will assume the duties until a new officer can be appointed.

Flotilla 75 held a "Surge Day" in May in Harbor Island Park, passed out literature and key chains. Held the blessing of the fleet on July 4th, local elected officials attended and judged the boats participating. Estimate 60-80 people attended. A member of the flotilla is volunteering at the Academy assisting with EKGs for new cadets and will also deploy to the Mexican border area. We have 4 facilities operational and we conducting training to get members requalified.

Flotilla 77 Report submitted electronically. Finances are going up after declining for several years because of Covid impacting boating safety classes. In-person classes resumed in March. The flotilla's one facility (Evan's boat) is inoperable, engines won't start because of a malfunctioning computer. VCDR read aloud the FC's report submitted electronically.

Flotilla 78 One new member on board and another in the pipeline. Planning a class to train members to become vessel examiners. PE program is going well. Would like to send two new members to boat crew training, but working on a plan to make that happen.

SO-NS PATON inspections are being scheduled, but a lack of facilities is causing a problem. Don't want to wait too much longer.

SO-CM Report submitted electronically. Lightning ground bar will be installed on the flotilla building. Andy Ely will have to inspect the installation for final approval.

SO-CS A link to a guide for shopping for uniforms on the division website was sent to all FCs and FSO-HRs in the division. Members first need to setup an account on the Coast Guard Exchange and the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association web sites. The topic of the Alternate Work Uniform came up and a debate ensued as to whether the uniform could be worn on patrols. It was not settled during the meeting but here is the text from the Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Pilot Program SOP (available on the Division 7 website).

For the purpose of the AUAPP, Auxiliarists who participate in activities that often involve multiple Auxiliarists (e.g., public education classes; boat crews; air crews) may wear the ODU (with or without operations polo shirt), the CG-U, or the Auxiliary Work Uniform (AWU). Hot Weather Uniform (HWU) versions of the ODU and AWU are also authorized for wear if regionally authorized for such activities. For example, members of a boat crew may wear different uniforms on the same patrol. Wearing different uniforms under such circumstances is encouraged in order to help seek and obtain feedback from the public, Coast Guard personnel, and from fellow Auxiliarists about each uniform's appearance, durability, approachability, and preference.

SO-FN Previous balance \$5,429.71; available balance \$6174.71

SO-HR There has been a reasonably good flow from the AAMS system. Most of the flotillas have had some members that came from this system. No data on how many candidates that are interviewed eventually become members. Question on the order of the precedence of the DHS ribbon. Answer may be in the ALAUX message. A Google search provided this answer:

"The DHS OUA should be worn after the Presidential Unit Citation and before the Department of Transportation Outstanding Unit Award."

The ribbon is only for members that in the Auxiliary for the period of Aug. 25, 2017, through Nov. 30, 2020.

SO-IS A lot of members are not putting in mileage for their travel to conduct Auxiliary business.

SO-PB Linda has some good photos for "Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day." There is going to be an article in Over the Bow about Flotilla 74's new building/base. There is an article about the christening of a new cutter. The Division 7 newsletter, Seven Seas, is currently a work-in-progress.

SO-PE In June, 34 students completed PE classes taught within Division 7. From January through June we have 152 students receiving certificates. Our goal for the year is 300, so we're halfway there.

SO-OP Equipment that has been ordered is not coming in. Only five PLBs have been received this year. Reported to DO-Ops.

The last 15 minutes of the meeting was a discussion of when Auxiliarists are covered for liability when performing Auxiliary duties.

We had a discussion about whether facilities really need to have a skiff hook aboard.

The call for elected officers for next year has gone out.

A number of people have reported difficulties getting ID cards from the director's office. Call Ray Birnbaum if you are having difficulties.

Division 24 will no longer be loaning Division 7 their backdrop for use at boat shows. The division needs to consider getting their own. They cost about \$800.

Ray Birnbaum is looking for someone to take over running the Norwalk Boat Show. It's scheduled for the 3rd weekend in September.

Remind members if they are not up to date on CORE training, they will not be issued a replacement ID card.

Carol Saar asked what is the procedure to get the 80th year streamer for the flotilla flag.

Meeting Adjourned.