

**Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council**  
**“Service Continues”**

From: Co-Chairs, Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council

To: Commanding Officer, Headquarters Support Command (HSC)

Copy to: Council Members (via E-mail – following approval by (HSC)

Subject: Minutes of the Friday, March 30, 2007 Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council Meeting

In accordance with COMDTINST 1800.5E, Sec. 6.b. (6) the following minutes are submitted for your review and comment. Upon receipt of your comments, the minutes will be revised as recommended and will be distributed to Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council Members, to the National Retiree Council and to other Coast Guard Regional Retiree Councils. They will also be distributed, as part of a newsletter, to other Retiree Council affiliated retirees in the Washington DC area.

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 30, 2007 MEETING OF THE  
CAPITAL AREA COAST GUARD RETIREE COUNCIL**

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – SCPO Mike White convened the Council meeting at 0900 on Friday, March 30 in Room B718 at Coast Guard Headquarters. Following is the list of attendees:

<b>Council members:</b>	CAPT C. Glass	CAPT W. Schneeweis
CAPT S. Goldhammer	CWO4 E. Splaine	MCPO G. Jensen
CDR. B. Russell	LT J. Koshar	CAPT. R. Warakomsky
CDR B. Stoppe, Jr	SCPO D. White	CAPT J. Smith

2. **Proposed Agenda**

2.1 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – CoChairs: CDR Bruce Russell USCG and SCPO Dennis (Mike) White

2.2 **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

2.2.1 Review and approve Proposed Agenda

2.2.1 Comments by the Headquarters Support Command

2.2.3 Review and approve Minutes of the December 1, 2006 Council meeting

2.2.4 Review Council Membership - swearing in of new members

2.2.5 Schedule for future meetings

2.3 **- COUNCIL PROGRAM - OLD BUSINESS**

2.3.1 Recruiting of Additional Members for the Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council

(civilian, UPHS, and other membership) update status and reports

2.3.2 Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council WEB site

2.3.3 Future holiday party planning

2.3.4 Web page report

2.3.5 Newsletter assistance for Norm

- 2.4 COUNCIL PROGRAM – NEW BUSINESS
- 2.4.1 Discussion Group proposal – CDR Russell
- 2.4.2 Discussion – CIAO 3/1/2007
- 2.4.3 Upcoming National meeting: issues to be brought up
- 2.4.4 TRICARE changes
- 2.5 ADJOURN

### 3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS -

**Review and Approval of Agenda** – Council Chair CDR. Bruce Russell welcomed the attendees and introduced the guests.

#### 4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS –

4.1 **Agenda** - The Proposed Agenda and supporting material were distributed and Chair Bruce Russell invited attendees to suggest changes. CDR. Russell suggested that CAPT Smith's comments take first place on Agenda, followed by consideration of Administrative and other agenda items. Without objection, the members present agreed to CDR Russell's suggestion and to otherwise accept the Agenda as submitted.

4.2 **Comments by the Headquarters Support Command** - CAPT Jack Smith, Commanding Officer of the Headquarters Support Command, narrated a Power Point briefing on the ongoing Commandant Intent Action Order (CIAO) Based Strategic Service-Wide Alignment and Transformation. This Coast Guard service-wide alignment and transformation is in process and is scheduled for completion by the end of Fiscal Year 2012.

4.2.1 The briefing addressed ten Commandant Intent Action Orders as follows:

CIAO 1 – Implementation of a new Acquisition Directorate and the Integrated Deepwater System Consolidation – completion schedule July 2007

CIAO 2 – USCG Headquarters Transition to Numbered Staffs – completion schedule end of FY 2008

CIAO 3 – Deployable Operations Group Implementation – completion schedule end of FY 2008

CIAO 4 – Logistics Organizational Alignment – completion schedule end of FY 2010

CIAO 5 – Financial Management Transformation and Chief Financial Officer Audit Remediation – completion schedule end of FY 2011

CIAO 6 – USCG Maritime Strategy and Evergreen Cycle of Strategic Renewal – completion Schedule FY 2007

CIAO 7 – Assessment of Coast Guard Command and Control Organization – completion schedule end of FY 2010

CIAO 8 – Human Resource Strategies to Support Coast Guard Maritime Strategy – completion schedule end of FY 2009

CIAO 9 – Reserve Component Mission Support System – completion schedule end of FY 2010

CIAO 10 – eCG Oriented Architecture Implementation – completion scheduled end of FY 2011

4.2.2 CAPT Smith addressed each of the above Action Orders in detail, explaining how each would result in the transformation of the various functions of the Coast Guard from its current status to a desired end-state. The combined end-states resulting from completion of

these Action Orders represents the Commandant's vision of the transformation of the Coast Guard that he intends to bring about during his tenure. This vision for the future of the Coast Guard has been shared and endorsed by the Department of Homeland Security and the Congressional Committees that approve the Coast Guard budget. Retirees can expect to see references to these Action Orders as the Coast Guard transformation is implemented.

#### **4.3 Review and Approval of the Minutes of the December 1, 2006 Council Meeting**

- The minutes of the December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 Council meeting were discussed and approved without change.

**4.3 Review of Council Membership** - CAPT Glass reported that Council membership as listed in the attached roster is 14 members – including two new members who will be inducted at this meeting. The minimum number of members previously agreed to by the Council is fifteen and maximum is twenty members. As previously agreed, priority should be given to recruiting an annuitant. Following discussion, the Council recommended that Mrs. Lula Carpenter be invited to become a Council member. The Council also previously agreed to consider recruiting a retired Coast Guard civilian employee and a USPHS retiree. CAPT Norman Lemley previously agreed to search out and nominate a retired Coast Guard civilian employee, and a USPHS retiree as additional Council members. Also, the Council previously agreed to recruit additional enlisted Coast Guard retirees.

**4.3.1 Appointment of Additional Council Members** - Letters of appointment to members of the Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council for the three year period starting October 25, 2006 were prepared, signed by CAPT Jack R. Smith, and were distributed to members present at the December 1, 2006 meeting. Regarding appointment of additional members; following nomination by a Council member, prospective new members are invited to a Council meeting for familiarization with the Council program and introduction to the Council members. Prospective members are then recommended for membership to the Council sponsor, the Commanding Officer of the Headquarters Support Command, and may be inducted as new Council members at a subsequent Council meeting.

**4.3.2 Induction of New Council Members** - CAPT Smith welcomed and congratulated two new Council members; CAPT Stephen Goldhammer, and MCPO Gary Jensen. They were introduced to the Council at the December 1, 2006 meeting and subsequently recommended for Council membership. CAPT Smith presented them with Appointment letters, welcomed them to the Council and thanked them for volunteering to serve as Council members for the period indicated on their Appointment letters.

**4.4 Schedule for Future Meetings** - The schedule for future Council meetings was reviewed and agreement was reached on the following schedule –

Friday 29 June, 2007

Friday 28 September, 2007

Friday 7 December 2007

Friday 28 March, 2008

## **5. COUNCIL PROGRAM**

### **5.1 OLD BUSINESS**

**5.1.1 Recruiting of Additional Council Members** – As previously discussed, the Council agreed to invite Mrs. Lula Carpenter to join the Council. If she accepts, she will

be invited to attend the June 2007 Council meeting for introduction to the Council and nomination for Council membership. It was agreed that recruitment of additional Council members should be continued as an item of business at future Council meetings, until the Council is satisfied that its membership objectives are met.

**5.1.2 Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council WEB site** - CAPT Warakomsky briefed the Council on the status of the WEB site development. He described problems encountered in accessing the WEB site development program "Front Page", which is resident on the Coast Guard server. CAPT Smith provided guidance on accessing the Coast Guard server from CAPT Warakomsky's home computer, using a special, secure access procedure provided for this purpose. CAPT Smith also identified a point of contact for additional technical assistance in the development and activation of the WEB site. CAPT Warakomsky commented that with the resolution of the access problem, he would be able to finish the WEB site development and make it available on the internet.

**5.1.2.1 WEB Site Content Development** - CAPT Glass commented that Section 5.1.3.2 of the Minutes of the December 1 Council meeting listed 12 subjects which needed development for display on the WEB site. Council members responsible for preparing this material were reminded to E-mail it to CDR Russell for review and forwarding to CAPT Warakomsky for inclusion in the WEB site.

**5.1.3 Holiday Party Planning** – At the 1 December, 2006 meeting, the Council discussed sponsoring a December 2007 holiday party for Coast Guard retirees - similar to those held in past years at Vinson Hall in McLean, Virginia. CAPT Glass volunteered to contact CAPT Paul Peak who led the planning efforts for the Vinson Hall parties.

**5.1.3.1** CAPT Glass distributed material provided by CAPT Paul Peak describing planning efforts for four annual Coast Guard Retiree Holiday Parties held at Vinson Hall from 1998 through 2001. Planning to sponsor an additional party in December 2002 was abandoned because of lagging response by retirees. The Council reviewed and discussed the material provided by CAPT Peak. The Council was fortunate to have the input of new Council member, CAPT Golhammer, who was on the planning committee for the Vinson Hall parties.

**5.1.3.2** Following discussion, the Council decided to establish a Committee (CAPT Glass, CAPT Goldhammer, CDR Russell, CWO4 Splaine, and CAPT Paul Peak (if he agreed) to explore the consider planning a party for December 2007. The Committee will prepare an E-mail invitation for distribution to retirees included in the Council Google Group, outlining the plans for the party, and requesting E-mail replies from interested retirees. Depending upon the response, a decision will be made regarding further planning and scheduling of a party.

**5.1.4 Newsletter Assistance** – CDR Russell commented that CAPT Lemley has asked for assistance in the preparation of the quarterly Newsletter. He feels that participation by another Council member will help in the selection of appropriate material for the Newsletter. There is no shortage of subject matter or material available for the Newsletter, but CAPT Lemley thought another perspective might help to better match the content with the interests of local retirees. Volunteers please contact CAPT Lemley.

## **5.2 NEW BUSINESS**

**5.2.1 Discussion Group Proposal** – CDR Russell commented on several requests that have been received for copies of the list of members of the Council Google Group.

Exploring the reasons for these requests, CDR Russell concluded that some Google Group members wanted to be able to establish separate E-mail discussion groups with other retirees. In enrolling retirees in our Google Group, the Retiree Council made the commitment that their E-mail addresses would not be used for any purposes other than sending Google Notices. However the Google Group list could be used to help facilitate Coast Guard retiree internet discussion groups without compromising that commitment.

Retirees wishing to establish a discussion group could apply to the Retiree Council to distribute a Google Group Notice, identifying an E-mail address of the discussion group organizer, the scope of discussion, and other descriptive information about the proposed group. Council Google Group members, wishing to participate in the discussion group could respond to the designated group organizer, and the discussion group could proceed without any further reference to the Retiree Council.

**5.2.1.1** CDR Russell agreed to explore the matter of using the Council Google List to help spawn discussion groups and to report on developments at future meetings.

**5.2.2 2007 National Retiree Council Meeting** - The Agenda for the 2007 meeting was distributed and reviewed. Council Co-Chairs CDR Bruce Russell and SCPO Dennis (Mike) White will represent the Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council at the National Council meeting. Also, CAPT Robert Warakomsky will be briefing the National Council on the "Help Desk" being developed and operated by the Capital Area Regional Council.

**5.2.2.1** CAPT Warakomsky previewed a Power Point presentation he prepared for the National Council meeting.

**5.2.2.2** CAPT Warakomsky led discussions on several issues that arose during his presentation. Following these discussions, he concluded that the National Council meeting would be used to recruit additional "remote" Help Desk watch standers from other Regional Councils. Additional local Help Desk watch standers are needed.

**5.2.2.3** CDR Russell suggested that CAPT Warakomsky present a watch stander training program at the June Council meeting, to encourage additional Council members to become volunteer Help Desk watch standers

**.3 TRICARE Changes** - (From the MOAA WEB site) A DoD Task Force on the Future of Military Health Care is also considering changes to TRICARE for inclusion in their interim report which is due for delivery to the Secretary of Defense and Congress by the end of May. Among other things, it is expected that the Task Force report will address:

- Phasing in beneficiary fee increases over 3 to 5 years.
- Establishing a formula for regular fee increases in the future.
- Establishing a tiered fee structure, with members in higher grades paying larger fees.

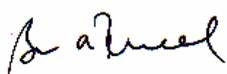
It is expected that these provisions for TRICARE fee increases will be controversial and will be challenged by military retiree groups after the interim report is delivered to the Congress in May. Final recommendations on these and other issues will be contained in the final Task Group report which is due in December 2007.

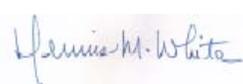
**6. Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 1145, Friday 1 March 30, 2007.

**Minutes prepared by CAPT Charles Glass, Council Secretary**

**Submitted: 29 May,**

**2007**

CDR Bruce Russell  \_\_\_\_\_

SCPO Dennis M. (Mike) White  \_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Chairs, Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council

Approved : 30 May, 2007 \_\_\_\_\_  
CAPT Jack Smith, COCGHSC