

From: Co-Chairs, Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council
To: Council Members (via E-Mail)

Subject: Minutes of the Friday 22 June 2012 Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council Meeting

In accordance with the 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 posted on our WEB site for access by Retiree Council affiliated Retirees in the Washington, DC Metro area, and others.

MINUTES OF THE FRIDAY, 22 June 2012 MEETING

Capital Area Retiree Council

Welcome and Introductions – Co-Chair CAPT David Bernstein convened the council meeting at 0830 AM on Friday 22 June 2012 in Room B718 of Coast Guard Headquarters.

Council Members:

Attending:

LCDR John Bagg	CAPT Robert Gauvin
Mrs. Susan Baicar	CAPT Stephen Goldhammer
CAPT David Bernstein	LT James Kosar (conference call)
Mrs. Lula Carpenter	Mr Norman Paulhus
PO1 Isabel Castellanos	RADM Ron Silva
YNC Pleasala “Penny” Collins	CDR Benjamin Stoppe
Mr. Paul Cojeen	CAPT Robert Warakomsky
LCDR David Du Pont	SPCO Dennis “Mike” White

Guests:

CAPT Steve Nye, Deputy CG-13
CDR Dirk Stringer, CO CG Base National Capital Region
CWO Shirley “Tina” Tennyson, USCG, Chief Personnel Services Division

Proposed Agenda

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Discuss and Approve Minutes of the 30 March 2012 Council Meeting**

COUNCIL PROGRAM

OLD BUSINESS

1.1 Status of Email Distribution List and Membership Outreach

1.2 Help Desk Utilization

1.3 Update on Newsletter

1.4 Website Update – Paul Cojeen

1.5 Retiree Support Items

NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Update on HQ Activities – CWO Tina Tennyson

2.2 Update on National Retiree Council meeting and Subsequent Actions – RADM Ron Silva

Remarks: CAPT Steve Nye (CG 13)

2.3 Survivor and Caregivers Guide

2.4 Development of CG Retirees Website by CG-1 and local Council Websites

2.5 Holiday Party and Mailings

2.6 Council Membership and Committees

2.7 Treasurers Report – Bob Warakomsky

2.8 Election of New Co-Chair to follow SCPO Mike White

2.9 Retiree Participation in USCG Related Events/ DC Area Events Calendar

2.10 Veteran Designation on Driver’s License in VA and other States

2.11 Discussion of Retiree Pizza Party with a Speaker

2.12 2012 Meeting Schedule

2.13 Suggestions for the Good of the Order

ADJOURNMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** - Co-Chair David Bernstein welcomed CAPT Steve Nye, Deputy (CG13), CDR Dirk Stringer, CO CG Base National Capital Region and CWO3 Shirley “Tina” Tennyson, Chief Personnel Services Division.
- 2. Discuss and approve 30 March 2012 Minutes** – The minutes were approved.

COUNCIL PROGRAM

- 1. CWO Tennyson, Personnel Services Division- Headquarters Update** – The HQ is now set up using the Bases model and LCDR Sinclair and CWO Tennyson will still be our support with Retiree Services. CWO Tennyson stressed the importance of notifying a person or persons of the location of the Retirees DD-214 in case of an emergency. David Bernstein, Co-Chair, thanked CWO Tennyson and LCDR Sinclair for all their support during the tragic passing of CAPT Lemley and all they do for the Retiree Council. CDR Stringer, CO CG Base National Capital Region met with the Council and offered the Base’s help to the Retiree Council. CDR Stringer also offered to give us a tour of CGHQ’s new facility on the St Elizabeth’s property and will provide a shuttle for this purpose at the 21 September meeting.

RADM Ron Silva – National Retiree Council Update and Introduction of CAPT Nye –
RADM Silva introduced CAPT Steve Nye, the new Deputy in CG-13 who will be assisting with Retiree Affairs. RADM Silva briefed the Council on the National Council meeting in May and reported that during the 3 day meeting, 2 days were working sessions with 3 Committees:
Benefits and Entitlements
Outreach and Volunteer Services
USCG Retiree Services and Program
The Council met with Vice Commandant Brice-O’Hara, soon-to-be Vice VADM Currier, CG-6 RADM R. Day, CG-13 S. Day, and CG-1, RADM Neptun. Briefings were also given by MOAA, FRA, and other military support organizations during the Annual Meeting. The CCGNRC Report and findings have been given to the Project Officer for Retiree Affairs .

2. 30 March 2012 Minutes – The minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

1.1 Email Distribution List and Membership Outreach – David Bernstein informed the Council that the email list has been used frequently and was very helpful in passing on information concerning Norm Lemley’s funeral on 6 July at Arlington National Cemetery. There have been a number of “kickback” emails and David will send out a mass email asking for information on these individuals. During this discussion, it was decided that the newly elected Co-Chair will be given the email back-up list.

1.2 Help Desk Utilization – The National Retiree (NRC) Help Desk phone and voice mail (202-475-5381) were temporarily inaccessible to volunteer watchstanders during the week of 07 May 2012. The problem is now corrected.
Historically the NRC Help Desk phone number was linked to a vacant CGHQ personnel shop cube. On Monday 07 May 2012 a summer intern was assigned to the cube and thus began the temporary loss of the Help Desk phone access. As of 12:50 p.m. Wed, 09 May, the intern has a new number and the Help Desk number continues as 202-475-5381, Voicemail is restored and the greeting and password are back to normal.
The Help Desk phone number is now a “virtual” number ---part of the CG phone system---but not linked to a specific workspace. The Help Desk Cube is no more. But with the NRHDesk@gmail.com email address and remote access to Help Desk voicemail by the volunteer watchstanders, the physical cube is not needed.

1.3 Newsletter Update – David Bernstein has sent out 3 Newsletters and will soon send out another. David thanked Norm Paulhus for sending him information for the Newsletter.

1.4 Website Update – The Retiree Council now has a link on the USCG’s main website and Joe Fernandez has been very helpful. The CACG Retiree Council sent out letters asking for email addresses and received 40-50 new email addresses. RADM Ron Silva submitted an update concerning the CCGNRC to the webpage and reported that not all Regional Councils have websites. He also said the CCGNRC is working to resolve the problem of obtaining email addresses of Retirees.

1.5 Retiree Support Items – Refer to previous discussions

NEW BUSINESS

- 2.1 Update on National Retiree Council Meeting and Subsequent Actions** – Refer to Council Program/RADM Silva, p.2
- 2.2 Survivor and Caregiver’s Guide** – Bud Schneeweis and Bruce Russell will follow up and give the draft of the Survivor and Caregiver’s Guide to RADM Silva by 1 July 2012. The plan is for **CG-1** to eventually take ownership of the Guide and the Council will assist with updates.
- 2.3 Update on HQ Activities** – Refer to Council Program/CWO Tennyson p.2.
- 2.4 Development of CG Retirees Website by CG-1-** Refer to 1.4/Website Update.
- 2.5 Holiday Party and Annual Mailing** – David Bernstein and Isabel Castellanos will meet with Paul Peak and the “Vinson Hall” event planner to arrange the date and plan for the Holiday Party. A photo of the new FRC cutter, “Bernard Webber” was suggested for the Annual Mailing.
- 2.6 Council Memberships and Committees** – All Committees are working.
- 2.7 Treasurer’s Report -** Treasurer Bob Warakomsky reported no change from 30 March. A possible increase of \$5 to the ticket cost of the Holiday Party will be discussed at the 21 September meeting. The newsletter will include the Treasurer’s Report.

**CAPITAL AREA COAST GUARD RETIREE COUNCIL
FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF
22 June, 2012**

Balance brought forward 11/30/10	\$1,750.42
Deposit 12/27/11	<u>1,936.00</u>
Balance 1/1/12	\$3,686.42

Holiday Party 12/14/11 Expenses

Food	\$1,517.00
Bar	\$ 266.50
Tax	\$ 89.17
Labor	<u>\$1,051.53</u>

Total	\$2,924.20	less	<u>\$2,924.20</u>
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Balance 3/30/12	\$ 762.22
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Holiday Party 12/04/11 Receipts	\$2,776.00
Holiday Party 12/05/10 Receipts	\$2,462.00
Holiday Party 12/05/10 Expenses	\$2,594.10

2.8 Election of New Co-Chair – PO1 Isabel Castellanos was elected new Council Co-Chair and begins her term on 1 July 2012. Her name will be added to the Council’s checking account. SPCO Dennis “Mike” White, outgoing CACG Retiree Council Co-Chair for the last 8 years is now Co-Chair Emeritus

2.9 Retiree Participation in USCG related Events/DC Area Events Calendar – News from Joint Base Henderson Hall continues to be sent out. The CG Jazz Band performed Wed, 13 June at 6:30 PM at Yards Park in Washington, DC.
The CG Picnic is 4 August 2012 at TISCOM, Alexandria.

2.10 Veteran’s Designation on Driver’s Licenses – Virginia is issuing a special veteran’s card. To obtain one, you must show DMV your DD-214. Thanks were extended to Bob Warakomsky for his actions on this issue. Maryland has passed legislation for the Veteran’s designation and DC has the issue before its Council. DC already has Veteran’s license plates. The Council sent letters concerning this issue to the Governors of VA, MD and DC.

2.11 Discussion of Retiree Pizza Party with a Speaker – Suggested venues were TISCOM, Ft McNair.

Possible subjects suggested:
Survivors of the “Cuyahoga”
New HQ at St Elizabeth’s

Other suggestions:
Combine with the “TAPs” program
Partner with the Spouses Club

Isabel Castellanos and Norm Paulhus will do further research and will report at the 21 September meeting.

2.12 2012 Meeting Schedule- Room B-718 CGHQ, 8:30 AM
21 September 2012
30 November 2012

2.13 Funeral of Norm Lemley – The funeral will be held on 06 July at Arlington National Cemetery. Attendees are to meet at the Administration Building at 12:30. Norm’s daughter, Jane Rasmussen has asked that those attending RSVP to David Bernstein. A reception will be held at FT Myer after the service. Also at 7:00 PM 06 July an informal gathering will be held at the “Rivers at Watergate” and Norm stories are encouraged.

2.14 Suggestions for the Good of the Order –

1. Mike White was thanked by the Council for his 8 years of service as Co-Chair.
2. Penny Collins invited the Council and all interested to attend the “Women of Homeland Security’s” BBQ Cook-Off on July 15 from 1- 6 PM at Bolling AFB, pavilions 6 & 7. All proceeds go to the Coast Guard Memorial Enlisted Foundation.
3. Ron Silva thanked the Council for having CAPT Nye attend as he is integral to our Retiree needs.
4. Mike White welcomed Isabel Castellanos as the new Co-Chair. Isabel will be sworn in at the 21 September meeting.

AJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 1050

Minutes Prepared by Lula Carpenter
CACG Retiree Council Secretary
Submitted 26 June 2012