

Greater New Orleans Retirement Council Chartering Meeting

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 19, 2014

1000-1130 COAST GUARD BASE NEW ORLEANS

MEETING CALLED BY	Captain Jon Gage, Base New Orleans Commanding Officer																																																									
TYPE OF MEETING	Greater New Orleans Retiree Council Chartering Meeting																																																									
FACILITATOR	YNCM Wolfe Opening Remarks Introductions																																																									
GREETINGS	CAPT Gage Opening discussions suggested multiple locations for meetings. Suggested conference calls and/or video calls for those who cannot make the meetings.																																																									
MISSION STATEMENT	Jim Montgomery presented a draft statement and with one amendment was approved. "The Base New Orleans Retiree Council is a private organization authorized to operate on Coast Guard Base New Orleans to provide retirees within the 8 th District information on veteran-related resources, offer service to the retiree community, create fellowship to include opportunities with active duty members, mentor serving Coasties, be a think tank trust of experience, and a conduit of retiree concerns to the National Retiree Board."																																																									
MEMBERS	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Airhart, Joanne</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Lacassin, Mike</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Robbins, Dennis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Airhart, John</td> <td>Marcum, Georg</td> <td>Ross, James</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Babin, Skip</td> <td>Marshall, Kevin</td> <td>Saylor, Charlie</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Billings, Jackie</td> <td>McGruder, Kenneth</td> <td>Scarmado, Pete</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Billiot, Fred</td> <td>Meyers, John</td> <td>Siebenkittel, Paul</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bowen, Skip</td> <td>Mitchell, Kenneth</td> <td>Thomas, J. Douglas</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Butko, George</td> <td>Montgomery, Jim</td> <td>White, Michael</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Byrd, Jon</td> <td>Mulford, David</td> <td>Ybos, Walter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Casale, Bob</td> <td>Narkiewicz, Thea</td> <td>Barger, James</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Casale, Gary</td> <td>Noyes, Steve</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Davis, Jerry</td> <td>Otto, Catherine</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dittman, Robert</td> <td>Otto, Claude</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Falcon, Thomas</td> <td>Ponseti, Patrick</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ferniz, Eugene</td> <td>Preau, Donald</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fisher, Angela</td> <td>Quigley, Patrick</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Huse, Jeffrey</td> <td>Ribag, Harley</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jones, Larry</td> <td>Renfro, Don</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kloran, Hal</td> <td>Richards, William</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Krucenski, Leon</td> <td>Rivera, Anthony</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Airhart, Joanne	Lacassin, Mike	Robbins, Dennis	Airhart, John	Marcum, Georg	Ross, James	Babin, Skip	Marshall, Kevin	Saylor, Charlie	Billings, Jackie	McGruder, Kenneth	Scarmado, Pete	Billiot, Fred	Meyers, John	Siebenkittel, Paul	Bowen, Skip	Mitchell, Kenneth	Thomas, J. Douglas	Butko, George	Montgomery, Jim	White, Michael	Byrd, Jon	Mulford, David	Ybos, Walter	Casale, Bob	Narkiewicz, Thea	Barger, James	Casale, Gary	Noyes, Steve		Davis, Jerry	Otto, Catherine		Dittman, Robert	Otto, Claude		Falcon, Thomas	Ponseti, Patrick		Ferniz, Eugene	Preau, Donald		Fisher, Angela	Quigley, Patrick		Huse, Jeffrey	Ribag, Harley		Jones, Larry	Renfro, Don		Kloran, Hal	Richards, William		Krucenski, Leon	Rivera, Anthony	
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POSITION DISCUSSIONS	<p>Still need some positions filled!!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair (generally an Officer) - Pending • Co-Chair (generally a Chief) - Pending • Director of Volunteers – Jim Montgomery • Director of Print Media – Dave Mulford • Director of Social Media – Doug Thomas • Active Duty Coordinator – YNCM Richard Wolfe • Think Tank Coordinator – Jerry Davis • Mentoring Coordinator – Don Renfro • Social Liaison – Fred Billiot • Retiree Outreach/Visitation Director – Ken McGruder • Veteran’s Benefits Liaison – Larry Jones • Transitioning Assistance Director – Bob Casale • Membership - OPEN • Parliamentarian/Secretary - OPEN • Historian – Catherine Otto • Publicity - OPEN • Treasurer - OPEN • Budget - OPEN • Ways and Means - OPEN • MWR Liaison – Angela Fisher • Healthy Living – Joanne Airhart • Fundraising – Angela Fisher 																																																									

THE HELP DESK	Jim Montgomery, Volunteer Coordinator, discussed the Help Desk and instructional handouts were provided (with tests) to become a qualified facilitator and receive a certificate from Headquarters
SUGGESTIONS FOSTERING MUTUAL INFORMATION SHARING	<p>The following suggestions were discussed that would be of interest to retirees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An opportunity to ride on a Coast Guard float in a Mardi Gras parade • Memorial Services • Competing in the Base New Orleans chili cook off contest Feb 28, 2014 • Visiting the Moving Wall for Veterans, May 2014 in the New Orleans area • Baton Rouge - Sinking of CGC WHITE ALDER Memorial participation • Coordinating the Retiree Council with other veteran organizations • Hosting military members whose families are distant for different holidays • Obtaining tickets, as well as other benefits, for military members, to include retirees • Alternate meeting locations • Tax benefits for Non-profit Organizations • Visiting homebound retirees via an outreach program • Coast Guard Day event participation

GENERAL DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair and Co-Chair positions open, submit resume to Capt Gage • Agreed to the benefits of becoming a Nonprofit 501C3 organization. • Dues: Survey to get participant feelings • Food, snacks and pot luck dinners for meetings • Membership: who will be welcome • Moving Wall for Veterans, May 2014 in the New Orleans area • Diverse meeting times and locations to be explored via survey • Include more retirees through conference calls • How to make the Retiree Council last for the future • How to get information to retirees • How to keep interest high for membership • Obtaining guest speakers for future meetings • Set meeting times and locations • Transition Assistance help for military members considering retirement, more personal than TAPS • Survey draft • Field trips to the new Station, Sector, and Base

CONCLUSIONS	<p>This was a very productive meeting that elicited some great suggestions. A reminder was that this was the members' Retiree Council and in order for it to become an effective and long lasting, we need your suggestions and participation. We plan on opening the doors to the retired community by providing helpful information to all members. Your input is very important to us. If the meeting is at Base New Orleans, we have the ability to quickly set up conferencing lines so you can attend the meeting via phone call, no driving is necessary.</p> <p>Good turnout, overflowed the classroom and had to go into the galley for the meeting. CAPT Gage promised full support of his Base resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A charter will be requested from Headquarters - An application for 501C3 status will be tendered - A survey will be sent out to get majority input on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Meeting venues, frequency and times o Dues o Conference call in for those unable to attend - Speakers of interest are solicited for future meetings - Adopt a Coastie program for non-locals who have no place to go on holidays...or any weekend if desired. - Retiree Council specific events like crawfish boils, fish fries, or anything with food and fun - We will notify sister organizations (DAV, AM, VFW, etc) of our activities - Individuals will be qualified to take the Retiree Help Desk watch - Field trips to the Station, Sector, District or a ship at the Base dock <p>Next Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 13 March, Thursday, 1030, Base New Orleans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o An AmVet representative will be present all day to answer any questions
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ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Complete Survey Draft newsletter Draft minutes Conference calling setup for next meeting	David Mulford	ASAP