

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 26 June 2009 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, 26 June, 2009 MEETING OF THE CAPITAL AREA COAST GUARD RETIREE COUNCIL

Welcome and Introductions – Co-Chairmen CAPT W. G. “Bud” Schneeweis and SCPO Mike White convened the council meeting at 0900 AM on Friday, 26 June 2009 in Room B 718 of Coast Guard Headquarters.

Council Members in Attendance:

LCDR John Bagg III	CAPT Stephen E. Goldhammer
Mrs. Susan Baicar	CAPT Norman Lemley
CAPT David Bernstein	Mr. Norman Paulus
Mrs. Lula Carpenter	CAPT W. G. “Bud” Schneeweis
Mr. Paul Cojeen	CDR Benjamin J. Stoppe, Jr.
LCDR David Du Pont	SCPO Mike White

CO Headquarters Support Command: CDR Andrew Dutton

Proposed Agenda

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 1.1 Welcome and Introductions
- 1.2 Comments by the Headquarters Support Command Representative
- 1.3 Discuss and Approve Minutes of the 5 December Council Meeting

2. COUNCIL PROGRAM

OLD BUSINESS

- 2.1.1 Holiday Party Pre-Planning for 3rd Annual Party

- 2.1.2 Status of Google List and Membership Outreach
- 2.1.3 Help Desk Utilization – (New e-mail nrhdesk@gmail.com)
- 2.1.4 Update on Newsletter
- 2.1.5 Website Update
- 2.1.6 Development of Caregivers Guide & Status Update
- 2.1.7 Support for Retiring Reservists

- 2.2 **NEW BUSINESS**
- 2.2.1 Discussion of Transition Impact on Retirees
- 2.2.2 Development of SOP for Council Secretary
- 2.2.3 National Coast Guard Retiree Council Meeting – 12 May to 14 May 2009
- 2.2.4 Schedule 2009 Council Meetings
- 2.2.5 Additional Items

2.5 AJOURNMENT

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 1.1 **Welcome and Introductions-** Co-Chairs “Bud” Schneeweis and Mike White called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM in Room B718 of Coast Guard Headquarters.
- 1.2 **Comments by Headquarters Support Command (HSC) Representative –** CDR Andrew Dutton, CO HSC, was introduced by the Council Chairs as our new Sponsor. CDR Dutton offered his help and continuing support to the Council as did his predecessor, CAPT Jack Smith. CDR Dutton reported that the Coast Guard Modernization and Strategic Transformation for HSC will not be implemented for 4-6 months. In the interim, he will be CO and CDR Sullard will be the XO. CDR Dutton’s direct line is 202-372-4005.
- 1.3 **Discuss and Approve 27 March Council Minutes –** The minutes were approved.

2. COUNCIL PROGRAM

2.1 OLD BUSINESS

- 2.1.1 **Holiday Party Planning for 3rd Annual Party –** Bud Schneeweis will chair the 2009 Holiday Party Committee. The party is tentatively scheduled for 13 December. The Google list will send out an announcement @ the party early in the fall. Paul Peak will help again and be our contact at Vinson Hall. A 65th wedding anniversary card will also be sent to Paul & his wife. A Council member name will be added to the “Holiday Party“ bank account.
- 2.1.2 **Status of Google List and Membership Outreach –** Members on the Google list will be asked to update their information and the list will be updated.

- 2.1.3 **Help Desk Utilization** –The new e-mail addresses is nrhdesk@gmail.com. Additional watch standers are still needed. This was also an agenda item discussed during the National Retiree Council Annual Meeting in May.
- 2.1.4 **Update on Newsletter** – The draft edition of the Newsletter (#17) was distributed to the attending Council members for comments, additions, etc.
- 2.1.5 **Website Update** – New material, including the National Retiree Council Annual Meeting Report to the Commandant, along with all briefing materials is in the process of being uploaded to our website.
- 2.1.6 **Development of Caregivers Guide and Status Update** – Work continues on this project and should be ready as a final draft at our next meeting in September.
- 2.1.7 **VA Information Update** – Under the GI Bill, Active duty Coast Guard as well as retirees may be able to use the GI Bill if they have served since 9-11. If they are still on active duty as of August 1, 2009, they may also be eligible to transfer their GI Bill benefits to their spouse or child. The services may require additional obligated time from the service member in order to transfer benefits to family members.
- 2.1.8 **Support for Retiring Reservists** – At the National Retiree Council Annual Meeting, our Council Co-Chairs requested the following action item to CG-1: to develop a Retiring Reservists Guide and to re-institutionalize processes, instructions and support personnel at PSC Topeka. The National Council approved this and it is included in the final report to the Commandant.

2.2 NEW BUSINESS

- 2.2.1 **Discussion of Transition Impact on Retirees** – The Council recommended to National Council discussion of the COLA impact on proposed TRICARE fee increases with MOAA, Fleet Reserve, NAUS, CPOA and ROA. Action items are going forward.
- 2.2.2 **Development of SOP for Council Secretary** – An SOP outline was presented. Minutes of Council Meetings will now be sent to Council members via e-mail. The Secretary will also update the Council Roster.
- 2.2.3 **National Coast Guard Retiree Council Meeting** –12 May to 14 May 2009 the National Council Meeting was held. Council Co-Chairs Mike White and Bud Schneeweis, and Council member, Susan Baicar attended. National Council Co-Chairs are ADM Fred Ames and MCPOCG Vince Patton. Debbie Farley, Retiree Support, reported on the need to get Retirees “back in the loop”. In other business, the National Council Charter will be rewritten due to changes brought about by the Coast Guard Modernization and Strategic Transformation initiative.
- 2.2.4 **Schedule 2009/2010 Council Meetings**
25 September, 2009

03 December, 2009
26 March, 2010
25 June, 2010
24 September, 2010
03 December, 2010

2.2.5 Additional Items –

1. Ben Stoppe will print Christmas cards to be sent by the Council to Metro area Retirees over age 75.
2. Concerns over the proposed civil service changes to the Retirement System. Currently civilians can retire at full retirement with 30yrs of service or 55 yrs of age. The proposed change would change to 30 years of service or 62 years of age. This will be passed to National Council for discussion and consideration as an action item inquiry.

2.3 AJOURNMENT

Minutes prepared by Lula Carpenter
Submitted July 24, 2009

CAPT Bud Schneeweis _____

SCPO Dennis M. (Mike) White _____

Co-Chairs, Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council

Approved July 24, 2009 _____
CDR Andrew Dutton, COCGHSC