

MINUTES OF THE FRIDAY, 25 September, 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, 25 September 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 Paulhus
Mr. Steve Brophy	CAPT W. G. “Bud” Schneeweis
Mr. Paul Cojeen	CAPT Robert E. Warakomsky
LCDR David Du Pont	SCPO Mike White

Proposed Agenda

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 1.1 Welcome and Introductions**
- 1.2 Comments by the Headquarters Support Command Representative**
- 1.3 Discuss & Approve Minutes of the 26 June Council Meeting**

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)**
- 2.1.3 Update on Newsletter**
- 2.1.4 Website Update**
- 2.1.5 Development of Caregivers Guide & Status Update**

2.2 NEW BUSINESS

- 2.2.1 Schedule 2009-2010 Council Meetings**
- 2.2.2 Additional Items**

2.3 ADJOURNMENT

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. No new members. Introduced Steve Brophy, a civilian lawyer working in Headquarters who is planning to retire soon—just interested in what we are doing. Short discussion on parking: For those who have the badge type parking pass, you must leave it on your dashboard while parking in the building.
- 1.2 **Comments by Headquarters Support Command (HSC) Representative** – No HSC rep present. At our June Meeting, CDR Andrew Dutton was introduced as our new Sponsor. At that time CDR Dutton offered his help and continuing support to the Council as did his predecessor, CAPT Jack Smith. The Coast Guard Modernization and Strategic Transformation for HSC will be implemented soon. In the interim, CDR Andrew Dutton will be CO and CDR Sullard will be the XO. CDR Dutton’s direct line is 202-372-4005.
- 1.3 **Discuss and Approve 26 June 2009 Council Minutes** – The minutes were discussed during the meeting and approved at the end of the meeting with the following two minor changes: 1. The December 2009 meeting is on the 4th of DEC (not the 3rd); and 2. Add an “h” in Norm Paulhus’ last name.

2. COUNCIL PROGRAM

2.1 OLD BUSINESS

- 2.1.1 **Holiday Party Planning for 3rd Annual Party** – Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 13th. Susan to post a “save the date” notice on Google. Bud Schneeweis, Holiday Party Committee Chair, solicited volunteers. Bud will again MC the event and arrive early to set up signs etc. Mike White will handle tickets. Norm Lemley will develop a notice for Bob Warakomky, Dave Du Pont, Norm Paulhus, & Susan Baicar to post on Web, Google, CGHQ bulletin boards etc., hopefully to reach some of the newer retirees. It was suggested and agreed that we should invite CAPT ODOM, Civilian Personnel Chief (Bud to handle). There was some discussion if we want to solicit donations and do the raffle again this year; and also, how we should use the approx \$800.00 left over from last year that is in the “Holiday Party” account designated for the Council. It was suggested that we lower ticket price from \$30 to \$25 each and \$40 per couple--Bud to run numbers and make a proposal. It was also suggested that we get a Council member’s name on the account or open a new account, possibly at the Pentagon Federal Credit Union. Bud will connect with Paul Peak about the bank account.

After the meeting, Mike and Susan visited the Commandant’s and MCPOCG’s offices to confirm the event on their schedules. It is listed on the Commandant schedule. He has indicated he wants to attend and it’s as firm as it can be at this time. MCPOCG’s scheduler’s has placed it on the Master Chief’s schedule as tentative to be discussed at

their next planning meeting. Both Commandant's and Master Chief's schedulers said they will keep us posted.

- 2.1.2 **Status of Google List and Membership Outreach** – Paul Cojeen, Dave Bernstein and Susan Baicar will work on updating contact info on the Google list and decide if there is a better way to get information out to retirees.
- 2.1.3 **Help Desk Utilization** – There are two new volunteer watchstanders: Sal Romo and Tim Flanagan. Usage has leveled off. Noticed that some inquiries could be classified as junk (hang ups, voice mail messages with no message, solicitations, etc.). G-mail queries are now working via our new email address: nrhdesk@gmail.com
- 2.1.4 **Update on Newsletter** – September issue is ready to go as soon as we know the cost for the Holiday Party at Vinson Hall. Info on CAPT Bob Williams' passing will be added.
- 2.1.5 **Website Update** – Updating about once per month unless something current or critical comes up. Waiting for notice/flyer about Holiday Party. Discussed adding one or two additional persons to be granted access to back up Bob Warakomsky.
- 2.1.5 **Development of Caregivers Guide and Status Update** – Nothing to report. Bruce Russell out of town -- did not attend meeting. This item will be moved off the agenda until we speak wit Bruce at the next meeting in December.

2.2 NEW BUSINESS

2.2.1 Schedule -- 2009/2010 Council Meetings (all Fridays)

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

2.2.2 Additional Items –

1. **HOLIDAY CARDS** - We need a design--possibly aircraft this time. Bud will work with Public Affairs Staff/Historian. Ben Stoppe will print cards to be sent by the Council to Metro area Retirees over age 75. Norm Lemley and Ben Stoppe will follow up with a request to CDR DUTTON for a list of Fifth District retirees, age 75 and over.
2. Discussion on how to increase membership and encourage newer retirees. Suggestions: use Alumni Groups in DC/CGHQ area, CPOA Chapter, Spouses' Clubs (Bud to reach out). Paul will pursue with Enlisted Personnel. We will need to monitor list. Proposed ways to entice newer retirees. Perhaps have networking events (i.e. National's game, booth at CG picnic, host BBQ or some kind of event at

St. E's Campus, etc.). We need a Membership Chair. Will discuss this again at the December meeting.

3. Bud sent a card to Chuck Glass who is in poor health; greetings to Betty Splaine, and congrats/anniversary card to Paul and Jane Peak all on behalf of the Retiree Council.
4. Mike White said his term will be expiring this October. We voted him in for another term and he accepted.

2.3 AJOURNMENT

Minutes prepared by Susan Baicar