

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

To: Council Members (via E-Mail)

Subj: Minutes of the Friday, 27 June 2014 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 comments. 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, 27 June 2014 Meeting of the Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council

Welcome and Introductions Co-Chair David Bernstein convened the council meeting at 0830 on Friday 27 June 2014 at the Coast Guard Personnel Support Command, Ballston Professional Office Building, Arlington, VA.

Council Members:

Attending:

LCDR John Bagg

CAPT David Bernstein

Mrs. Lula Carpenter

Mr. Paul Cojeen

CPO John Milkiewicz, USCGR

CDR Benjamin J. Stoppe

Sponsor: LCDR Ally Schuler

Proposed Agenda

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Discuss & Approve Minutes of the 21 February 2014 Council Meeting**

COUNCIL PROGRAM

OLD BUSINESS

- 1.1 Status of Email Distribution List and Membership Outreach**
- 1.2 Help Desk Utilization – (e-mail nrhdesk@gmail.com)**
- 1.3 Update on Newsletter**

- 1.4 Website Update**
- 1.5 Retiree Support Items**

NEW BUSINESS

- 2.1 Survivor and Caregivers Guide Update, - Bruce Russell**
- 2.2 National Retiree Council Report and New COMDTINST/CG Retiree Infrastructure-Implementation of ComdtInst 1800.6G**
 - 2.2.1 Volunteers**
 - 2.2.2 Training**
 - 2.2.3 Tiscom vs Ballston**
- 2.3 Discussion of National Help Desk - Bob Warakomsky/David Du Pont**
- 2.4 Update on HQ Activities - Base Support of our AOR Retirees & Establishing RSD, email listing- LCDR Schuler**
- 2.5 Spring Fling and Holiday Party -John Milkiewicz, David Bernstein**
- 2.6 Treasurers Report - Bob Warakomsky**
- 2.7 Financial Implications of Spring Fling and Admission Fee for next Holiday Party**
- 2.8 Council Membership**
- 2.9 Retiree Participation in USCG Related Events/DC Area Events/Calendar**
- 2.10 2014 Meeting Schedule and Venue**
- 2.11 Suggestions for the Good of the Order**

ADJOURNMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** - Co-Chair David Bernstein welcomed LCDR Ally Shuler
- 2. Discuss and Approve Minutes of the 06 December 2013 Meeting-** The 21 February 2014 minutes were approved.

COUNCIL PROGRAM

OLD BUSINESS

- 1.1 Status of Email Distribution List and Membership Outreach** - David Bernstein reported that he had approximately 600 email addresses on 10 separate lists due to the constraints of the server only allowing 100 addresses per list. Eight to ten names have been added since the last meeting. LCDR Shuler explained the rest of the retirees receive their information through mailings from the Coast Guard once or twice a year due to privacy issues. The new Retiree Service Desk will be explained in a September mailing along with an announcement of the Holiday Party on 14 December 2014 at "Vinson Hall" in McLean, VA.

1.2 Help Desk Utilization - ([email-nrhdesk@gmail.com](mailto:nrhdesk@gmail.com)) – The National Help Desk receives approximately eight to 10 requests for information per week. The new Retiree Service Desk (RSD) will be used for Regional issues once it is in place. The continuation of the National Help Desk will be reviewed after the RSD has been implemented over time to see if the need for the National Help Desk continues.

1.3 Update on Newsletter – David Bernstein sent out the Newsletter a month ago and received very favorable feedback. Due to time constraints and length, David is using more URLs to access information of use to the Retiree community. The latest Newsletter will be sent out soon and David will send out a copy to Joe Fernandez at CG-IT.

1.4 Website Update – The Retiree Councils’ page on the Official Coast Guard website should provide the phone number and email address of all the Retiree Service Desk (RSD). To reach the Capital Area Retiree Council page, one needs to go to Retiree Services on uscg.mil which leads to Retiree News and Regional Councils. CAPT Bernstein will contact CDR Garzon/Mr. Hinds to add the Base National Capital Region RSD phone number & email address to the national site. We will also ask Joe Fernandez, our Webmaster to add the numbers to our own site

1.5 Retiree Support Items- Refer to 1.3 and 1.4.

NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Survivors and Caregivers Guide – The draft of the Caregivers Guide is posted on the Council Website and is now being reviewed. PPC now owns the document. We’re awaiting their acknowledgement that they are TFA.

2.2 National Retiree Council Report and New COMDTINST/CG Retiree Support Infrastructure – Implementation of ComdtInst 1800.6G –

2.2.1-2.2.2 Volunteers and Training -David Bernstein, Council Co-Chair, reported that RADM Acton and MCPOCG Bowen have not yet produced a report of the National Council Meeting. David has six volunteers for the RSD, but only three responded to the announcement of a training meeting. The hope is that interest is not waning. CDR Garzon, now responsible for setting up and implementing the Retiree Service Desk, will soon be relieved by a CG Civilian employee, Bob Hinds. LCDR Shuler will make a request to TAPs that a representative from the CACG Retiree Council make a presentation at all the TAPS Seminars so new Retirees are aware of the Retiree Regional Councils and the implementation of the RSD and what Retiree Councils can do for Retirees. LCDR Shuler also reported she had briefed RADM Jones on the Retiree Service Desks. LCDR Shuler also needs a “tech savvy” Council member to save documents on the “Google Drive” for the RSD. Paul Cojeen volunteered to do this job and David will send him information.

2.2.3 Tiscom vs Ballston – At this time, it appears that RSDs will be virtually manned. Ballston PSC will be moving and the acquisition of a laptop & air card will

take some time & paperwork. So volunteers will use their own computers from their own location.

2.3 Discussion of Help Desk – no report. Refer to item 1.2.

2.4 Update on HQ Activities- Base Support of our AOR Retirees & CACGRC- RSD
–Refer to item 2.2.

2.5 Spring Fling and Holiday Party –John Milkiewicz, Council Co-Chair, reported that approximately 72 people attended the Spring Fling at Vinson Hall and the party was enjoyed by all. The next Holiday Party will be Sunday, 14 December 2014 at Vinson Hall from 1600 to 1830. John will consult with Mike, the food manager at Vinson Hall, about the menu and cost and will also talk with Paul Peak who has been so helpful to the Council over the years in arranging the party. The baseline cost for the Spring Fling was \$41.60 per person, but upon further review, the cost per person was actually \$43.20. The Council charged \$35 for new attendees, but the raffle and donations helped to defray the costs. Since food costs continue to rise, the Council decided to charge \$40.00 per person for the December Holiday Party. After John has talked and settled the cost of the event, we will reconsider the cost per person and lower or raise if necessary. A Holiday Party “Save the Date” will be posted in the next Newsletter.

2.6 Council Membership and Committees - Discussed in previous sections.

2.7 Treasurers Report – Checking account balance on 05-30-2014 was \$3207.88. Spring Fling costs were \$3,158.58 leaving a balance of \$49.30.

2.8 Retiree Participation in USCG Related Events/DC Area Events Calendar – It has been requested that the Retiree Council have a kiosk and representative at the Coast Guard Day Picnic in August to encourage Council activities and answer any questions concerning the Retiree Service Desk with the opportunity for encouraging participation in the RSD.

2.9 Meeting Schedule and location – Location of meetings will continue to be the CG Personnel Service Center (PSC) in the Ballston Common Mall office building, Arlington, VA until further notice.

26 September 2014

05 December 2014

2.11 Suggestions for the Good of the Order – There were no suggestions.

ADJOURNMENT -10:10 AM

Minutes prepared by Lula Carpenter, CACG Retiree Council Secretary

Submitted 30 June 2014