

## **ST. AUGUSTINE-PALM COAST NAVY LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES February 10, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the St. Augustine-Palm Coast Navy League Council was held February 10, 2020 at Christ the King Anglican Church. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by President Patrick McCormack.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Sally Watson, Patrick McCormack, Bill Dudley, Claude Caviness, Lee Figliuolo, Lee Spancake, Patrick Shoemaker, Joe Giammanco, Garry Cohn, John Leslie, Doug Lileks, Paul Kimmel, Rick Myer, Jim Golomb, Larry and Sherryl Mull.

**VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. O'Connell former Merchant Marine for two years during WWII and then went into the Navy for a year when the war ended.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Patrick McCormack led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INVOCATION:** Fr. David Allert gave the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2020. Motion carried.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Bill Dudley gave the report in the absence of Bob Price..\$10,413 in the Administrative account. \$39,868 in the Bobbitt account. \$625 have been collected in local dues this year. Motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

### **MILITARY AFFAIRS:**

**VR-58** - Claude Caviness reported that they will have two SOQ and Enlisted Person of the Year awards in March. No date set.

**USCG ANT** - Claude Caviness reported they are no longer on safety stand down.

**USCG VALIANT** - Sally Watson reported they recently had a port call in Puerto Rico. They are due home in a few weeks.

**USS SULLIVANS** – No report.

**HITRON** - Paul Kimmel reported they had EPOQ and EPOY on February 3. The winner of the Perchard award was not present. Mike Campbell will be leaving at Change of Command in May. Paul will work with the new CO to see about Gun Range and Fast Boat operations. Paul was in touch with Mike Fricke. This is a young man that Navy League introduced to the Coast Guard after being turned down by the other academies. He graduated from the CG Academy and is now on the CGC Hamilton. He is applying for Flight School. Mike wanted to thank Navy League for helping him find his career.

**YOUTH AFFAIRS** - Joe Giammanco reported that he will be putting in a request for scholarship money for the JROTC programs. The Sea Cadets had a field training exercise. They had a simulated night war time game. There are some drills coming up if anyone would like to attend. A graduation ceremony with a meal is being planned and Navy League will be invited to that.

**SEA CADETS** - Larry Mull reported that their Trebuchet team won two trophies in their recent competition at the Citadel. They won the Spirit Trophy for assisting other teams in moving equipment and loaning a pouch for the sling to another team who beat our Sea Cadets. A lesson learned that helping others might not help you win, but it is the right thing to do. They also won the Video Trophy. They had the best video of building their Trebuchet from beginning to end. They have been invited back for next year. A You Tube link will be available for everyone to view of the video.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Claude Caviness reported we are low on brochures. Lee and Claude will work on updating the brochure before printing more. Claude will help anyone in recruiting a new member if they need help. Patrick has Navy League Pens available to hand out to prospective members.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Lee Figliuolo reminded everyone that articles need to be submitted for the next Bosun's Locker. Deadline is third week of March.

**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS:** No report.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**NAVY LEAGUE MISSION:** Patrick talked about the Navy League website and encouraged members to look at it if they haven't already. Patrick recently completed the annual report and learned a new appreciation for all Navy League does. He wants to continue having the same events that we have been participating in:

Member and Directors Meeting Recruit Community Affiliates - we have some Recruit Corporate Members - keep in mind we can do that Legislative Grassroots Program - Any time a member talks to a State or National Representative, or staff member and mentions Navy League, that counts as Legislative Outreach. That should be reported to Patrick. Letter writing campaigns

While these are components to the National report, Patrick would like us to also focus on Navy League objectives:

1. Foster interest in a strong Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine as key element of America's national defense.
2. Educate and inform the American people about the role of sea power.
3. Improve public understanding and appreciation of those who wear the uniforms of our armed forces and to better the conditions under which they serve.
4. Provide support and recognition for the Reserve forces in our communities.
5. Educate and train our youth in the customs and traditions of the Navy, Marine Corps, the Coast Guard and the Merchant Marine.

Fundraising - we are excellent at that Sea Services Support - we are strong in that area Public Education Activities - we have members that belong to many area organizations Bill Dudley is a member of the Veterans Council. He would like a member of Navy League to join the Veterans Council and be our representative.

Patrick charged all members to get involved in writing letters when you see something on the news, or read something you feel strongly about. Bill Dudley said that Navy League sends out a monthly newsletter that Lee forwards to all members. Navy League is working for the Sea Services to get

support from the government. There are opportunities to promote the issues they support. Click on a link, and usually there is a pre-written letter that you can sign.

Patrick said in our local government that when a constituent writes a letter that goes a long way to support the issue, especially a Veteran.

Garry Cohn suggested especially for Liaisons, when you make contact with a representative online be sure and mention your Navy League connection. Bill Dudley suggested asking for a picture. When you get a response, send it to Lee with the picture for publication in the Bosun's Locker.

Patrick Shoemaker said the LCS9, USS Little Rock is new to Mayport. February 11, there will be a report on Action 10 news.

Claude Caviness told the members that Marine Corps, Corporal Dwayne Dewey, Metal of Honor recipient, during WWII is in the Lassen Home. Members have visited with him. When we have our EPOY for Blount Island Command, he will be front and center.

Bill Dudley said that our Council has too much money in the bank. We always want to have a cushion, but we are over the cushion. We never meant to accumulate a large amount of money. We will look for ways to reinvest in our units. Suggestions are welcome.

Fr. David thanked the Council for their thoughtfulness, kindness, prayers, and gift in the passing of his father.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

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Sally Watson, Secretary  
St. Augustine-Palm Coast Navy League Council