

**MINUTES OF THE
ST. AUGUSTINE - PALM COAST NAVY LEAGUE COUNCIL
MEETING DATE: AUGUST 13, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: The monthly meeting of the St. Augustine-Palm Coast Navy League Council was held at Christ the King Anglican Church. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by President Bill Dudley.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Bill Dudley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Mike Zollar gave the invocation.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Dudley, Sally Watson, Patrick McCormack, Jerry Cameron, Claude Caviness, Lee Figliuolo, Ken Moffa, Dave and Jane Singleton, Garry Cohn, Joe Giammanco, Lee Spancake, Stan Gilewicz, Mike Zollar, Ellie & George Grech, Bob Price, Bill & Dee Hamm, Bob Quinney, Ian Pollitt, John Leslie, Roman Kopychuk, Dave Sullivan, Brian Foy.

GUESTS: Sea Cadet, Isabella Giammanco

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2018 meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Price reported there was \$11,259.42 in the operating account and \$25,887.13 in the Bobbitt account. This year we have collected about \$6,900 and spent \$9,900. The golf tournament is our fundraiser, so we'll be making up the difference soon. Bob explained that he is no longer the Treasurer, but is taking over until a replacement can be found. Jaime Sawczyn is unable to continue due to her working and living in Jacksonville. She is no longer able to make the meetings. Motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

LIAISON REPORT: Ian Pollitt

The liaisons reported on their units:

USCGC VALIANT - Sally Watson reported Change of Command went well. Valiant had a compressor issue and is currently waiting for repair which should take two weeks before they can get underway. They should be back in time for the golf tournament.

USCGC MARIA BRAY - No Report

USS SULLIVANS - Garry Cohn reported they are deployed until around Christmas. Garry mentioned that he stopped at the VALIANT to pick up the Challenge coins for the golf course. Cdr Waldron expressed an interest in addressing our council.

SOLICITATION FOR VOUCHERS FOR BENI PACKAGE Ian asked for volunteers to take letters to establishments around town to solicit free meals and vouchers for different attractions. See Ian if you would like to help.

USCGC RIDLEY - Change of Command has taken place.

USCGC SAWFISH - The ship will be going to Baltimore to be refurbished. The crew

will be returning with another cutter.

BLOUNT ISLAND COMMAND - No Report

HITRON - EPOQ and Perchard awards have taken place

USS FARRAGUT - No Report

VR 58 - No Report

SECTOR JACKSONVILLE - Ian reported that he had a meeting with Sr. Chief Whitehead, Acting CMC, of Sector Jacksonville. We do not sponsor Sector Jax, but we do have a relationship with them. When the new CMC arrives, Chief Whitehead will arrange a meeting with the new chief. They are in charge of all the cutters in the area.

SURFRON 14 - There is a new Commodore. Ian will be over to meet the new Master Chief. Ian recommended that we no longer sponsor Surfron 14 and the Board Members approved. When Ian meets the new Master Chief, he will discuss our decision to no longer sponsor them. This is similar to Sector Jacksonville. We will still maintain our relationship with them.

USCGC HAMMER and USS HUE CITY - Ian made a plea for Liaisons for these two units. See Ian if interested.

YOUTH PROGRAMS - Joe Giammanco reported that Sea Cadets had a busy summer. First drill weekend is coming up August 18th & 19th. Sea Cadet t-shirts are for sale to help pay for their functions. The group is so large that they have to find bigger venues for their events and are now having to pay. The Sea Cadets now have 53 students enrolled. St. Augustine unit will be taking approximately 5-8 Cadets from Ocala until their unit has leadership in place. Joe said he would welcome anyone who would like to be an instructor. The instructor doesn't have to be full time. He encouraged retirees to come to their meetings and hang out and talk to the kids.

PUBLIC RELATIONS - No Report

MEMBERSHIP - Claude is recruiting a Master Chief from the Iwo Jima. Claude mentioned that he arranged a small birthday party for our SPAR, Marian Barnett, on her 97th birthday. Mayor Shaver was present along with Sally Watson and Christine Rodenbaugh. Christine interviewed Marian and took photographs. The article appeared in the St. Augustine Record Sunday Life section on August 5th.

COMMUNICATIONS - No report

GOLF TOURNAMENT - Lee Figliuolo reported we have \$3,300 in hole sponsors, one \$1,000 Gold sponsor, two Silver sponsors at \$500 each, 13 sponsors at \$100 each and two in kind donations. Genesis of St. Augustine will be a sponsor again. They will have a new G80 on hole 17, prizes on the other three par 3's, Palm Coast Ford will put a Ford F-150 on one of the front par 3's along with another prize on another hole. Lee has already gotten prizes for the raffle and silent auction. We have 9 registrations for \$550. Lee needs assistance the day of the tournament. Two at registration from 7:15-9 am, one to sell raffle tickets during the same period, 4 people to monitor the two hole in 1's. He is trying to limit military registrations to one foursome per large unit with no more than 44-48 players. Last year we had 48 and that cost us \$3,000. If we have any more than that, we won't be making any money. Bill Dudley questioned if we could have a military rate and not limit registrations. Lee stated that our current

military rate is \$85 and that is the amount we charge to sponsor a golfer, but we could lower that to around \$55 to cover golf and lunch. John Leslie offered a suggestion regarding volunteers. Kohls Department Stores has a program called Kohls Cares. They will actually pay an organization to have their volunteers work in 3 hour shifts. For every 5 employees that volunteer for a 3 hr. shift, the organization will be paid \$500. He used volunteers for a Veterans Council golf tournament. Each volunteer was given a \$5 t-shirt. They made \$2,000 for the Veterans Council.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS - Dave Sullivan is partnering with new member, Brian Foy, with the idea that Brian will take Dave's position in the future. President Trump just signed the National Defense Authorization Act. This will allow the Department of Defense to plan how to spend their money instead of scrambling last minute. Early voting starts this week. Brian has been making contacts in the National Navy League offices in DC and hoping to continue talks with Dave for a smooth transition.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - Mike Zollar announced the date of our Christmas Party as Saturday, December 8th. It will be a luncheon at Grand Haven Country Club in Palm Coast. Details to follow.

COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP - Renee from The Ponce hotel has been comping our SOY when they come on their St. Augustine weekend. She refuses any compensation. We have given her a plaque to display in the lobby. Ian suggested we give her a complimentary membership. We'll invite her to a meeting when we have a speaker and give her a membership certificate. She is very pro-military and hopefully will get involved.

NEW MEMBER PRESENTATION - Bob Quinney was presented his name tag and membership certificate.

ILL COUNCIL MEMBER - Bill Korach has been in Flagler Hospital and Bill Dudley and Jerry Cameron have kept in touch with him. He is seriously ill. If you would like to visit him, check in advance.

MERITORIOUS NAVY LEAGUE COUNCIL - Bill Dudley has received our plaque from NL of the United States for meritorious achievement as a council.

UPCOMING EVENTS -

September 22 - A Gathering in the Pines will be held to dedicate the POW-MIA Memorial and Chapel. The event will be 9 am - 5 pm at Cecil Field with the dedication at noon. They'd like a good turnout. There will be massing of the colors. Entertainment and food available.

November 12 - Veterans Day There will be no parade this year. Anastasia Baptist Church on A1A will be hosting the "Traveling Vietnam Wall" as well as the "Quilt of Tears". Navy League and Sea Cadets will each have a table to recruit members. St. Augustine High School Chorale will be performing. The program will begin at 11:11 am and last about an hour.

SEA CADETS - They are short uniforms and the ones they have are odd sizes that can't be used. They used to get uniforms from JROTC members, but the uniforms are no longer the same. The parents are footing a large part of the bill to outfit their children and provide for weekend outings. The council has always given them \$2000 a year to help with their expenses. That amount is no longer sufficient for their needs. We discussed various ways to help them financially. Suggestions were offered.

NEW BUSINESS -

At our Board Meeting in July, Joe Giammanco gave a report on the growth of the number of Sea Cadets and challenges they are facing now that they are 53 strong with a goal of 75. They need to have a larger facility for drill weekends. Most of the financial burden has been on the parents.

Our Navy League Council has given the cadets \$2000 a year in the past. Last year that number was \$3000. In the past we had a much smaller number of Cadets, 17-23, and the funding averaged \$133 per Cadet. With 53 Cadets, that funding averages \$37 per Cadet.

Joe addressed the Board with a break down of the costs associated with operating for a year. \$350 to join the program, annual renewal is \$170, and of that money, headquarters get \$90. The cost is around \$400 for parents to send their child to other functions. Then there are uniform costs of \$350-\$400. The parents are asked for \$250 and then another \$200 for name tags and flashing. There are required uniforms they do not get. They try to go into the community to find uniforms and they used to be able to get them from the JROTC at Nease High School. Now the JROTC uses different uniforms so that source is unavailable. The Cadets are smaller and not all fit. So more uniforms are needed. One weekend a month they have a day function and 4 times a year they have overnight trips. The average day trip is \$500 and overnight trip is \$800. They have tried to do fundraising but it is hard to get the Cadets there during the school year and during the summer they are gone of vacation or other activities. For a new Cadet, they are in a short fall of about \$220 per year, and for an existing Cadet \$250. They are \$8000 shy for new Cadets and \$4000 for existing Cadets.

The Sea Cadet program needs \$12,600 to get the program up and running. Joe has asked the Council to fund half of that, so \$6300. He would like to change the procedure we have had in place. Currently they receive \$500 per quarter. He would like to see the Council change to a \$200 per Cadet cost every quarter. The Board discussed giving Sea Cadets \$6300 now and then figure a way to fund the \$200 per Cadet every quarter. Earlier this week, Bill Dudley sent an e-mail to the Board with a recommended proposal and asked the Board to reply so the topic can be on the agenda for tonight's meeting. The Board approved the \$6300 request and the membership needs to vote on it tonight.

Bill Dudley reminded the Council that we end the year with a significant amount of money. We are supposed to spend down to zero every year. We have never done that, but we have been hesitant to do that because things always come up. He said that we have always

Jerry Cameron stated that there is nothing more important than investing in our young people. Patrick McCormack reminded us that all we have done in the last two years is discuss how we can grow the Sea Cadet program and now we have. We need to support them financially.

A motion was made and seconded to give the Sea Cadet program \$6300 tonight. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bill Dudley reminded the members that the Sea Cadets have outgrown the St. Augustine Lighthouse location. If anyone knows of a venue where the Sea Cadets train can train, please contact Bill and he will meet this the venue.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

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