

DIVISION 2 ELECTION MEETING MINUTES

November 10, 2009

Date and Time: Tuesday, November 10, 2009 / 1900-2100 PDT

Location: Coast Guard Base at Pier 36, Seattle ~ Bear Room

Meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance; followed by welcome and introductions.

In attendance: Peter Raiswell, Andre Billeadeaux, John Burreson, Noel Patterson, Joseph LeCointe, Craig Smith, Mary Ann Chapman, Wendell Brunk, Bill Barnes, Kelly Garber, Penny Dustin, Sue Stiller, Penny Richter, Lynn Dossett, Mary Dossett, Eric Gilmore, Bryon Dees, Jon-Jacques Umphrey, Micah Steinbach, Doug Julien, Lynn McClelland, Frank McJunkins, Leo Leonard, Bonnie Schiesswohl.

District Leadership 2010: Richard Coons, D-CAPT N elect: Richard joined the Auxiliary in 2001. He works for FEMA, and is looking forward to his position as D-CAPT North; Group Port Angeles.

Comments: Peter Raiswell, COS D13: we will see emphasis in 2010 on 'Citizen's Action Network', a national program we will be hearing more about soon. RBS Program: there is a national policy on RBS; we need more guidance from District level. We need to make sure programs and resources are working well together. Our district is very big: 400,000 square miles; we need to keep the connections open between East and West, North and South. Portland will become Sector Columbia River. We need to be working closely with the Coast Guard. Budget: possibly 30 percent reduction? SKYPE is tremendously cost-effective [free], especially for trainings.

III: Bill Barnes filling in for Viggo Bertelson, F22.

Election Committee Report: Lynn McClelland introduced the 3 current nominees: Mary Ann Chapman for Division Commander; Joseph LeCointe and Craig Smith running for Vice. She asked if there are any other nominations for the 2 positions, hearing none three times, there are no others.

Division 2 Goals and Objectives:

Mary Ann Chapman ~ we need to build Flotillas. We have 1 Mega-Flotilla; we would like to see 2 Mega-Flotillas. Old Aux vs. / New Aux: Mary Ann is tired of the discussion. 3-Core Competencies emphasis. She states we don't do well at leadership, and we need a system in place to train strong leaders, to have them ready.

Motion was made to cast a single ballot to elect Mary Ann; moved by Wendell Brunk and seconded by Noel Patterson. Mary Ann elected as Division Commander.

Joseph LeCointe, As DSO-VE, Joseph wants to see development of RBS programs. We only have about 4 PV's; more are needed. Also there is a need for greater focus on VEs: especially on the smaller vessels. He would like to see Children's Programs developed also. Joseph spoke of very successful response to RBS courses being held at the Center for Wooden Boats and at local dealerships; we want to see an increase in all of these programs, which all serve toward our common goal of SAVING LIVES.

Craig Smith: Craig stated we live in a unique Maritime environment. His leadership goals parallel Mary Ann's goals: F24 to share with other flotillas and to lift up other flotillas. He presented the theme of "One step forward": for every member of every flotilla to take 1 step forward. Little coordination between SOs is a weakness.

Secret Ballot: Peter Raiswell voting for Dennis Hoppman. 9 votes were cast; Craig Smith elected as Vice Commander.

SKYPE: Jon-Jacques Umphrey gave a demo with Commander Billeadeaux and Noel Patterson assisting, on Skype video conferencing and video telecommunications. Skype runs on VOIP: voice-over internet protocol. It runs on Mac OS X, Windows, and Linux. Skype runs on phone lines; Skype user --> to Skype user is free, anywhere in the US or in the world. Skype can be used for conference calling, file sharing, displaying presentations. Some extras have additional costs. You need camera, microphone, and Skype software. Conduct searches by name; email; your contacts. You can also create Skype groups. Questions and answers/discussion followed.

Staff Reports:

Public Affairs: Craig Smith reported F24 Color Guard to march tomorrow in parade, at the University of WA Medal of Honor Memorial Dedication. Also per Bob Hayes, 'Pacific Expo' next Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 19-21 [10 am to 6 pm Thurs, Fri; 10-3 p m Sat] at Quest Exhibition Center: Gold-side will be there, and they are requesting Aux presence each day. Contact John Burreson. Regional Boat Show, Jan. 29-Feb 6: Craig wants to see a coordinator.

Public Education: Wendell reported on F25's purchase of Coastie: available for other flotilla's to use when accompanied by a member of F25.

Awards: Leo Leonard, D13 Awards Writing Coordinator gave a hand-out on writing awards; see attached. Anyone can recommend someone for an award; see Chapter 11 of the Auxiliary Manual. An award recommendation can be related to activity done over a period of time, or to a specific event, or something unusual. Leo can be contacted; also he will contact you for more information, after receiving your recommendation. There are ribbon awards, also Commandant's Letter of Commendation. Timeliness is important, don't let it wait a year or two, and try to get your recommendation in as soon as possible. Also, please include your contact information. Leo feels they aren't getting enough awards. There is a handout available online. Leo's wife Marilyn Leonard is the current National Auxiliarist of the Year.

Commander Billeadeaux spoke of Auxiliarists as Superheroes ~ we have a Maritime Culture; we are under the umbrella of Homeland Security. In the Auxiliary, we get orders, uniform, insurance [not involved in Military, however]. We need to focus on 'Can do': what we can do; we can collaborate with the East Coast immediately. How do we keep members happy? We have so many opportunities. Commander Billeadeaux spoke of approaching a Seattle Fire Station training officer and asking if Auxiliarists can be involved in training [such as ICS or first aid training]. We have opportunities all around us to connect with others. Be vocal. Communicate. He cited 2 reasons members quit: lack of mentoring [leadership] and lack of communication. He also spoke of unique opportunity Auxiliarists have to take part in training at Camp Murray.

Auxiliarist of the Week: Maria, Alki Point Lighthouse Coordinator. She spoke of a contract company that receives 30 percent of proceeds; the rest goes to the Division to cover expenses incurred. A check given to the Division in the amount of \$1,250.00 she would like to see a big event held at the Lighthouse.

Division 2 Flotillas 2009: Doug Julien reported the number of members with over 100 hours has increased in all areas. F21 and F25 have higher percent of involvement. IDCP handout: attached to last page of meeting agenda, this shows Division 2 2009 Flotilla performance and goals.

ATONS: Tom states ATON verification is *direct support* to the Coast Guard.

Materials: Penny states there is only 1 key to the locker; lots of materials there.

Member Training: Jon-Jacques reports AUXNAV instructors were just obtained this week. He will be putting together a calendar. TCT classes will be scheduled for the first part of 2010. Per Penny, we need to know the number of students in order to order materials.

Ops: Kelly Garber reported on operations. Regarding cold-water materials we need, Noel sent recommendation to DIRAUX. Recommendation that Auxiliarists could get their own PPE, i.e. thermal underwear, thermal socks, gloves. If OK'd by DIRAUX, we'll get a list distributed for procurement [where these items can be obtained]. Noel reported on temporary fuel budget; during October there was a 12-day issue with the fuel budget, followed by a temporary freeze, and now we have fuel budget again. Discussion of thermal socks /fleece bootie followed: should Auxiliarists supply their own thermal socks?

3rd QE Session coming up this weekend, per Kelly Garber. It will be the last QE session for the year.

Publications Report: Bonnie Schiesswohl reported True North News is closing its doors after 9 years. The next Publications Officer will have the opportunity to create a new publication. She received a standing ovation and we appreciate her hard work.

Financial Report: Financial officer not present / no change reported [see attached].

Moved and seconded to accept September and October minutes.

January 17 Division 2 Change of Watch – Anthony's Shilshole Please make reservation through Keith Harding.

Meeting adjourned 9:05 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Micah Steinbach