

**Maritime College Alumni Association
General Meeting Minutes for December 19, 2019**

Meet Held at:
SUNY Maritime College
Bronx, NY 10465

Officers – Voting Members Present

- Jennifer Hayes
- Mike Brown
- Kevin Comerford
- John Valvo
- Ann Marie Bhola

Board Members

- Kevin Danko
- Carl Hausheer (ph)
- Mike Trotta
- Ted Mason
- Sam Reilly
- John LaGrassa (ph)
- Leo Imperial
- Chris Nystrom

Chapter Presidents

- Art Sulzer
- Dennis Brennan (ph – Non-Voting)
- Jim Yahner (ph)

Past Presidents

- John Bradley

Staff

- Saira Yoo
- Doug Hasbrouck – SUNY
- RADM Mike Alfultis - SUNY

1812

Call to order

Approval of Minutes

Motion by John Valvo and second by Kevin Comerford to approve the November 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

- RADM Alfultis noted that dates need to be updated, ADM dinner is scheduled for 28 Apr, and the Ring night is 2 Apr.
- SUNY staff present, Doug Hasbrouck, not Bill

Motion Carried.

1814

Report of Chapter Presidents

Art S reported they had 48 in attendance for their Holiday party and they voted on their chapter board members, no changes were noted. This was a successful joint Maritime event. There were 2 cadets in attendance with their alumni family members.

Jim Y – nothing to report

Carl H – NJ had a joint meeting with KP and members supported the Workboat event in New Orleans.
Dennis B – San Diego chapter start-up in progress

1818

Treasurer's Report

John V reported the membership dues were comparable to this same point last year. Expect additional dues revenue from the recent mailing. Event revenue collected is on budget and expense are under budget. Costs for Dec are on Track, expect to end the year positive.

Sam R reviewed the largest fund for risk assessment simulating different conditions, he noted that there may be potential downsides coming in 2020. Recommended looking at the two year historical gains/losses which over the past two years the funds were up 10%. Plans will be made to discuss strategies with FTI in 2020.

1826

Kevin C proposed a by-law change requiring a candidate for Board President, 1st Vice president and 2nd Vice President have served at least one year on the board as a prerequisite. Boards member should be present at a board meeting at least 1 per quarter despite no By-Law mandating it currently.

Art S recommended applicants be dues paying members before applying to the board and serve at least three years on the board before applying to an officer position.

Art S suggested all by-law changes be compiled for one review.

Anthony D has started a list of proposed changes, Art offered his help based on his experience with recent chapter changes.

Mike B reported that Kevin Fox '81 is working on setting up a potential scholarship for freshman. RADM A suggested the scholarship be reviewed for where it is administered (college vs MCAA) there may be advantages for the recipient, pros and cons should be weighed.

1833

Nomination Committee

Jennifer H announced that she will not seek a second term as president, and John V will run for the position of president.

John V stated that Jennifer H has put here heart into the MCAA as president and sees this as an unfortunate turn of events, we will continue to take care of the Alumni, support the school and the students.

Mike T presented the draft slate of candidates to be listed on the ballot to the board for approval. The nominations committee recommended the removal of any candidates that are FSS moderators.

John B asked how the individuals who were nominated will be notified that there were not eligible for the ballot.

Mike T will call anyone who is not eligible for the ballot.

Jennifer H said her recommendation letter to the nominations committee should be sent out with the ballot as to inform the members.

The reasons for the individuals being removed from the ballot are detailed in the president's recommendation letter.

John B discussed concerns about the recommendation letter.

Ann Marie B noted work related repercussions for social media posts made by people she knows.

Jennifer H shared that moderators could be held liable for the content on the FSS Facebook page. Directors on the MCAA Board act as representatives of the Association. The Association can not take on the risk of being liable for the content on the FSS Facebook page.

RADM A shared that most alumni he has spoken to agree that the FSS group cannot be affiliated with the MCAA or the college.

Motion by Art Sulzer and second by Chris Nystrom to remove those nominees that were not eligible due to the liability described above.

Motion Carried

Motion by Kevin Comeford and second by Chris Nystrom to post the president's recommendation letter after the individuals being removed from the ballot are contacted by the membership committee chair.

Jennifer H abstained

Motion Carried

Motion by Leo Imperial and second by Chris Nystrom to nominate Kevin Comeford to Treasurer, seconded by Chris Nystrom.

Jennifer H abstained

Motion Carried

Motion by Mike Brown and second by John Bradley to nominate John Valvo for President.

Jennifer H and John V abstained.

Motion Carried

1910

Ted M is working with individuals looking to leave money to the school and/or the association. He notes that we need to be able to present a plan for any donations to these individuals before any money would be made available. There are several potential uses for the donations and some priorities should be identified for the most impactful use of potential funds.

Doug H shared that the college was working on potential speakers for the Captain Tomb Distinguished Leadership Lecture Series.

Ted M and Leo I, shared progress on the award recipient's medal and passed around a sample.

Ted M also noted that work needed to be done to secure additional sponsorship for the dinner. Saira Y will be working on contacting additional sponsors.

An issue was raised about Vic C's status as a moderator of the FSS Facebook page. John B stated he called Vic C to tell him that he would need to remove himself as a moderator to continue serving on the board. Vic C told John B that he requested to be removed as a moderator and that he is no longer a moderator.

Since Vic C was not present at the meeting he will address his status and intentions at the next board meeting. Jennifer H will send a letter to Vic C asking him to address the potential conflict at the next board meeting.

1940

RADM A shared that the search for a new Provost is going well and they were overwhelmed with very qualified candidates, expect to have a decision by 1 March. He also shared the upcoming school's events, which are updated on the school calendar and this year will be a European cruise for sea term.

Kevin C asked that all potential By-law changes be sent to him so he can compile a list in the first quarter of 2020 and send out for discussion.

1945

Motion by John B to adjourn, seconded by Mike B

Motion Carried