

Maritime College Alumni Association
General Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2020

Meeting held at:

Teleconference

(All participants called in)

Officers

- John Valvo, President
- Kevin Comerford, Treasurer
- Annmarie Bhola, Assistant Treasurer
- Sam Reilly, 2nd Vice President
- Anthony DeSimone, Secretary

Board Members

- Carl Hausheer
- Ted Mason
- Kevin Danko
- Leonard Imperial
- Chris Nystrom
- Marissa Danzy

Chapter Presidents

- Marianne Michaelsen-Sanderson
- Jamie McNamara
- Zhen Shao
- Mike Flood

Maritime College

- RADM Michael Alfultis
- Doug Hasbrouck

Staff

- Saira Yoo, Director
- Matthew Bonvento, Magazine Editor

Guests

- Joe Sesvack, President, MC Parents Association

Ted Mason volunteered to take Minutes (Secretary absent due to professional conflict)

1805

Called to Order

1808

Review of Minutes

Ted Mason remarked that corrections to Minutes should be explicit and for correction of prior month minutes to reflect Scholarship amounts to be at 3% of the average of year-end assets for the prior 3 years, rather than 4%. Minute approved, subject to correction.

1809

Chapter Reports

Jamie Macnara for Jersey Chapter reported 15 attended a highly successful Thunder Mountain Skeet/Trap Shoot and plans more events. Recommends including recent grads.

1812

Mike Trotta invited all to attend w/e Mountain Bike event at Bethpage on Thanksgiving Saturday.

1814

John Valvo reported his successful call with Chapter Presidents and introduced Joe Sesvackwho expressed thanks for including MCPA at the board meeting.

1817

Saira Yoo gave the **Director's report** - Ancient Mariners Golf - 78 golfers, 42 for lunch, \$7,484 net; discussed Homecoming event; Honors dinner moved to 4/22/2021, subject to subsequent review with variable formats considered.

1819

Leo Imperial requested deferral of Honors Dinner be reported in Fort Schuyler magazine.

1820

Sam Reilly reported as Kevin Commerford not aboard due to death in family - Treasurer's report was not distributed, cumulative loss YTD Oct = (\$10,000), Membership Dues at \$17,300 vs \$46,000 in 2019, U/W Fund at \$13,000 vs. \$6,300, Assets at \$11,193,000 after w/d of \$120,000 for Pier Side Training.

1827

RADM Michael Alfultis - face-to-face training wrapped up, remote instruction post Thanksgiving, January start 1/6 (remote), no Spring Break, SST = 2*67 days, \$8,000/\$10,000 per leg, visits Islands. COVID rate on campus = .6% (very good); New training ship- cut first steel 12/13/20 expect delivery 1/2023; Seasons best to all.

1833

Committee Reports (by Chairs):

Saira Yoo - videos needed for a member from each Committee and each Chapter

Events

Kevin Danko recent successes, camaraderie is key, need more similar to pull in new blood, seek diversity in future events, consider Leo Imperial Bike Ride. John Valvo seeks events on Maritime Day, asks that committee be formed to facilitate. Leo Imperial asks College to invite students to attend Leo Imperial Bike Ride/MA will explore, all reminded students use INSTAGRAM. Joe Sesevack will put out a notice to the Parents Association.

Public Relations

Kevin Danko discussed re-branding, website key, considering what to post, how to engage/make use of social media (frequency, analytics, cross promotion, how/when to promote events), structured communications/calendar coordination.

Chapters

Carl Hausheer, no updates.

Finance - Sam Reilly, meeting with FTI, 8% cash pre-election, 13.6% up YTD, consistent with indexes, Street expects good year in 2021. Saira Yoo and Kevin Commerford working with Chase to facilitate electronic funds transfer to FTI w/o fees and timely.

Audit

John Valvo/Saira Yoo completed at the last minute, tax returns filed. RFP for Audit Services ready. Ted Mason will seek prospective Audit Firms from the Navy League which is also seeking a new service provider.

Membership

Kevin Danko, we must be more effective in solicitation (at events, use of spending pie-chart, offer more/new values, sending Committee videos, emphasis on connections and new faces). Regarding Database merge - advanced, but will need a formal Agreement addressing access, third parties, levels

of access, how best to use and gain advantage(s). Regarding expired membership - we will soon have a "call list".

Nominations

Annemarie Bhola, Expecting November 30 close out for Nominations from the floor/membership, (only two currently in hand) carefully reviewing time schedule for final review, ballot printing, mailing, etc. Emphasis is upon staying as close to By-Laws as possible given impact of COVID-19. Procedure refinement, post election, required.

Honors

Ted Mason, others, see above, nature of deferred event to be discussed with recipients.

Scholarships

Mike Brown, nothing new, SOP working well. Mike Brown stepping down as Chair.

All Hands on Deck (Diversity Policy)

Annemarie Bhola, discussed the necessity of all Board Members becoming fully aware of need, acceptance of a policy, and participation in training.

Motion by Annemarie Bhola, seconded by Mike Trotta, discussed and Approved Unanimously:

All board members be trained in a sexual harassment, diversity and inclusiveness policy, to be formulated by the Committee, with an effectiveness beginning in 2021.

Motion carried.

1950

New Business

Mike Brown indicated he needed more material for the coming issue of FORT SCHUYLER magazine. All present asked to provide. Leo Imperial requested a placeholder for the Thanksgiving Biking event.

John Valvo

Next board meeting Thursday, Dec 17th.

Ted Mason reported success in seeking a Commanding Officer interview of Navy League sponsored NJROTC'S highest performing Cadet for an NROTC Full scholarship. It is expected the Cadet would attend Maritime College if successful.

Ted Mason reported the highly successful video tour of HMS Victory as a fundraiser for friends of the Royal Naval Museum in Great Britain. He highly recommends a similar format for the MC with respect to and during the construction of the new training ship, believing it would be of real interest to all alumni, with potential for a series of tours, interviews, etc.

Ted Mason reported scheduling of a visit planned with Provost Dr. Jennifer Waters to discuss a Values Program that could augment interest in MCAA and the MC.

2005

Phil Kant reported improving health.

2006

Doug Hasbrouck reported he is looking at a range of real, virtual and hybrid events.

2014

Joe Sesvack, of MCPA, offered to reach out to parents that might become members of MCAA and to offer up potential recruiting ideas to Kevin Danko.

2016

Motion to adjourn

John Valvo calls for adjournment.