



Maritime College Alumni Association

Board Meeting Minutes – March 2021

Meeting Held on March 18, 2021 via Teleconference

Officers

Kevin Danko	President
Anmarie Bhola	1st Vice President
Leo Imperial	2nd Vice President
Michael Paturas	Secretary Elect
Kevin Comerford	Treasurer
Sam Reilly	Assistant Treasurer

Board Members

Carl Hausheer	Ted Mason
Mike Trotta	Rick McClain
Bridget Cooney	Ryan Modruson
Chris Nystrom	Victor Corso

Past MCAA Presidents

John Valvo	Past President - 2020
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MCAA Staff

Jeanne Murphy	Executive Director
Saira Yoo	Director of Alumni Affairs

Chapter Presidents

Jim Yahner – Long Island	Art Sulzer – Delaware
Zhen Shao – Con Edison	Jamie McNamara – New Jersey

SUNY Maritime College

Doug Hasbrouck	VP of Development
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1803 – Call to Order

President Kevin Danko calls the March 2021 meeting to order and puts forth a motion to approve the February 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion Carried.

1806 – Chapter President Updates:

- **Art Sulzer – Delaware Chapter**
 - Low number of applicants for available scholarships, working to improve awareness and will seek Jeanne Murphy's assistance in doing so.
- **Jamie McNamara – New Jersey Chapter**
 - Looking to pursue outdoor Alumni event in June; awaiting confirmation from restaurant to do so.
- **Zhen Shao – Con Edison Chapter**
 - Nothing to report.
- **Jim Yahner – Long Island**
 - Nothing to report.

1809 – Directors Report

Jeanne Murphy:

- Officially 3rd week on Maritime campus, working to get adjusted with staff and cadets.
- Will disseminate out personal contact information
- General email to be sent to Alumni Community next week

Saira Yoo:

- Golf Classic is confirmed with club host for June 14, 2021
- Beginning to work on personalized gifts for golfers
- Identifying sponsors for Golf Outing

1815 – Treasurers Report - Kevin Comerford

February Update:

- **Dues:** \$4,800 added
- **Development Fund:** \$13,696 total
 - \$10,000 added from John Valvo for mental health awareness at the college
- **Total for February:** \$18,518 added

Expenses:

- Salaries: \$11,657 a month
- Bookkeeper: \$2,000 a month

Summary:

- Up \$2,700 in the month of February
- For the year, the MCAA is up \$13,052
- Funds: \$11,369,000 as of March 1
 - Withdrawal of \$350,000
- Applied for 2nd PPP Loan: \$16,053 approved on February 18, 2021 (*not including in operating expenses due to the fact it has yet to be forgiven*)

Treasurer Kevin Comerford brings up the topic of cash reserves to the Board, currently at 8% and whether to return it 6% based off the current status of the economy.

Topic will be further discussed at a later date, when more information can be brought to the MCAA Board and an official motion can be put forth.

1830 – College Report – Doug Hasbrouck

Doug thanks MCAA for their SST Scholarships. Noted that the Faculty and Student Association are looking into options for additional scholarships for underclass cadets.

Adm. sent out an update yesterday evening regarding the 2020 year in review, and the optimism around SST occurring this summer. Additionally spoke about the fact that the majority of Cadets have received their first vaccine.

Empire State VI departure is currently scheduled for April 27th, campus will be closed with no family or friends allowed to ensure the health and safety of the event for those cadets attending SST.

April 8th at 7pm ET, the Admiral will be holding a Facebook live to discuss the past year and current initiatives the college is working on, most notably this year's SST.

Spring Commencement is scheduled for April 23rd, college is looking for the MCAA to be in attendance at the event. Two separate events, face to face, to help keep both ceremonies small in size. (Intern students in April & License Students in July)

College is pleased to jointly promoting the Alumni panel scheduled for March 23rd, on disruption on Global Supply Chain due to COVID-19 with notable Maritime Alumni.

1845 – Committee Review

Events Committee:

- **New Alumni Night-** Tentatively scheduled for March 31st, Annemarie Bhola to assist in presenting how to maximize LinkedIn for Cadets
 - Event will have to be held virtually
- **Spring Networking Event –** May 14th
 - Virtual Event that will focus on a presentation regarding the new training ship
- **Alumni Golf Outing –** June 14th

Public Relations Committee:

- Introduce Jeanne Murphy and the Board as a whole, work to come up with ideas on how best to do so.
- Establish Alumni Spotlight Series – Monthly cadence on various MCAA social media platforms
 - Choose due paying alumni members and showcase who they are and where they are in their respective careers

Membership Committee:

- Working to announce and showcase in the upcoming newsletter that the MCAA is back on campus and what we are working on and what our current position is
- Want to define the benefits of MCAA membership, while exploring multi-year memberships
- Discussing membership tier levels; include in newsletter and show what benefits come with those various tiers
- Work to better introduce the MCAA to new graduates and what is the best way to approach them in doing so

❖ Membership Update from Executive Director Jeanne Murphy:

- Immediate needs for 2021 Membership is raise it back up
- Drop off in membership in 2020, likely attributed to COVID-19
- Currently the MCAA has 748 active regular members, which is above the 2020 level
- Need to identify 194 additional regular memberships to surpass 2019 level
- Will look to distribute renewal lists to all trustees
- Would like for each Board Member to send in 3-5 alumni names for membership

Chapters Committee:

- Meetings with Chapter Presidents will be held every 2 months prior to the Board Meeting
- Discussed the use of LinkedIn Premium and Sales Navigator to assist with identifying alumni in different states

Finance Committee:

- Working on lining up reserves to 8% to 6% to present to the Board
- As previously discussed last meeting, the Class of '73 has decided to choose the SUNY Maritime Foundation to establish their class fund

Audit Committee:

- Vic Corso and Anthony DeSimone are additional members of the Audit Committee
- Looking to occupy spots from non-Board members
- Expectation of the committee is to set up timelines and push out RFP's to set up audit services with various firms to conduct the 2021 audit.
- Stay on top of auditors for the current audit ongoing
- Revisiting auditors recommendations from prior years and determine whether or not we need to be implementing items and act on those that need to be acted on and the Board will be made aware if that is the case

Honors Committee:

- Sent out notification to honorees and alumni regarding the change in the annual awards dinner.

Legal Committee:

- No material updates

Scholarship Committee:

- Met and evaluated scholarship data available
- Set up criteria with all of the scoring and in doing so the MCAA awarded 102 scholarships for a total amount of \$511,436
 - Class of '65 gave \$5,000 scholarships each to 2nd class cadets (4 Deck & 4 Engine Second Class Cadets)
 - Identified top awardees for the Sembler Award (\$9,718) and Pflieger (\$9,718)
 - 56 First Class Deck Cadet Awards (\$5,000) - 51% of applicants
 - 65 First Class Engine Cadet Awards (\$5,000) - 50% of applicants
 - 2 Second Class Deck and 2 Second Class Engine Cadets each at \$3,000 each

All Hands Committee:

- Survey Monkey went out to Board Members regarding Diversity and Inclusion Training
- Annual Harassment Training does include Diversity and Inclusion Training packaged together, if that is the route the Board would like to go.

Magazine Committee:

- Working on Annual Report; editor has all materials needed.
 - Comments have been set back to the editor
 - First Draft expected by April 1st
 - Distribution scheduled for April 27th
- Fort Schuyler Magazine
 - Editor has interviewed all 3 honorees and finalized his text
 - Focus on entrepreneur careers

1940 – Unfinished Business.

None.

1945 – New Business

- President Kevin Danko would like to establish a Strategic Planning Commission to ensure there is a plan in place for the future of the Maritime College Alumni Association
- Kevin proposes past MCAA President, Dan Gillette, becomes the commissioner of this new committee

1950 – Motion to start a Strategic Planning Commission, with Dan Gillette leading the committee.

Motion Accepted.

Next Board meeting will be held Thursday, April 15, 2021.

1955 – Motion to adjourn meeting.

Motion Accepted, March 2021 meeting concluded.

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