

MARITIME COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Maritime College Alumni Association

General Meeting Minutes – April 2021

Meeting Held on April 15, 2021 via Teleconference

Officers

Kevin Danko	President
Annmarie Bhola	1st Vice President
Leo Imperial	2nd Vice President
Michael Paturas	Secretary
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
-------------------	------------------------------

MCAA Staff

Jeanne Murphy	Executive Director
Saira Yoo	Director of Alumni Affairs
Matthew Bonvento	MCAA Magazine Editor

Chapter Presidents

Jim Yahner – Long Island	Marianne Michaelsen-Sanderson – Carolinas
Jamie McNamara – New Jersey	

SUNY Maritime College

Doug Hasbrouck	VP of Development
-----------------------	--------------------------

1809 – Call to Order

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

Motion Carried.

1811 – Update on Magazine and Annual Report

Matt Bonvento- Editor:

- Annual Report in progress, slight hold up in layout.
 - Targeting early to mid-May for print
- Magazine is currently underway, awaiting on new material.
- Requesting pictures, stories or anything of note from last year or this year to contribute to the magazine.

1820 - Chapter President Updates:

- **Marianne Sanderson – Carolinas**
 - Looking into places in South Carolina that may have opened up
 - Georgia is open, looking to locations there as well
 - North Carolina not looking like a likely option in the immediate future
 - All locations dependent on COVID restrictions, with the exception of Georgia
- **Jamie McNamara – New Jersey Chapter**
 - Bar Anticipation, location of annual NJ meet up, is not planning on holding any large gathering events this year.
 - Potential opportunities for an outdoor event such as a biking event, will be looked into in lieu of the cancelled annual meet up
- **Jim Yahner – Long Island**
 - Looking into May event, 22 May is the targeted date
 - Want to involve new alumni
 - Also looking into new alumni helping to run the event

1830 – Directors Report

Jeanne Murphy:

- Switched to a full subscription from Microsoft, provides MCAA with a proper Shared drive as opposed to a Dropbox.
- All employees will have cloud storage access, proper shared drive that will archive any files through any staffing changes
- Jeanne's announcement regarding her new position went out to the population. Good response from a large number of alumni.
- Making concerted effort to enhance the personal touch when a larger gift comes in, follow up with a personal phone call, letter of thanks ...etc.

- Working on call lists for membership renewals and list will be disseminated very soon.

1840 – Treasurers Report - Kevin Comerford

March Update:

- **Dues:** \$2,000 added
- **Development Fund:** \$3,000 added
- **Golf Outing:** \$ 8,000 added
 - **Total for March :** \$13,000 added
- **For the Year:** \$52,000; includes \$16,00 small business associate loan

Expenses:

- **March Total:** \$10,000

Summary:

- Up \$3,000 in the month of February
- For the year, the MCAA is up \$2,539.00
- Funds: \$11,498,000 as of April 1

Audit has started, Kamal (bookkeeper) has transferred all information to auditor.

Jeanne and Kevin took a visit to the MCAA office in NJ and met with Kamal and Saira. Looked over stored records in the basement, particularly financial records.

Jeanne and Kevin bring up potentially shredding all financial records 8 years and older in the fall, as the IRS does not require it to be held for that long.

Targeting to be out of the NJ MCAA Office by 1 July 2021

1900 – President Update

MCAA President Kevin Danko provides an update on recent events he took part in and upcoming events the MCAA will take part in:

- Attended the College's Ring Ceremony
- Took part in the Admirals Senior Toast event
- Multiple graduation ceremonies upcoming; MCAA will be in attendance and provide the "big check" presentation to the college from the MCAA
- Scholarships checks will also be handed out to cadets prior to pre-cruise

On the topic of Strategic Planning; Dan Gillette is working to build his new committee. Looking to come up with a diverse committee and keeping ideas outside the Board as of right now. Dan's basic plan is establish the committee in May and create some surveys to send to alumni for feedback in the planning stages.

Kevin met with the Admiral to discuss his campaign of gratitude for all of the things being accomplished by Maritime College throughout COVID. The College has garnished a high degree of confidence from the Chancellor's office and as a result, the vaccination

campaign has expanded to the majority of the schools population. Admiral's plan is to make as many vaccines available to get the College back to normal.

Additionally, the college had their insurance inspections. Admiral was happy to report that the TSES VI, oldest in the fleet, received the least amount of findings during the insurance audit.

SST departure is scheduled for Tuesday, 27 April and dry stores are being loaded onboard currently.

Doug added that the college is looking at Homecoming events and will meet with the MCAA regarding that. Hoping it can be a double homecoming for those classes that had their homecomings cancelled.

Kevin discussed that the database merger still being worked on; the agreement has also been discussed. Met with database consultant about the topics we discussed and what the MCAA is looking to get out of the merger and some guidance on what the MCAA should be looking to do to get better use out of the database.

1930 – Committee Review

Events Committee:

- New Alumni Night was held and went very well with positive feedback.
- Next event coming up will be a Spring Networking Even, held virtually on May 14th. Kevin Tarkowski from MARAD will attend to discuss the construction of the new training ship. Looking to do a beer tasting afterwards, more or so will be a “virtual beer tasting” event due to COVID.
 - Past President John Valvo will sponsor the virtual beer tasting event with a commitment of \$2,500.
- **Alumni Golf Outing** – June 14th
 - Multiple calls held with the committee.
 - Saira has been in touch with multiple past top sponsors regarding sponsoring this year's event
 - Looking to circulate final golf brochure to be sent out tomorrow to alumni.

Public Relations Committee:

- Alumni Spotlight Series is underway, so far have completed two alumni interviews with the third scheduled for tomorrow.
 - Plan is to spotlight a variety of diverse alumni across multiple industries
- Next initiative is to focus on showcase SST scholarship winners
- As the SST departs, putting out a “fair winds and following seas” post on social media
- Heavy emphasis on the Alumni Golf Outing across all PR platforms
- Really looking into driving engagement and entertaining ideas to push that in a variety of different methods.
- Looking into setting up SOP for the PR Committee and on posting social media posts, etc...

Membership Committee:

- Focusing and working on expired memberships and coming up with plans on solidifying those new memberships.
 - Establishing talking points for MCAA for reaching out to alumni with expired memberships.
 - Working on streamlining how to accept payments for renewal of memberships
- ❖ **Membership Update from Executive Director Jeanne Murphy:**
- Send out lists of lapsed members to the MCAA, if you have not received a list it will be coming in the next few days

Chapters Committee:

- Held meeting with Chapter Presidents.
- Dialogue will be held with Presidents post-meeting to share thoughts and ideas

Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee has had two meeting in the past month. Recommendations are as follows:

- The Finance Committee recommends we remove the cash restrictions from all our funds. Presently the funds are restricted to 8% per the MCAA Board recommendation. FTI enacted the 8% restriction on Sept 28, 2020. We want to give control of our funds back to FTI. We are asking for a Board vote on this.

Motion to the board to give control of MCAA funds back to FTI and remove 8% restriction

Motion accepted.

- Finance Committee have found that the Equity/Fixed income/cash allocation of the Krom Memorial Fund is not consistent with the other investment categories. We will be asking for an explanation from FTI about this. The Krom Fund does not contribute to the SST scholarship program. The MOU requires that the scholarship money from this fund go to a graduate of Mr. Krom's local high school. Since no money is taken out of this fund we believe it should be invested more aggressively.
- We discussed limiting the percentage of money in each fund that can be invested in international/emerging market funds. We will discuss this with FTI directly at our next meeting. We are not asking for a Board vote on this at this time

Audit Committee:

- Anthony DeSimone and Vic Corso are the full cadre of the Audit Committee; along with John Valvo as Chair.
- Need to address the solicitation for replacement auditors for fiscal years 2021, 2022 and 2023. Expect to have that sent out shortly.
- RFP will be going out and recommendations will be sent to the board for audit terms.
- Need to also address the audit findings of 2019, that were presented to the MCAA in Fall of 2020.
 - Received feedback from SUNY on our corrective action plan on that particular finding.
 - Will establish a corrective action plan and disseminate it with the board for review.

Scholarship Committee:

- Working on Class of '67 scholarship and recommendations.

All Hands Committee:

- Finalized company who will be doing the diversity and sexual harassment training
- Expect emails about the training by next week.
- Timeline for completion will be 30 days upon receipt.

Magazine Committee:

- Will look to parent with PR committee on Alumni Spotlight series when applicable
- Reminder to submit all photos and material for upcoming materials.

2000 – Unfinished Business.

None.

2005 – New Business

- Discussed the possibility of establishing a “Sailing Committee”
- Mentioned the Navy league sword ceremony, and the MCAA being a part of that process when it is held.
- Maritime Day – Develop plan and the need to have an event for it
- Need to work on MCAA clothing and paraphernalia.

Motion Accepted.

Next Board meeting will be held Thursday, May 27, 2021.

2015 – Motion to adjourn meeting.

Motion Accepted, April 2021 meeting concluded.

-End of Document-