



General Meeting Minutes – September 2023

Meeting Held on September 21, 2023 via Teleconference (Microsoft Teams)

Officers

Steve Carbery	President
Greg Tuthill	1 st Vice President
Leo Imperial	2 nd Vice President
Tyler Reszoly	Secretary
Sam Reilly	Treasurer
Timothy Ireland	Asst. Treasurer

Board Members

Seth Lucas	Ted Mason
Mike Trotta	Vic Corso
Rick McClain	Bridget Cooney
Peter Bermont	Michael Paturas
Vin Melwani	

Past MCAA Presidents

John Valvo	Past President - 2020
Jennifer Barnes-Hayes	Past President

MCAA Staff

Saira Yoo	MCAA Staff
Don Gale	Magazine Editor

College Staff

Michael Alfultis	SUNY Admiral/President
Doug Hasbrouck	VP of Development

Chapter Presidents

Zhen Shao (ConEd)	Dennis Brennan (Southern California)
Jim Yahner (Long Island, NY)	Carl Hausheer
Doug Buel (Upstate New York)	Art Sulzer (Del Val)

September 2023 Meeting Minutes

1805: Call to order

1806: Roll Call

1811: Approval of the July Meeting Minutes

- Motion put forth – **Motion carried, all in favor.**

1812: Report from the College – President Alfultis

- The new training ship is at the pier. The pier is still completing construction and alumni are not able to tour until the pier is completed.
 1. Tours will be arranged for Homecoming.
 2. The pier construction is targeted to be completed by mid-October.
- Steve Carbery has agreed to be the Alumni representative on the Presidential search committee. SUNY and the College Council is conducting the search. Thomas Higgin 81' is the president of the College Council and he is also chairing the search committee. Overview of the process:
 1. The search committee will make a recommendation of 3 candidates to the SUNY Chancellor.
 2. The Chancellor will meet with the 3 candidates and nominate 1 candidate to the SUNY Board of Trustees for a vote.
 3. They are targeting the vote to occur on the June 2024 Board of Trustees meeting to allow a 1-month turnover with President Alfultis before he departs in July 2024.
- Enrollment has continued to decline. Total enrollment is now at 1,381 (1,256 undergraduates (61% license), 125 Graduate students). The decline in enrollment is slowing down/stabilizing. The past 2-years the decline has been 8%, this year it was a decline of 3%. Incoming students have increased by 10% this year but attrition continues to be an issue. Approximately 30% of the students are minority, which has remained stable. Less than 10% of the incoming MUG class was female.
- Budget deficit has grown from 3 million to 5.5 million. Of the 32 SUNY campuses, 18 are in a budget deficit. SUNY has instructed the College to fix the budget. Causes of the budget deficit:
 1. Decrease in enrollment.
 2. Increase in Expenses due to non-funded State requirements such as union agreements for employees.
- The Admiral has come up four-pillar plan to eliminate the budget deficit:
 1. Essential expenses only
 2. Increase revenue for alternate sources (professional training, external grant opportunities)

3. Increase Federal and State support.
 4. Increase enrollment – target 1,650 total students in 3-years, and increase retention.
- Historically the retention has been worse on the non-regimented student group. The Admiral believes the 2/3 regiment and 1/3 non-regiment is a good split.
 - There will be a 3-week Winter cruise in January on the new TSES.

1835: Report from President MCCA – Steve Carbery

- Steve and Victor Corso will be complete a final review of the MOU. Targeting it to be submitted to SUNY before the annual meeting in October.
- A nomination letter to the Presidential search committee was submitted, nominating Steve Carbery as the Alumni representative which has been accepted.
- The Golf committee has meet and they are going to move the venue to [Plainfield Country Club](#) in Edison, New Jersey for next year's outing. This should attract new companies/golfer/sponsors which may have not attended previously.
- Continue to work on the 150th Anniversary Events with the college.
- Annual reports continue to progress. The team is going through the data that is not in the database.
- Steve shared a presentation which was presented to the College Council, and it will be presented during the Annual Meeting at homecoming, welcome any feedback.
- Database cleanup/organization, working to determine what it would take to get the directory back up and running. Doug H. to share the sales representative information (John Manjari) to Steve & Maggy for Blackbaud. Also consider what other 3rd party solutions may be available.
- Finalized nominees for the annual Honoree meeting.
- Vin Melwani presented on clothing swag. The design was provided by Bill Kelly. For homecoming, the MCAA can pre-purchase merchandise in bulk and sell them at homecoming. Suggest spending \$2,300 in pre-purchased merchandise. The online merchandise sales can go live tomorrow. **2025** motion put authorize \$3,000 for pre-purchase merchandise to be sold at homecoming. Motion put forth – Motion carried, all in favor.

1846: Report from Treasurer – Sam Reilly

- Budget (information through as of August 31, 2023)
 - \$13,475.79 Gross Income YTD
 - \$216,131.27 Gross Revenue
 - \$81,001.39 Gross Expenses
 - \$148,605.67 Net income YTD
- Budget highlights
 - Dues - \$980 for July & August 2023 / \$8,360 YTD

- **2022 \$27,700** **2021 \$51,795** **2020 \$57,830**
 - Underway Fund - \$5,100.58 YTD
 - June Golf - \$122,820.75
 - Annual Alumni Dinner - \$92,175.08
 - Ancient Mariner – \$902.48
 - Total Revenue from Events: \$216,131.27
 - Funds
 - January 1, 2023 - \$10,339,794.61
 - February 28th, 2023 - \$10,903,145.46 +1.84% (Asset Appreciation)
 - March 31, 2023 - \$11,199,180.24% +4.57%
 - April 30th, 2023 - \$11,357,773.23 +5.95%
 - June 30th, 2023 - \$11,263,108.51 +9.04%
 - September 19th, 2023 - \$11,326,233.15 +8.91%
 - Current allocation: 70.4% Equity / 22.3% Fixed Income / 7.3% Short Term
 - SST Appeal 2023 \$69,551.82
 - A meeting was held with FTI in early August. They discussed asset allocations, portfolio risk, different class requests (65' for example wanting to send money directly). FTI agreed to quarterly meetings at their office.
 - The budget numbers on the Treasurer agenda that was shared with the group does not reflect the agreed 2023 budget numbers, Sam to discuss with Kamal.

1900: Committee Reports

- **Audit Committee;** John Valvo
 - The fiscal year 2022 audit has been completed by Buchbinder. This is the 2nd year of audits of a 3-year contract that the MCAA has with Buchbinder.
 - As a result of the audit, a management letter was shared the Board. Buchbinder noted that the Razor's Edge system was not updated for the entire year in 2022 which affected their ability to perform certain audit procedures and affected the Organization's requirement to provide written acknowledgement to donor's.
 - The Management letter needs to be submitted to the SUNY Chancellors office. A Manager's response letter will need to be sent with this pro-actively addressing the deficiency noted above.
 - **1910** - Motion put forth to forward the audit letter to SUNY with a proper Management letter accompanying it. **Motion carried, all in favor.**
 - Steve mentioned ongoing items related to Workers Compensation Insurance with The Hartford (Insurance Company), including a lapse in insurance. This could result in a financial penalty to the MCAA, more information to come.
- **Scholarship Committee;** John Valvo
 - The SST scholarships have been paid out and a big check was presented during the Admirals dinner.
 - Scholarship applications will be opened next month for SST 24'.
- **By-Law Committee;** Leo Imperial
 - The results from the By-Law vote were shared and reviewed. There were 369 participants, 85% in favor, 13% voted not in favor, and 2% abstain. The vote **passes.**
 - Next steps:

- Create a Mission Statement.
 - Determine the effective date for the By-Laws, proposing today 21 September 2023.
 - **1910** - Motion put forth to forward to input an effective date of 21 September 2023, communicate and post the final version. **One opposed, motion carried.**
 - Communicate to the membership at the Annual Meeting and on social media.
 - Anyone who has already paid is a sustaining member.
 - Dennis to update the By-Laws with the effective date and share with Saira for distribution.
- **Honors Committee;** Leo Imperial
 - Steve confirmed that Robert Cook from the OBMG as one of the nominees, the other nominee is pending confirmation.
- **Events;** Greg Tuthill
 - June Golf Outing 2024 venue update Steve mentioned earlier. Discussed communicating the golf outing early and frequently, especially with the change in venue.
 - Ancient Mariner Golf Outing targeting 30k net income. Need to get the word out on the event asap and sponsorships.
 - Homecoming (includes annual meeting & Paddy's on the Bay post-game). Need to finalize agenda/locations. The college is still discussing ship tours for the Friday and Saturday of Homecoming (Friday is more probable). Greg to confirm with Doug on the tours before communicating.
 - Need volunteers from the MCAA to help with the Alumni tent / refreshments.
 - 150th Anniversary Events – continue to work on event planning with the college.
 - Need to schedule the venue and date for the Nominations meeting venue in November.
 - Suggest **opening nominations during Homecoming** at the Annual Meeting.
- **Magazine Committee;** Ted Mason
 - Two people are being interviewed for content in the next edition of the magazine.
 - Concerns with the editor role from the college which is currently vacant. A suggestion was made to have Don Gale fill the role temporarily from the college. Steve to speak with President Alfultis.
- **Membership Committee;** Seth Lucas
 - Business Cards, need to revisit the QR code to ensure it takes you to the membership sign up page. Saira to look into this.
 - Engagement for Homecoming with the reunion classes. Seth to meet with Saira and Maggy next week to discuss engagement ahead of homecoming.
 - Seth to set up a committee meeting to discuss next steps and engagement with the 10, 20, and 30-year classes.
- **Public Relations;** Richard McClain
 - A number of 'Where are they now' posts are in the pipeline, to be released at a monthly cadence.
- **Legal/MOU;** Steve Carbery

- Nothing additional to report.

1930: Chapters Update

- Doug Buel (Upstate New York & Gerson-Rasmus Speaker Series)
 - The official kick-off of the career exploration series was completed. The go-forward name of the speaker series was finalized, Gerson-Rasmus Speaker Series. The session completed today will be posted on social media.
- Jamie McNamara (New Jersey) – Carl Hausheer provided the update.
 - They are having an event on October 13th, details to be shared on social media.
- Art Sulzer (Del Val)
 - Had the golf and crab feast in September and the big smoke and whiskey fest. Had about 10 alumni at each.
 - The next event is the annual holiday party on the 21st of December.
 - They will be increasing the scholarships amounts this year to 7 recipients and \$3,000 each.
- Dennis Brennan (Southern California)
 - Worked with FSS to host an event for the cadets that were on the Golden Bear when it made a port call in San Diego.
- Jim Yahner (Long Island, NY)
 - Putting together a get together on Wednesday October 4th at the Blue Point brewery.

2035: Unfinished Business

- Nothing to report.

2036: New Business

- Nothing to report.

2037: Motion to adjourn meeting

2038: Motion carried. September 2023 meeting concluded.

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