

For Board review, distributed 10/7/19

NY COUNCIL of the NAVY LEAGUE of the UNITED STATES
MINUTES of the MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS July 17, 2019

The President of the Council called the meeting to order at 1700 at the Law Offices of Thompson Hine LLP, 12th Floor Conference Room, 335 Madison Avenue, Midtown Manhattan, NYC, NY. After welcoming attendees, it was ascertained that a quorum of directors (9) was exceeded, including: Charles Blaich, Lu Caldara, Evan Dash, Peter Galasinao, Richard Heller, Gary Kilberg via phone, Bob Lunney, Ted Mason, Tom McGloin, FR Gerald Murray, Frank Russo, Ted Sergio, George Simpson, Daniel Solomon by proxy granted to Gary Kilberg, and Mary Westmoreland.

Advisory Committee members Jeff Bogart, Jack Colyer, Karen Loew, Richard Lowe, Kathleen Markey and Joe Ryan attended, as did staff members Jessica Hitchen and Erika Myers.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the Board Meeting held May 9, 2019, were distributed to all Directors prior to tonight's meeting for review. Motion was made to approve the minutes, seconded and approved unanimously.

President's Report: Charles Blaich read condolences for Life Members Gordon C. Dewey (28 years), Thomas J. Moran (23 years) and Gerald W. Tierney (24 years), as well as Pat Garvey, a Council member and friend to many, who passed away after the agenda was finalized.

He then reviewed recent events and programs:

- o SUNY Maritime College NROTC Commissioning Ceremony (5/2)
- o WWI Centennial Wreath Ceremony (5/2)
- o Graphics Campus High School NJROTC Year-End Awards (5/15)
- o Admiral Kriete visit to Graphics Campus High School NJROTC (5/15)
- o Fordham University NROTC Commissioning Ceremony (5/17)
- o USCG MSST NY Memorial Service (5/17)
- o Fleet Week (5/22–28)
- o Parade of Ships Embark (5/22)
- o Ships Review Brunch Cruise (5/22)
- o VIP Ships Tours (5/23–27)
- o An Insider's View of Women in the Military (5/23)
- o CPO/Staff NCO Dinner Cruise (5/23)
- o SUNY Maritime Welcome Reception (5/23)

- o Richard W. Scheuing CO/XO Welcome Reception (5/24)
- o Fleet Week Regatta (5/25)
- o New York Mets Game (5/26)
- o Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Wreath Laying (5/27)
- o Farewell Cookout (5/27)
- o Curtis High School NJROTC Year-End Awards (5/23)
- o George Washington High School NJROTC Year-End Awards (5/29)
- o Tottenville High School MCJROTC Year-End Awards (6/6)
- o Commodore John Barry Book Award Dinner (6/6)
- o USMMA Convocation Awards (6/14)
- o Navy League National Convention (6/19–21)
- o Young Marines Year- End Awards (6/21)
- o COGAP Acceptance Ceremony and Reception (6/26)

Committee and Staff Reports: A committee report from the Youth Programs Committee was distributed previously and incorporated by consent, along with staff reports from **Jessica Hitchen** and **Erika Myers**. Attendees had no questions or comments to add.

Treasurers Report: **Frank Russo** presented the June 30 financials and investment account update. We have positive cash flow year to date, and a 14.6% YTD return in the investment account (15.6% annualized), which is currently outperforming our benchmark after trailing it earlier in the year.

The fraudulently altered check was discussed once again, with Frank confirming that the money was refunded to our account but will be noted in our books as a liability until Bank of America Merrill Lynch officially closes the case. The only expense incurred as a result of the fraud was a \$5 fee to notarize the claim for Bank of America. **Peter Galasinao** mentioned for future reference that he is a notary.

Further discussion of Merrill Lynch and the investment portfolio was had about whether or not to realize some of the gains and reinvest the funds in other equities. **Gary Kilberg** recommended relying on Merrill to choose what to liquidate. Frank will speak to Merrill. Additional points were brought up regarding a switch in fiscal year from the calendar year to one that better reflects the seasonality of our cash flow, which will be considered at a later date, and the suggestion to review and re-approve the investment policy statement annually, which will be done.

Old Business: A special board meeting will be held August 13 to review, discuss and vote on bylaws changes.

Barry book award: **Bob Lunney** reiterated the recent event held at the Tavern was very successful, would like to have more attendees, especially among Board members.

Mary Westmoreland announced that Barclays will receive the SecDef Employer Support Freedom Award for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve at a ceremony on August 23. Charles Blaich, Peter Galasinao and Evan Dash all contributed endorsements that helped make the case for Barclay's receipt of the award. The Council agreed to send a congratulatory letter.

New Business: **Frank Russo** presented the three proposals for our mid-year budget revision. **Lu Caldara** made a motion to accept the mid-level option, **Richard Heller** seconded. After discussion and clarification of need to vote on the motion currently on the floor, the mid-level proposal was approved unanimously.

Lu Caldara discussed the nominations process for next year's board officers, at-large directors and advisory committee, noting the August 5 due date.

Richard Heller announced that ADM McRaven and Alex Gorsky of J&J have both agreed to be honored at the 118th Anniversary Gala, and the Vice CNO might be interested. **Jack Colyer** suggested contacting Navy Seals in the metro area who will likely want to participate because of Admiral McRaven and asked when the save-the-date notice would be sent. This will be sent out in October.

Bob Lunney praised **Karen Loew** for the Coast Guard Art Program reception at the Salmagundi Club. She has marshaled this for the past 20 years. He complimented her efforts and asked her to say a few words. Bob mentioned the large turnout, Admiral Schultz's participation and the creativity of the artists. Karen let all present know that the exhibit will be up in Federal Hall through September 19.

Evan Dash asked about the status of setting up an ad hoc committee to reach out to foundations, especially around education, and offered to help with the efforts, including writing content. This falls under the Development Committee, but Erika will work with Evan and **Mary Westmoreland**, to give them access to foundation listings.

Charles Blaich noted that **Richard Heller** agreed to step in as acting judge advocate for the rest of the board year.

Motion made to adjourn, seconded and passed at 1830. Our next board meeting is scheduled Tuesday August 13, 5 PM at Thompson Hine LLP, 12th Floor Conference Room, 335 Madison Avenue. This will be a special meeting for the dual purposes of voting on bylaws revisions and meeting with new leadership from National HQ.

Respectfully submitted:

/s/

George Simpson

Board Member