

Cuttermen's Association Board Meeting Minutes from 01 Dec 2010. The meeting was held on the CWOA Barge, Washington, D.C.

Meeting was called to order at 1607 by CAPT Perkins.

The following members were in attendance:

Board Members:

CAPT Brian Perkins (President)
CAPT Andy White (Vice President) (via phone)
CWO John Baker (Ret) (Treasurer)
CDR Mike Davanzo (Secretary)
MCPO Frank Tatu (Ret)

Committee Members:

CDR John Wallington (Annual Convention)
LT Eric Quigley (Membership)
MCPO Greg Della Rocco (Membership)
CDR Kevin Wirth (at large member)

Secretary's report: Guidelines for establishing Association chapters will be posted 02Dec on the website.

CDR Rusty Dash has engaged the Cutter Agent wrt supplying apparel and other Association items.

Fleet concerns about lack of website updates were discussed.

Treasurer's report: John Baker presented the treasury report to the board.

The Association is officially a Virginia Corporation as of this month and the tax exempt status pends.

John Baker also reported that Admiral Papp officially joined the Association as a life member.

Committee reports:

Newsletter: The first edition will be released shortly and will also be placed on the website.

Membership report: MCPO Della Rocco reported that the current membership is at 375. He also reported that only 13 new members joined in November. In order to improve membership it was recommended that a pamphlet or Tri-Fold be made to assist in recruiting and signing up new members. - LT Quigley volunteered to make the Tri-Fold; once complete it will be posted on the web site.

- CAPT White for a Cuttermen's Call at LANT Area 03Dec.

- PAC Area will be holding a Cuttermen's Call on 10 December 2010. Cuttermen's Call and the pamphlet will be provided for that as well.
- CAPT Perkins will be presenting at the Command and Operations School in January and will also do some recruiting and leave info behind for future classes.
- All members are encouraged to continue grass roots efforts for new member recruiting

New Business:

The final Logo vote was held and Chief Jason Betzing's (SFO Grand Haven) designed was selected. Minor changes suggested.

SNA's Annual Symposium: January 11-13th at the Hyatt Regency in Crystal City, VA. There will be a Cuttermen's Association room and volunteers are needed to staff during the event. Uniform for the event is Uniform of the Day. Website for the event: <http://www.navysna.org/2011Symposium/Index.htm>; Additional information is forth coming.

Annual Meeting: Preliminary schedule reviewed and will be revised. Ideas for locations discussed with a need for estimated participation numbers needed to better set the venue.

Local Chapters: CDR Davanzo has been engaged with potential chapters in Mobile, AL (LT Chris Tuckey), Alameda, CA (CAPT Jerry Doherty/LCDR Greg Somers), Galveston, TX (CWO Chuck Reynolds/William Smith), Portsmouth, VA (CAPT William Wolter), Honolulu, HI (LCDR Brian Huff), Miami, FL, St. Petersburg, FL, Cheboygan, MI and Seattle, WA. Discussion also mentioned New London, CT.

Cuttermen's Call: Discussion about including acknowledgments for Master Cuttermen as they are awarded the certificate at all Cuttermen's Calls. Specific discussion about appropriate way of recognizing the achievement was discussed. The need for continued senior leader participation emphasized.

CAPT Perkins will be retiring OOA 25Mar2011

Discussion was held about whether or not to affiliate with the CPOA. MCPO Tatu will provide some amplifying information for board and general membership consideration.

Cuttermen Association Activity: The perceived lack of activity was discuss and it was agreed that additional information including board meeting minutes will be posted on the website.

CO's Conference: A Cuttermen's Call will be held in conjunction with the annual CO's Conference in San Diego, CA in April. Anticipate COMDT or similar guest speaker to attend; CDR Wirth suggested the Association providing refreshments and use the Cuttermen's Call as a recruiting event. The Board agreed to consider after it receives additional information.

Cuttermen's Memorial: CDR Wirth discussed the interest in a traveling Cuttermen's memorial (permanent memorial mounted at HQ). It was agreed that this is a Cutter Forces Project.

First Annual Meeting CDR Wallington reported preparations are ongoing; currently seeking potential venues to host the meeting. Given the newness of the Association, it was suggested the first annual meeting be a 1 day event (registration/dinner/cocktails the evening prior and the following day having the actual meeting).

Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be held 11 January 2011 at the SNA's Symposium.

CAPT Perkins adjourned the meeting at 1653.