

March 2010 Flotilla Minutes

The meeting began with a call to order, the Pledge of Allegiance and establishment of a quorum. The following members were present: Tom Keene, Gretel Keene, Jim Look, Scott Gamble, Timm Hammond, Bob Heinz, Jan Heinz, Jeff Carlson, Dave Kingsbury, Gary Jones and Caryl Jones. Carol Look was our guest for the meeting.

Both the Agenda for March and the February Minutes were approved.

Announcements:

Tom Keene announced that the Staff Officer Reports were looking pretty good and they are being read at the National level. On that subject--Tom indicated that there has been a change in the due date for these reports--they now need to be submitted to him and to Caryl on or before the first of the month (just a reminder, they cover accomplishments for the previous month).

Bob Heinz informed the group that from 0700-0800 on Saturday, March 20, there will be a training session about Good Mate/Sea Partners. This program is designed to enlighten boaters about the marine environment in general and aquatic nuisances in particular. Bob encouraged those who have or will register for the Spring Symposium to attend,

Tom Keene reported that the National Organization has been re-organized and as a result there will now be a multi-year plan for goal setting and as a Flotilla we need to set our goals for 2010 and 2011. In addition, all leads for new members originating from National will now require a follow-up to National.

Gretel Keene felt that one of our goals should be more media coverage and more community outreach; she will be aiding us in that goal.

Jeff Carlson suggested that a partnership with Cabela's would be a good fit. In the past they have partnered with other organizations to promote wearing flotation devices and teaching people how to wear them. Jeff thought that they had even provided a number of "free" PFD's for children. While we may not be able to get Cabela's to repeat this partnership in 2010, we should work with them to do so in 2011.

Awards:

There were no awards presented this evening.

Old Business:

Caryl Jones brought up the Flag the Flotilla wanted to buy for LCM and asked Jim Look if the church still needed/wanted a new Flag. Jim reported that they did need a new one and Tom Keene asked Jim to find out size, material, etc.

New Business:

Gary Jones introduced the idea of a Flotilla-wide picnic (including family members and significant others). July was tentatively chosen, and it was also suggested that we invite Flotilla 2, since they have graciously invited us to their Christmas parties in the past.

Gary passed around a new refreshment sign-up sheet for 2010.

Jim Look informed the membership that he would be resigning tonight.

Jan Heinz moved that we should reimburse Jeff Carlson for \$15.40 for expenses related to the "Train the Trainers" on the GPS for Mariners course. Jan also made a motion that we should give Jeff \$100 for expenses related to PE classes. Both motions were seconded and passed.

Staff Officers' Reports for March:

OP/HR--Bob Heinz

Assistance to the Active Duty:

Worked two days at the Sportsmans' Show for MSD St. Paul for UPV and AWW

Mission Activity:

Made two HR contacts with no results so far.

Other noteworthy items:

Completed ICS 400 class.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Getting OPFAC ready for patrols.

Work on PQS's for Trident.

PA/PV--Gretel Keene

Mission Activity:

Program Visit to Watergate Marina March 20 to add bulletins and materials. Attended "Western Rivers Spring Symposium" in Plymouth, MN March 18, 19, and registered Coast Guard Auxiliary members.

Other noteworthy items:

Contacted Dan Forby about helping him teach ABS. He responded "anytime".

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Vessel Checks June 19 and July 10, 2010 at: Miss Croix Yacht Harbor, Castaways, Watergate Marina, River Heights and Twin City.

Program Visits at Watergate Marina and American Family Insurance (2353 Rice Street, Roseville, MN 5113).

Teaching ABS with Dan Forby.

FEMA: Travel to Emmitsburg, MD April 6-9 and June 20-26, 2010 for Debris Management Training.

MA--Bob Muldoon

Other noteworthy items:

Completed first aid safety training at work.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Learn vessel safety check; determine training needed in order to remain active.

IS and MS--Don Garvey

Mission Activity:

Entered mission reports into AUXDATA.

Continued planning for Star Camp booth with the Boy Scouts

FN--Janet Heinz

Mission Activity:

Wrote a check to Jeff Carlson reimbursing him for the expenses related to the GPS Training session.

Other Noteworthy items:

Spent 2 days working at the Northwest Sportsmans' Show booth.

NS--Timm Hammond

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Still plan on doing a Phase 2 training on ATONs but had to set it back due to training commitment for the GPS class. I will plan on doing it sometime during the summer.

CM--Scott Gamble

Other noteworthy items:

Participated in BCA mentoring.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Continue Boat Crew Activities as a mentor.

MT--Gary Jones

Mission Activity:

Issued Flotilla meeting Training assignments for 2010.

Assigned Auxiliary volunteers to 8 shifts for 3 days of registration at Spring Symposium and worked 3 shifts at the registration desk.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Will Teach a portion of the GPS Course at Shoreview Community Center.

PE--Jeff Carlson

Assistance to the Active Duty:

Sign up for the Spring Courses is slow. At this time there are zero people signed up for PWC and GPS. There are two people signed up for ABS at Shoreview and one at Brooklyn Center. Phil at West Marine has made a sign for their locations to help with attendance. Community TV and newspaper ads which are free of charge are being looked into for the ABS and GPS Courses.

The programs areas follow:

1) Three Programs at the Shoreview Community Center:

Date	Course	Length of Class	Time of Class
8 April	Personal Watercraft Safety	1 hour/1day	7-8pm
17 April	GPS for Mariners	4 hours/1 day	8-12pm
24 April	ABS	8 hours/1/day	8-4pm

Location Address:

Shoreview Community Center
4580 Victoria St. Shoreview, MN
651-490-4790

2) One Program at the Brooklyn Center Community Center:

Date	Course	Length of Class	Time of Class
1 May	ABS	8 Hours/1day	8-4:30pm

Location Address:

Brooklyn Center Community Center
6301 Shingle Creek Parkway
Brooklyn Center MN

Mission Activity: Instructors have been confirmed. We lost two as their plans have changed. One instructor did not return phone calls or e-mail attempts.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Assign Instructors, obtain the necessary materials for the instructors. Continue to investigate the pros and cons of holding a Sailing Course in 2011.

Jeff added the following comment at the March meeting--Phil Kercher, the Store Manager at West Marine will be obtaining CD's for the Marine GPS course. These are very informative and should be helpful to the GPS students.

CS--Dave Kingsbury

Mission Activity:

Continued refining the alpha website's prototype's design.
Worked with the FC and FSO's for PE, VE, PV/PA, and PB/SR to develop text content for the website.

Updated website header graphics.
Continued developing the website home page content.
Developed the calendar page and initial calendar content for the website.
Created a calendar user account to permit FSO's and their delegates to add or modify website calendar content.
Created e-mail accounts to permit website users to contact the flotilla using professional-looking e-mail addresses.
Consulted with the FC concerning Flotilla e-mail policy.

Developed the website public education page content.
Developed the website vessel safety check page content.
Developed a downloadable, printable document with tips for passing a VSC.
Developed the website contact us page content.
Developed the website links page content.
Developed the website privacy policy.
Developed keywords for the website.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Continue refining website prototype's design.
Continue working with content development team to develop website content.
Add textual content to additional website pages.
Develop and add dynamic website content: forms, etc.

Submit website to FC for review.
Further refine website prototype's design and content as needed.
Receive website approval from FC.
Submit website for National approval.

Additionally, Dave Kingsbury noted that he will be including the VE calendar in the website and any other new content that members added.

The website address will be: Flotilla 11-08.org. FSO's will be receiving individual addresses in order to add/edit content without going through Dave.

SR--Caryl Jones

Mission Activity:

Compiled the Staff Officers Report and the Minutes for the March Flotilla Meeting.

Other noteworthy items:

Worked 3 shifts at the Registration desk for the Spring Symposium.

PB--Caryl Jones

Mission Activity:

Issued the Quarterly Flotilla Newsletter for March.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Work on and issue the June Quarterly Flotilla Newsletter.

VE--Burt Bigelow-- No report submitted.

Training/Adjournment:

There was no training session due to a conflict in schedules and the meeting was adjourned and fellowship commenced..