

## D7 Fall Conference Meeting Minutes 7 November 2020

D/C Lynda C Leque, SN called the meeting to order at 1409. She encouraged members to mute devices unless speaking and to identify oneself if speaking.

Lt/C Robert Winter, SN gave the invocation. D/Lt/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN led the Pledge of Allegiance. P/D/C Barbara A Spraggins, SN introduced all Past District Commanders present.

D/Lt/C Janice Vitucci-Ehrman, P verified a quorum was present.

P/C Jan R Holmes, SN read the voting rules.

D/C Lynda C Leque, SN voiced the minutes statement: In accordance with a motion adopted in Fall 2014, the designated committee approved the minutes of the D7 Conference held on 5 April 2020 and the D7 Council Meeting held on 4 November 2020 and no further action is required.

The minutes of the Council Meeting are included in the seat packet.

D/Lt/C Janice Vitucci-Ehrman, P read the Consent Agenda

### 2020 Fall Conference Consent Agenda

1. That the agenda be adopted.
2. That the District Commander alter the agenda as needed to facilitate the meeting of the Conference.
3. That the Conference approve the report of the 2020 Spring Conference hosted by District 7. (item A)
4. That the Conference approve the final report of the 2020 District 7 Rendezvous at Middle Bass Island. (item B)
5. That the Conference approve the 2021 Boat Show East budget. (item C)
6. That the Conference approve the budget for 2021 Spring Conference, hosted by District 7. (item E)
7. That the Conference approve the renewal of the Mansfield David Eichhorn Trophy for Cooperative Charting. Note that while this is a renewal Deed of Grant, there is a change in the date of presentation of the award (Spring) and now includes geodetic marker recovery. (item H)
8. That the Conference approve a committee of the following: the District Commander, Executive Officer, and the Administrative Officer, to approve the minutes of this meeting.

And moved that it be adopted. Cdr Fred Nolte III, AP second. The motion passed.

### Department Reports

Treasurer: D/Lt/C Liana Mihalca, SN reported District has properly collected relevant dues and donations and received funds from the State of Ohio for the license plates. The District is solvent and in the black. She noted little money has been spent this year due to the dearth of regular in person activities.

Secretary: D/Lt/C Janice Vitucci-Ehrman, P encouraged volunteerism for Assistant Secretary position and to reach out to members of the Nominating Committee.

Administrative: D/Lt/C Roger Hall, JN paraphrased his Seat Packet report. He promoted personal re-contact to lapsed members or quiet members to give them social contact and encouragement to renew.

P/D/C Brian M Logan, SN gave the Membership Report. He noted approximately 12% of District members did not renew. Demographics of members indicate a number are aging out of boating; median member age is 68. Fifteen percent of members are under age 50. On the bright side, online ABC classes jumped 100%.

He further discussed a number of items within the Seat Packet including how credit card payments may be made to National. He reviewed the results of the 2019 Commanders Challenge---Congratulations to Mansfield Power Squadron as winner. Berea Sail and Power Squadron was 2<sup>nd</sup> and Ten Mile Power Squadron was 3<sup>rd</sup>.

He explained the Dobler Award (see the Seat Packet) and congratulated Berea Sail and Power Squadron as winner. Mansfield Power Squadron was 2<sup>nd</sup> and Akron Sail and Power Squadron was 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Education: P/R/C Wayne Spraggins, SN reported that 5 squadrons held online classes this year. Since not all squadrons were able to conduct their typical educational offerings, not all usual Educational awards would be presented this year. However, the following awards were presented:

#### ADVANCED GRADES

JN—Gordon Richard Dunbar, Offshore Navigation

2<sup>nd</sup> place Akron Sail and Power Squadron

1<sup>st</sup> place Berea Sail and Power Squadron

John (Jack) Hauck Advanced Piloting Award

1<sup>st</sup> place Berea Sail and Power Squadron

Rehberg Advanced Grades Trophy

2<sup>nd</sup> place Akron Sail and Power Squadron

1<sup>st</sup> place Berea Sail and Power Squadron

#### ELECTIVE GRADES

Erickson Elective Courses Trophy

3<sup>rd</sup> place Berea Sail and Power Squadron

2<sup>nd</sup> place Akron Sail and Power Squadron

1<sup>st</sup> place Mansfield Power Squadron

Executive: D/Lt/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN noted that due to Covid, little has been done this year within this department. He referred members to his Seat Packet report for further comments.

VSC Report: P/D/C Garry Schroeder, SN reported he had virtually attended some of the seminars at the Governing Board meeting and found them to be very helpful. He noted that although District 7 was 5<sup>th</sup> in VSCs in 2019, the many restrictions on VSCs in 2020 greatly reduced the number completed. He encouraged squadrons to look for new Vessel Examiners.

He reminded us that four District members attained Century Club status in 2019: Robert E. Mosey, (106), Ricardo S. Rodriguez (111), Irene Rodriguez (113) and David Bialorucki (114). P/D/C Garry Schroeder, SN referred members to the Seat Packet for other award information. Members were assured it would not be necessary to re-take the Vessel Examiner test next year if the examiner had not completed 5 VSCs in 2020.

D/Lt/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN stated the Cleveland Boat Show will be virtual. He reported he was attempting to obtain further information from Michelle Burke, President of LEMTA, for further details as to how we may participate in this virtual show.

**Commander:** D/C Lynda C Leque, SN summarized the D7 Rendezvous at Middle Bass Island as having terrible weather but was a nice time for those who attended. The USPS Annual Meeting is still scheduled for 14-21 February 2021 in Ponte Vedra, FL. District 7 Fall Conference 2021-the rescheduled PENTA Conference-is scheduled for 10-12 October 2021 at Kalahari Resort. The planners are working on registration forms and getting future commanders on board.

She announced the 5 new 50 year members within our District: Dave Garthoff, (Akron), Henry Young (Akron), Wayne Spraggins (Berea), Jerry Polen (Stark), and Fred Spring (Stark). P/D/C Barbara A Spraggins, SN reported that all squadrons within the District had 100% participation in the Educational Fund!

D/C Lynda C Leque, SN recognized V/C Craig Fraser, SN in attendance. He reported the host hotel for the National Meeting has relieved USPS of both room and meal requirements. He also discussed the new America's Boating Club App. He described where to find it and tips for using it. He noted the app has already produced some good results in terms of membership in our organization.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Auditing:** P/C David Barber, SN stated the committee has not yet met and won't have a report until Spring Conference.

**Planning:** P/D/C Robert Fish, SN reported this committee has not yet met but will have items to report on in the spring.

**Rules:** P/C Jan R Holmes, SN stated no new Rules have been issued by National but is hopeful that one issue will pass soon. If so, he states the Rules committee will act on it quickly.

**Nominating:** P/D/C Jane Brandenstein, SN had no report but encouraged submission of names to the Nominating committee for any individuals who may be suited to hold elected District positions.

**Unfinished Business:** P/D/C Barbara A Spraggins, SN presented the District Commander's Excellence Award which she would have normally given this past Spring. The honored winner is P/D/C Jane Brandenstein, SN.

**New Business:** none

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1507.

Respectfully submitted,  
D/Lt/C Janice Vitucci-Ehrman, P

Approved by:

D/C Lynda C Leque, SN	Date: 11/29/2020
D/Lt/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN	Date: 11/29/2020
D/Lt/C Roger Hall, JN	Date: 11/30/2020