

D7 Fall Conference Meeting Minutes 9 October 2021

D/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN called the meeting to order at 0907.

Peggy Spraggins gave the invocation. D/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN led the pledge of allegiance and introduced the district bridge. P/D/C Lynda C Leque, SN introduced all Past District Commanders present.

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

P/C Cathe Radabaugh, N read the voting rules.

D/Lt/C Janice Vitucci-Ehrman, P voiced the minutes statement: In accordance with a motion adopted in Fall 2014, the designated committee approved the minutes of the D7 Council Meeting held on 13 September 2021 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

2021 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 final report of the 2021 District 7 Rendezvous at Middle Bass Island (item A)
4. That the Conference approve the 2022 Boat Show East budget. (item B)
5. That the Conference approve the 2022 Boat Show West budget. (item C)
6. That the Conference approve the budget for 2022 Spring Conference, hosted by District 7. (item D)
7. That the Conference authorizes a committee of the following: the District Commander, Executive Officer, and the Administrative Officer, to approve the minutes of this meeting.

Please note that there is no final budget report from Spring Conference 2021 as it was held virtually.

And moved that it be adopted. P/D/C James R Holcepl, SN second. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

Department Reports

Treasurer: Reporting for R/C S Thomas Hancock, P, D/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN noted as of September 30, 2021, our bank balance was \$31,716.63 and there was \$45.57 in the postal permit account. The money received from the sale of Ohio USPS license plates will be distributed to the Ohio squadrons in early 2022.

Secretary: D/Lt/C Janice Vitucci-Ehrman, P gave the following reminders:

- Deadline for Merit Mark submission is 11/15/2021; please consider everyone's efforts.
- DB2000 still exists and is usable until it dies but it would be wise to become familiar with using the Information Center to input and retrieve member information.
- Not all members receive blast emails because a number of internet service providers block large volume senders.

She also reported that a new web based Historian Report (outside of DB2000) is expected to be presented in early 2022.

Administrative: D/Lt/C James E Mason, SN completed a review of 4 years of the Jump Start program via NCO and found the following:

- 111 requests for Jump Start, 86 completed.
- 60% of those individuals became referrals to NCO. Out of those, 25% became new members.
- Sail vs power boaters were roughly equal in program participation.

In summary, he noted how this program is a great source of new members and over 80% participants came to the program via word of mouth—no advertising costs! P/D/C James R Holcepl, SN joined in, and both of them suggested squadrons work with local marinas to encourage Jump Start and ABC classes. They noted that marinas have a vested interest in having educated boaters. All around, these programs are helpful in generating good feelings with marinas and are good at promoting America's Boating Club.

P/D/C Brian M Logan, SN gave the Membership report-referring specifically to his chart within the seat packet. He emphasized the correlation between the number of ABC students and the number of new members a squadron may have. He reminded us to not be America's Boring Club.

Executive: D/Lt/C Roger Hall, SN mentioned that our organization has begun to discuss re-organization in the form of moving to a regional system, as opposed to the current district system structure. It was noted that the group is putting things together and already the proposals have changed from what had been stated in August at the Governing Board Meeting.

VSC Report: D/Lt/C Roger Hall, SN highlighted the information contained in the chart submitted by P/D/C Garry Schroeder, SN for the seat packet. He encouraged greater VSC numbers for next year.

Education: Reporting for P/R/C Wayne Spraggins, SN, P/D/C Ken T Leque, Jr, SN mentioned how current events have altered how our organization typically provides education. In that light, as was the case last year, not all the usual Educational awards given in the fall would be presented this year. He then noted the following achievements:

Roger Hall achieved his full certificate and SN grade. He was congratulated by all his fellow full certificate holders present in the meeting.

ADVANCED GRADES

Jack Rehberg Advanced Grades Trophy

1st place Akron Sail and Power Squadron

ELECTIVE GRADES

Erickson Elective Courses Trophy

3rd place Akron Sail and Power Squadron

2nd place Berea Sail and Power Squadron

1st place Mansfield Power Squadron

In summary, P/D/C Ken T Leque, Jr, SN encouraged squadrons offer opportunities for both online and face to face classes. He expressed sincere appreciation for all members do.

Commander: D/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN reported the roughly \$2000 surplus made from the District 7 rendezvous primarily occurred from doubling the number of participants, altering cost planning and bringing things from home. He heartily thanked cooks P/D/C Robert Ball, SN, and Brian Maskow, P, as well as P/D/Cs Lynda and Ken Leque for coordinating everything with Middle Bass Island Yacht Club.

Reminder that our Annual Meeting will be 02/19-02/27 2022 in Ponte Vedra FL where District 7's V/C Craig Fraser, SN will be incoming C/C. P/D/C Dave Bialorucki, SN along with R/C S Thomas Hancock, P and P/C Joanne Hancock, SN are working on details for the hospitality room to host the party for Craig. Proceeds from the reverse raffle held earlier this year will go towards that event.

District Spring Conference will be April 1-3 2022 at Doubletree Hotel in Independence OH. The room rate will be \$99/night.

D/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN emphasized the need for all squadrons to input their VSC reports into the system in order to receive credit for them.

He asked all squadron commanders to provide their upcoming COW dates to him to facilitate planning.

P/D/C Brian M Logan, SN briefly reported on the mid-year status of the Commander's Challenge. He referred members to the full information within the seat packet.

Committee Reports:

Auditing: no report.

Planning: no report.

Rules: no report.

Nominating: P/D/C Lynda C Leque, SN stated the committee has met and are obviously in need of individuals willing to help.

Unfinished Business: D/Lt/C James E Mason, SN named the following as new 50 year members: Thomas E McFate (Akron); Robert Meier (Mansfield); Roger J Renwick (Mansfield); Gerald L Frisch (Stark County); and Eugene Popa (Stark County).

D/Lt/C Roger Hall, SN announced the following potential new Life Members in 2022: James E Jackson (Mansfield), Andrea Luz (Mansfield), Jack Salisbury (NCO), David A Kastl (Vermilion), and James R Holcepl (NCO).

New Business: D/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN referred to earlier comments that our organization is looking toward moving to a regional model versus the current district model. He stressed that this is a work in progress. Everyone has an idea and everyone is encouraged to be open to the ideas. He reminded members that the national board has listened to the no uniform pleas and they will listen to discussion input on the regionalization topic.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1002.

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

Approved by:

D/C Lawrence Spraggins, JN

Date: 10/12/2021

D/Lt/C Roger Hall, SN

Date: 10/12/2021

D/Lt/C James E Mason, SN

Date: 10/11/2021