

Minutes of the 2022 Executive Committee and General Membership
Luis's Garden Grill Restaurant, Tampa, Florida
24 September 2022

Meeting called to order at 17:23. Members present: Cdr John A. Orr, III, S, P/R/C Frank Penny, SN; Lt/C Scott Morris, P; R/C Anna Morris, SN; and Lt/C Thomas C. Thompson, AP. Additional squadron member: P/C Roger L. Champagne, JN. Associate members: P/ C James B. Greenhalgh, SN. Guest: Lorella Fazio.

Quorums of the Membership and the Executive Committee were declared. Cdr John Orr reserved the right to change the order of business to expedite the meeting without objection.

Secretary Report - R/C Anna Morris, SN - Anna stated that the minutes of the 27 August Executive Committee Meeting had been posted to the website and distributed prior to the dinner. Anna called for corrections. Hearing none, Scott Morris made a motion that the minutes be approved as posted to the web, seconded by Tom Thompson. Without discussion, the minutes were approved.

Announcement made that the new 75th Anniversary burgees are available in the squadron Ships' Store for \$25. Additionally, orders for updated apparel may be placed.

Treasurer Report - R/C Anna Morris, SN - Anna reviewed the financial activity of the ending month confirming that the financial state of the Tampa Squadron is sound and that the checking account is solvent.

Administrative Officer Report - P/C Thomas C. Thompson, AP – Tom announced that the arrangements have been made with the Fraternal Order of Police to host the next ABC class and to provide refreshments. Reviewing the calendar, the following activities and dates were noted:

- District C&R at Twin Dolphins on 30 September and 1 October;
- District Conference in Punta Gorda on 7 and 8 October;
- Annual Pizza Party (and ExCom) at ABC Pizza (1242 W Hillsborough Ave) on 29 Oct;
- November's General Membership and ExCom meetings on 19 October – special date;
- Squadron Christmas Party (and ExCom) meeting at Luis's Garden Grill on 10 December.

The Lakeland Squadron has invited Tampa to join their Christmas Party and gift exchange on 18 December onboard the M/Y Starship for a dinner cruise at \$102 per person under reservation #146786.

Educational Officer Report – P/Stf/C Scott Morris, S - Scott announced that the next ABC class will be held on 5 - 6 November at the FOP and thanked Tom for making the arrangements.

The virtual Piloting (Marine Navigation) class is wrapping up and the test has been ordered.

Executive Officer Report - P/R/C Frank Penny, SN - Frank noted that National's 2023 Annual Meeting will be 19 - 26 February at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando and that the hotel reservation site is already active on the USPS website.

Commander Report - Cdr John A. Orr, III, S – John announced that he would be attending the district conference meeting and asked for volunteers to serve as delegates. Frank and Tom report volunteered; Scott and Anna have conflicts with the date.

New Business:

Anna reported that the Governing Board, at their Fall meeting in Raleigh, approved all of the proposed changes to Articles 6 and 7 of the Bylaws of the United States Power Squadrons. These articles address the organization structures of districts and squadrons, respectively. The purpose of the changes is to grant these entities the flexibility to design and simplify their squadron or district to meet their specific operational needs. Once a district or squadron updates their bylaws:

- Executive Officers and Administrative Officers become optional;
- Other “supervising” officers may be defined as elected bridge officers for other departments defined in the unit bylaws;
- Mid-term vacancies must be filled;
- Squadron waivers will no longer be needed or supported;
- Assistant bridge officers may be expanded to include Assistant Executive Officer, Assistant Administrative Officer and Assistant “supervising” Officer. Additionally, each bridge position may have more than one assistants. However, assistant officers can only be elected if the principal officer position is filled;
- Squadron Members at Large will be optional;
- Law Officer and Legislative Committee will be optional; and
- Unit bylaws will specify procedures:
 - Nominating candidates for elected office;
 - Amending the bylaws; and
 - Reviewing the financial records independent of the bridge;
- Nominating, Rules and Audit procedures may be assigned to:
 - One or more standing elected committees;
 - One or more *ad hoc* committees formed and appointed as needed by motion and adoption in a regular or special meeting of the governing body;
 - Regular or special meetings of the governing body.

Scott reports that it was formally announced at the Fall Governing Board that the development of National’s Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT) by Virtual Driver Interactive (VDI) has been halted. The balance of BSVT funding from the Coast Guard grant has been transferred to MuVIT with a 1-year extension. Scott will be forming an LLC company to satisfy CG grant requirements. MuVIT was warmly received at the Governing Board with lots of interest and visitors to the table demonstrations and 35 people in attendance at the seminar. Many inquiries were about purchasing a turn-key system. Educators were excited over the MuVIT’s functionality and adaptability for the classroom. The CG and Sea Scouts both are interested in exploring the Virtual Reality version, so Scott will need to dust off those notes.

Old Business: None.

Meeting adjourned at 18:25.

R/C Anna Morris, SN, Secretary

Minutes of Membership and Executive Committee Meetings are posted in the Members Area of the Tampa Power Squadron website.