

United States Power Squadrons
District 31 Summer Council Minutes
19 July 2008
Forrest Ridge Country Club
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma City

approved 10-25-08

District 31 Summer Council Meeting was called to order by District Commander, Bill Miller, P at 10:30 AM and an updated revisions to the agenda were passed out.

Commander Richard Dayringer, P gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDEES

Attendees of the Council introduced themselves, their squadrons, and positions held in the USPS.

A quorum was present. The District Bridge members were Commander Bill Miller, P; District Executive Officer Marilyn Rose, P; District Education Officer Tom Unger, SN; District Treasurer Susan Unger, N.

District General Committee Chairman members were Planning Committee Chairman Margaret Miller, S; District Rules Committee, Byron Lake, AP; Squadron Commanders attending were John Fairhead, JN, Beaver Lake; Richard Dayringer, P., Grand Lake; and Danny Goss, JN, Oklahoma City.

Squadron Educational Officers were Steven Johnson, AP, Norman; Alice Whittington, JN, Oklahoma City; and Assistant Educational Officer, Leon Mullis, JN, Tulsa.

Guest attending were P/D/C Julian Rolandelli, AP, Beaver Lake; P/C Elsie Rolandelli, AP, Beaver Lake; Marilyn Goss, P, Oklahoma City; Nancy Gibson, Beaver Lake; and Richard Standish, Tulsa.

Approval of the Minutes:

Corrections to the Winter Council Minutes were: District Educational Officer: "Squadron Educational Officers in attendance were D/Lt/C Tom Unger, SN from Beaver Lake; Lt/C Richard Pett, S from Grand Lake; Stf/C Steve Johnson, AP from Norman; and P/D/C Earl Rose, JN from Tulsa." And "Previous District Fall conference attendance reviewed showed Norman had 64 members attend and 81 members attended Rogers."

Commander Danny Goss, JN, moved to accept the Winter Council Minutes as corrected. D/Lt/C Marilyn Rose, P seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Administrative Business:

Commander Bill Miller asked each Squadron discuss methods of contacting members, keeping each member informed of Squadron business and functions.

The methods consisted of using emails, squadron newsletters and websites, calling committees and other personal calls. All agreed you could not depend on email alone because not everyone has email and the personal touch is hard to beat.

Commander Bill Miller provided email addresses from DB2000 to each Squadron Commander. He also commented it is hard to keep up with email changes because people forget to provide changes.

Commander Bill Miller stated each Commander should have received a letter with a password for DB2000 with various levels for read only password to whoever needs it or might use it. Master password is held by the Commander. He informed the Squadron Commanders to contact him if they still need the password.

District user password is W9TPYZ and district account number is 6436 is available to all member for read only privileges.

Commander Bill Miller stated Beaver Lake will be receiving an award for membership growth.

Squadron Commander Checklist: A CD was handed out at the winter meeting containing a Commander's Checklist a file. It spells out each month what should happen and who is responsible in the District and Squadron.

Commander Bill Miller requests each squadron provide names of individual(s) planning to attend the Detroit Governing Board as the squadron representative. This information is due to National by August 15.

Commander Bill Miller stated he received a letter of resignation from Susan Albertson, District Awards Chairman. After some discussion, Tom Unger, SN volunteered to act as the Awards Chairman until the position is filled.

Stf/C Steve Johnson stated Summer Counsel is the close out for the 2008 Poster Contest and all posters must be in his possession no later the 10 August, at which time they will be judged by the U. S. Coast Guard. Steve's office address is 301 N Council, OKC.

Motion was made by DXO Marilyn Rose and seconded by Susan Unger that the luncheon for the Summer Council be paid for by the District. There were 10 votes for and 1 vote against. Motion carried. The cost of the room was \$75.00.

District Commander's Comments:

Commander Bill Miller feels communication efforts have been successful in some areas. He hopes the Squadrons are happy with the communication between the Squadrons, District, and National and stated the effort will continue.

District Executive Officer, Marilyn Rose P

DXO Marilyn Rose provided her new email address, MBR1925@CABELONE.NET.

Oklahoma City was thanked for providing information and contacts regarding the State of Oklahoma Boat Ed. Tulsa and Grand Lake met Tony Richardson at the Bass Pro along with the two people from Corp of Engineers and a couple of others she did not know.

OKCSPS Commander Danny Goss stated he had taken the Boat Ed video and combined it with the Boat Smart slides developing a CD to be used along with the state materials. Copies are available for interested instructors. Two CDs have already been forwarded to Commander Bill Miller.

District Educational Officer Tom Unger, SN

Three new seminars have been released since the last meeting titled Marine Radar, Hurricanes and Boats, and the newest release, Knots, Bends, and Hitches.

Nominations for the Chapman Award are due to District no later than August 15. This will provide D/LT/C Tom Unger required time to evaluate the nominations prior to submitting to National no later than September 1, 2008.

Each Squadron was asked to bring a Teaching Aid entry to the Fall Conference. D/Lt/C Tom Unger said the winning aid that won National last year was actually very simple. He suggested that Squadrons might want to look at aids used in the past and submit one of them as an entry.

D/Lt/C Tom Unger received an email regarding Boat Operators and Insurance for on the water training. There will be more information after on this later.

District Treasure Susan Unger, N

District Treasury report provided by D/Lt/C Susan Unger stating District was within budget at this time, but will probably be overextended by the end of the year. Checking was \$6,034.00 and Investments with USPS is \$11,397 for a total of \$17,432.

Squadron Commanders' Report

Squadron Commanders' provided member involvement, retention and acquiring new member information.

Member involvement consists of monthly (at least) social activities that include on-the-water and off-the-water activities. Active members are present to welcome Boat Ed students and hopefully convince them to join the Squadron and take more classes. All Squadrons have gained some new members from Boat Ed classes.

Transferring family members to active members at no cost before the next registration was discussed. It was recommended each squadron look into this issue, this could increase squadron numbers.

New Business

Commander Bill Miller, P asked District Rules Committee Chairman, Byron Lake, AP to look into Article X on how to dissolve a District. Commander Miller stated this was in no way to indicate the District will be dissolved, only to be prepared if it should happen in the future. The District, just like the Squadrons are not getting new members and unfortunately the organizations are suffering from burn-out.

Commander Miller's goal was to reach a decision at Summer Council and have proposed amendments to the District-By-Laws and decisions for possible dissolution to present for approval at the District Fall Conference that will be forwarded to National for final approval.

The issues discussed were Article X and distribution of assets, that included liquid assets, District Award Trophies, and District files retention and storage.

Lt Margaret Miller, S moved to amend District 31 By-laws and delete Article X, Section 10.02.02. Squadron Commander, Danny Goss, JN seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

D/Lt/C Marilyn Rose, P moved to amend District 31 By-laws to state in the case of District 31 Dissolution, the Squadron in possession of a traveling award keep it. Squadron Commander, Danny Goss, JN seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Squadron Commander John Fairhead, JN moved to amend District 31 By-laws to state, in the event of District 31 Dissolution, District financial records as required and other pertinent data, be placed in a safety deposit box for a period of seven years. District Treasurer Susan Unger, N seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

District Nominating Committee

District Nominating Committee Chairman Bruce Albertson, SN, was unable to attend. P/D/C Julian Rolandelli regrettably reported Bob Baureis said he would not be accepting nomination for the District Administrative Officer for the coming year.

Public Relations

District Public Relations Officer Elsie Rolandelli, AP reported there is still a little money remaining in the publicity fund and requests each Squadron spend their money and forward receipts to her for reimbursement. This money must be spent no later than August 31. She stressed, "spend your money, we will not get it again".

Coop Advertising is due by September 15.

Planning Committee

District Planning Committee Chairman, Margaret Miller, S distributed updates for the District Awards Manual and stressed the importance of using it. Squadron Commanders were requested to bring updated book to the Fall Conference.

Fall Council/Conference in Oklahoma City 24-26 October 2008

Squadron Commander Danny Goss, JN discussed the Fall Conference to be held in Oklahoma City, October, 24, 25, and 26. Registration forms are located on the District Website. D/Lt/C Tom Unger, SN will present the VHF/DSC Seminar to be followed by OKC P/C Steve Pierce's and Lt Larry Kerr's presentation of the High Seas Communications Seminar. There is discussion of maybe one other seminar.

Clean Water Act

Commander Bill Miller recommend everyone write letters to their congressman regarding the Clean Water Act. Should this pass, it will have a tremendous impact on all of us.

Inland Boating Course: No recommendation

Meeting adjourned at 4:10.

Submitted by
Marylin Goss, P