

# USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2015

Meeting called to order at 1800 by Base Commander Ed Stank. Attending were Board of Directors members Ed Stank, Rick Sparger, Ken Curtis, Rick Wise, Nick Nichols, Don Mook, George Scharf, Ken Hutchison and George Fuchs and base members Butch Bryar and Mike Ciesielko.

Base Commander Ed Stank welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Ed started the board meeting with a review of the By-Law changes recommended by the By-Law Committee. The Board agreed to the following changes:

- a. Article III – Policy Section 2 to add the word external so that the paragraph will read:

No member shall initiate any project that obligates the Charleston Base or any of its members without proposing said **external** undertaking or project to the Board of Directors for approval and receiving a majority vote at a regular or special base meeting attended by the membership.

This is an editorial change to clarify the meaning of the paragraph.

- b. Article V Membership Section 1 General C from

Dues are due and payable effective on the first day of October. After October 1st a non-renewed member is considered delinquent in arrears. Members whose national dues and/or Charleston Base dues are in arrears on January 1st of the current year will be dropped from the rolls of the organization. Members are considered to be in good standing, if National and Local dues have been paid for the current year. As of January 1 of the current year, members not paid shall be considered terminated from USSVI and/or Charleston Base.

To

Dues for the upcoming year are due and payable **prior to December 31 of the current year.** **Members whose national dues and/or Charleston Base dues are in arrears on the following January 1st will be dropped from the rolls of the organization. Members are considered to be in good standing, if National and Local dues have been paid for the current year. As of January 1 members not paid shall be considered terminated from USSVI and/or Charleston Base. A terminated member will be restored without penalty once dues are paid.**

Since there is no longer a requirement for uninterrupted membership for Holland Club eligibility this change can be made.

- c. Article VI – National and Base Membership Section 1 – National Part B Remove the requirement to maintain a Life Membership Card since USSVI no longer issues the card.

- d. Article VII – Officers Section 1 – Elected Part B from

The term of office for all base officers shall be two (2) years or until a successor has been elected.

to

The term of office for all base officers shall be two (2) years.

The way it is written now is unmanageable.

- e. Article VII – Officers Section 2 Appointed Part A. Add Election Coordinator and Special Events Coordinator.

- f. Article VIII – Duties of Officers Section 1 Base Commander Part D change from

When possible, represent the base at South East (SE) Regional. Two nights lodging will be authorized from the general fund.

to

When possible, represent the base at official USSVI functions. Two nights lodging will be authorized from the general fund.

There will be financial repercussions from this change.

- g. Article VIII – Duties of Officers Section 1 Base Commander add new Part H. Review and approve the Annual Base Financial Report to the national office.

- h. Article VIII – Duties of Officers Section 2 Base Vice-Commander Part C from When possible, and in the event the Base Commander is unavailable, represent the Base at SE Regional conventions. Two nights lodging will be authorized from the general fund.

to

When possible, in the event the Base Commander is unavailable, represent the Base at official USSVI functions. Two nights lodging will be authorized from the general fund.

There will be financial repercussions from this change.

- i. Article VIII – Duties of Officers Section 3 Base Secretary Part E from Maintain a Description of Duties binder for all elected and appointed officers.

to

Maintain a Description of Duties binder for all elected and appointed officers and posted on the USSVICB website.

- j. Article VIII – Duties of Officers Section 4 Base Treasurer Part A. from Accepts and records all income and base assets.

to

Accepts and records all base income and expenditures.

- k. Article VIII – Duties of Officers Section 4 Base Treasurer Part D from Renders at each meeting, and as required by the Base Commander, the financial standing of Charleston Base.

to

Provides a report at each meeting.

The possibility of voting by mail, e-mail or on-line was discussed by the Board and was disapproved by a show of hands because of the concern that voting could be extended to other situations than the election of officers and this could complicate operation of the base.

There was a discussion with Scholarship Committee Chairman George Scharf and the Board about changes to the Scholarship documents. There were a few questions to get answered and then the new documents would be presented to the Board

Ed Stank reported that wanted to contact Gary Williams about doing the annual audit of the base financial records. The Board agreed.

Holland Club Chairman Bill Freligh discussed the preparations for the Holland Club Induction Ceremony in April.

Swamp Fox President George Scharf told the Board that the February meeting would not take place at Ryan's in Summerville since they could no longer support the meeting. He will announce the new location at the February Base Meeting.

Base Chaplain Nick Nichols talked about the Shipmate Contact Program he is trying to start so that we can keep in touch with Charleston Base members who do not attend meetings. He asked that the Board support the program.

Chief of the Boat Rick Sparger reported that we have set a date of May 16 for the Charleston Base Picnic. There will be a meeting after this meeting to see if we can do a combined picnic with the FRA.

He also stated he needed 8 more volunteers to present roses to the Lady Mourners at the Hunley-Housatonic Memorial Service on February 17. He will send out an e-mail asking for volunteers.

Base Commander Ed Stank reported that the company who was to build the new float trailer has told us he will be unable to do it. He will give us all the materials that have been donated. There is another group where base member Charlie Hudson's sons work that builds trailers and they have asked for a basic design. Ed had downloaded a basic design to present to them. A question came up about

strengthening the current trailer. A motion was made by Nick Nichols to take the old trailer to the new company and get a quote on a new float trailer and a quote on refurbishing the old trailer. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Ed also reminded the Board that he would be making a trip to the Veteran's Victory House on the Tuesday following the Charleston Base Meeting (Feb. 17).

The meeting was adjourned at 1930.