

USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2018

Meeting called to order at 1759 by Vice Commander Mike Ciesielko in absence of Base Commander Ralph Rohrsen. Attending were Board of Directors members Larry Knutson, Gordon Williams, Joe Lunn, Nick Nichols, Carl Chinn, Bill Freligh, Ken Hutchison, Tom Lawson, Rick Wise, and Gordon Long. USSVI Charleston Base member Ronald Lamon attended to present a proposal to the Board.

Vice Commander Mike Ciesielko:

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting. Rather than have Ron wait, Mike asked him to present his proposal at the outset of the meeting.

Ron Lamon

- In addition to USSVI Charleston Base, he is with the Fleet Reserve Association and the Marine Corp Association and is requesting all three groups to jointly sponsor a Law Enforcement Appreciation Breakfast to be held on a Saturday between hours of 0800-1000 at the FRA.
- He estimated the cost for this breakfast at \$450.00 and is asking each group to donate \$150.00. Ron said that if it costs more, then he will pay the extra.
- Since some of the police officers are former military, this could be a membership opportunity as they find the available brochures.
- He wants to limit the invitation to officers in Berkeley County.
- The idea for the breakfast was well-received by the board, however, Ron was advised to contact Larry Pepper regarding use of the FRA facilities.
- Rick Wise pointed out that the money would have to be considered a donation and therefore requires a vote from the Base membership. Ron will be given time on the agenda under New Business for the upcoming Base Meeting on Thursday, August 9 to make this proposal to the membership. He must be prepared for a lot of questions from the Base.
- The planning for this event is not meant for publication except to the law enforcement agencies being given an invitation. Our PAO will only discuss this post-event.

Membership – Larry Knutson:

- Reported that Charleston Base currently has 288 members.

Treasurer – Gordon Williams:

- Most of the checks that he has written have already cleared including the dues paid to national USSVI.

COB – Joe Lunn:

- He had no report except to say that he will be going with Kaps for Kids this Saturday and will report about that later.

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Chaplain – Nick Nichols:

- **Paul Viering** passed away on Tuesday, July 17, 2018. The viewing and family visitation on Friday evening was very well attended by the Base Membership.
- **Margie Deal** fell on Sunday and broke her hip. She was in SMC and has been moved to Compass Health (used to be Health South.) She will be there 9-14 days in room 204. Visitors welcome after 1300 M-F and regular hours S-S.
- **JJ Fortier** had his surgery on the 24th and it went fine. He was home on the 25th. As he said his recovery will be a long one. All calls are welcome.
- **Gordon Smith** had surgery on the 20th and went home on the 23rd. He is sore but doing well. God is good brought him thru 2 cancer surgery.
- **Lee Young** was in the hospital this last weekend. He is now home. His granddaughter is going to be providing care for Lee and Carol.
- **Marvin Miller** is doing well after either falling asleep or passing out at the July meeting.
- **Luke Murphy** is at home and Judy reports he is improving a little each day but continues to have a lot of doctor appointments. He would appreciate visits from anyone who can come by. Before visiting please call Judy's cell (843.560.0431) to make sure they are home and not at the doctor's office.
- **Mary Jane Baciocco**, Adm. Baciocco's wife, passed away on June 30th in Cary NC. She will be buried in Annapolis MD.
- **Jed Alan Heames** departed on Eternal Patrol on Tuesday, 31 July. His Celebration of Life Service will be held Saturday August 4th at the Folly River Park in Folly Beach. He served as a nuc on the WOODROW WILSON.
- **Elmer Feezer's** 2 year old granddaughter, Liberty Grooms, was visiting her grandmother in Cottageville about 2 weeks ago and fell in their swimming pool. She was found unconscious and EMS was called. They took her to Walterboro hospital and then medevac'd to MUSC where she began breathing again. Things looking up for her but then she took a turn for the worse yesterday and stopped breathing on her own. She is not expected to live. She is breathing with a ventilator. Elmer gave permission to put out the info from SubVets.

WEBMASTER – Nick Nichols:

- Nothing to report

Scholarship – Carl Chinn:

- The drawing for the dolphin print raffle will be held at the end of the August Base Meeting. The scholarship committee will be selling tickets before the meeting.
- Carl provided \$100.00 to the Treasurer from Rick Sparger. He had won the July Depth Charge in absentia after leaving his tickets in care of Marty Sessler. Rick did have some damage to electrical and electronic items in his home during the lightning strike, but the house itself is okay.

Holland Club – Bill Freligh:

- The Birthday of the U.S. Coast Guard is tomorrow, August 3. There will be a cake cutting ceremony at the FRA at 1800.

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Storekeeper – Ken Hutchison:

- Nothing to report as SK, however, he pointed out that **Paul Viering** had been in charge of the Hunley/Housatonic ceremony for the last five years each February 17. We need someone to take on this honorable task. This shall be added to new business at the Base Meeting next week.

Fleet Reserve – Ken Hutchison:

- FRA wants to borrow the SubVets' float for a parade in Monck Corner in November. The date will not conflict with normal SubVets Veteran's Day schedule. Discussion involved how far the float is allowed to travel, liability and whether the FRA has someone who can pull the float.
- Ken is also an FRA board member. He will be there to oversee the material inventory, setup and operation of the float.
- The motion to loan the float to the FRA was made by Ken; seconded by Rick Wise and passed by unanimous vote. The Base shall be informed of this decision by the board.

VA – Tom Lawson:

- The guest speaker from the VA Hospital who planned to address the members at the Base Meeting has cancelled.

Public Affairs – Rick Wise:

- He will not be at the September Base Meeting.
- In that realm, Nick informed the Board that he, along with Tom and Gordon will not be at the October Base Meeting due to attending the Stimson Reunion. The Vice Commander will also not be available for the October Base Meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 1830.