



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Chantilly, VA April 13,2019

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Rossi at 0902 hours. All members were present except Frank Graham, Ship Coordinator DL 4. Accompanying Bob Godas was Geoffrey Patterson, DL1 and DL4, as an observer.

VP Gary Marchido led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Minutes of the Virginia Beach BoD meeting, having been made available for perusal pre-meeting, Mike Bugara moved, and Pete Peterson seconded, to approve the minutes. Motion carried – minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report Mike Bugara presented his Spread/breakdown sheets; currently, the General Fund has a balance of \$10,525.17; there is currently \$423.24 in the Reunion Acc't. Mike outlined the IRS-requirement for two separate funds and provided a more detailed description of the two accounts for Bob Godas and Geoffrey Patterson.

Primary on-going, general fund costs are postage/printing/mailing costs. Also discussed were the tasks (and cost for doing them) assigned to Tracey Allen. Discussion followed regarding various elements of the budget, including the “budget” for Ship’s store and potential price increases.** Mike described the expense of cruise books not ordered by members and that we have only ordered 40 this year.

Several of the entries in the Reunion budget were discussed, including printing costs, costs for the coach companies, food/drink items for the Hospitality room, etc.

The next topic was the removal from the by-laws of life memberships, as voted on by last year’s general meeting. Mike explained that he had received considerably fewer donations last year from these members (who are not required to pay dues.) It was brought up that we need to stop using the term “life members,” which term was deleted from the DLA bylaws in 2017. John Lair moved to use the term “Honorary Member” in lieu of the obsolete term “Life Member.” Mike Bugara 2nd, motion passed. It was also pointed out that only 11 Honorary members have donated this year (of over 60 Honorary members total.)

Curtis moved, Bob Godas 2nd to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion passed. Report accepted.

*** The price increase has now been put in place – Bill’s changes to the ship’s store order form were waiting for me when I got my mail upon return from this meeting. Changes have been made; I sent Bill 15 hard copies; the revised list will be published in the Newsletter in May.*

2018 Reunion wrap-up – We received many positive comments about the Memorial Service; 50/25-25 raffle “went great;” tours went well. Nighttime dinner cruise did not succeed; will not be repeated. There was discussion about our relationship (re. their using photos of our events in their literature) with Philips DMC... We are not endorsing them through this info sharing.

Reunion survey was briefly re-visited ... Curtis noted “good format, don’t change it,” “build in more free time...” Several comments about tour length (elapsed time.) Bob mentioned “places within walking distance” for personal time. Numerous complaints about the length, repetitiveness of the auction. Curtis suggested adding a silent auction to alleviate some of this. A suggestion was made – at welcome, be sure to point out the survey forms and refer the member to his Ship’s Coordinator to make comments/complaints.

Nomination Committee – No nominations have been made for President – Larry Rossi will run for re-election as President. Curtis is not running for re-election. Suggestions were made that Curtis contact Mark Scully, Dave Mader as potential candidates for Secretary.

Correspondence -- Mike received a card from Shirley Tempest re. the passing of George Swearingen, DL1; Mike also received from Lee Strozinsky, with his membership renewal form, “a couple page thing,” from which he read two separate passages emphasizing our tax-exempt status, a Bravo Zulu for another good reunion, and suggestions for contacting add'l DLs, most of which we already have contacted. Gary mentioned his article in the American Legion magazine, welcoming any other DL shipmate to join us.

Old Business

Credit card readers. A company that Mike has contacted indicates an approx. cost of \$7.95 mo'ly fee, plus .05% fee per transaction; the reader is free of charge, excepting a set-up fee (with our bank) of about \$10.00. Curtis moved to purchase of a “point of sale” credit card reader contract, John 2nd – motion carried.

Planner's Report - 2019 Reunion

Review of Call to Reunion – Curtis to revise; POD – we must emphasize the need to check the POD on the board in the Hospitality Room DAILY.

Mike then briefly reviewed the planned activities, as shown in the Call. Emphasis on early departure to the Constitution; it'll be necessary to pass chairs to the main deck from below-decks (then return them after the function.)

Discussion ensued regarding time allotted for lunch and shopping (important for future reunion planning.)

Capt. Gray has been invited to the reunion.

Mike emphasized the need to have volunteer(s) to staff the hospitality room to keep it open, especially during the tours.

Mike reminded us of the primary reason for staying in Warwick – room rate about 1/3 of those in Boston; we also receive several perks at the Crowne Plaza which we would not get in Boston.

Registration fees – going up from \$25.00 to \$35.00; hotel user assessment fee will also rise \$15, from \$30.00. Late registrations or registration at the reunion, will be \$45.00, a \$10.00 increase.

Planners report – 2020 Reunion

Mike has received a list from New Orleans CVP of possible hotels. Mike reports that he will check the Crowne Plaza (near the airport,) the Hilton Garden Center (by the Convention Center,) the Higgins Hotel (next door to the WW II Museum,) and the Sheraton (in the French Quarter, but parking is \$35.00 daily.) Discussion ensued. Mike will also meet with Louisiana Tour Co., and Gulf South Touring. He is considering a Mississippi lunch cruise.

John Lair moved to transfer \$800 from the General Fund to the Reunion Fund for advance deposit payments, Bob Godas 2nd – Motion approved

2021 Reunion

Nominated Locales: Bismarck ND, (Bill Svendsen) Rapid City, SD (Ray Untz) Nashville TN, (Mike Bugara) Mike and Larry will be in Nashville prior to further consideration, in part to survey the locale.

Gary brought up a Panama Canal cruise – for vote at 2019 reunion – R/T Ft Lauderdale into Canal. It will be added to this year's three nominated areas (noted above.)

Contract w/ Picture Day (Jim Claypool) – 40 books per annum, 5-yr period – hand-shake contract

Good of the Association

Discussion re. Norfolk gun mounts – Bob Godas brought up moving the mounts from the school campus where they are now located to the City of Norfolk. Geoff reported that the Norfolk City Manager recommends contacting the Navy. Geoff suggested contacting Capt. Gray who might be able to “pull some strings” to site them at the base. The mounts, in pretty poor condition, are likely to be scrapped – it’s more appropriate to move them. President Rossi asked Geoff to follow up on the matter. Mike suggested contacting Tin Can Sailors for a possible grant, once a site is found.

Dues Delinquency We revisited the delinquent dues matter – those who are 2 years behind in their dues or who have not attended a reunion or made a donation in 2 years will no longer receive newsletters.

Ship’s Store inventory – President Rossi has instructed Bill Svendsen to move out items that aren’t moving, reorder those that are.

Tours – President Rossi re-emphasized the time needed for shopping within a tour. Geoffrey suggested bringing vendors into our site. It was decided that the process would involve too much work and not result in a “shopping” activity.

Ladies Activities – Curtis brought up having specifically-for-the-women activities, especially during our membership meeting. “Bunco” was mentioned as a possibility ... John Lair volunteered his daughter, Julie, to set up a bunco game during the members’ general meeting. John suggests a money-bunco game. (Post- meeting, John told me she has agreed to serve.)

Personal -- Bob Godas tendered his resignation as USS Norfolk Ship’s Coordinator and recommended Geoffrey Patterson as his replacement. Geoff was formally introduced and agreed to accept the position. President Rossi appointed him as the Ship Coordinator for the Norfolk; at the Warwick/Boston reunion, the attending members from the Norfolk will elect their 2019 – 20 Ship Coordinator.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1215.

Respectfully submitted;

Curtis

Curtis Hanson, Secretary
Destroyer Leader Association
April 27, 2019