QUANTICO AREA CHAPTER

US NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD 25 JANUARY 2023

President Robin Dreeke opened the Council meeting on Zoom at 10:04 am with four other Council members in attendance (Bob Taylor, Ron Diefenbach, Nancy Springer and Walt Girardi). Bob Sonnenberg also attended. The meeting did not achieve quorum; however, in these situations, a general business discussion, minus voting, may proceed. Of note, QAC bylaws stipulate that “a quorum of greater than 50% of Council Members is required to conduct and approve/disapprove Chapter business not delegated to Chapter Officers per these bylaws.” QAC currently has a 10-member Council; therefore, six Council Members constitute a quorum.

To start the meeting, Robin informed the group of the guest speaker slate for the remainder of the 2022-2023 Chapter year.

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| **Month** | **Speaker Name** | **Billet/Job Title** | **Remarks** |
| February  | Joe McGettigan ‘80 | USNA STEM Coordinator |  |
| March  | Kevin White ‘92 | Founder, Global Vision 2020 | Non-profit that distributes glasses to the needy |
| April | Ken Reighter ‘73 | USNA Prof/Fmr Astronaut |  |
| May | N/A | N/A | Membership Meeting; no speaker |
| June  | Vacant |  |  |
| August | Shelby Mounts ‘92 | Executive Director, NextOp Veterans | Non-profit that assists mid-grade enlisted Sailors’ transition to industry |

### Robin next summarized the progress he’s made on his action items from the December Council meeting:

### STEM: Since supporting STEM activities is a Chapter objective, Robin will ask Joe McGettigan for suggestions/ideas on how the Chapter can contribute in this area.

### Feedback on the 2022 Distinguished Chapter package: Awaiting a call/email from Sofi Loomis.

### JROTC unit-Chapter interaction/mutual support: Awaiting a call/email from local JROTC unit leader(s). Nancy suggested that the Chapter present an award certificate/Chapter coin (or other Chapter-themed memento) to a JROTC unit-selected “best Cadet.”

### Nancy’s suggestion sparked a discussion about creating a web-accessible Chapter “store/storefront” to sell QAC-branded merchandise. Robin has experience with virtual stores so he offered to research the set-up procedures on the Chapter’s behalf. He also informed the group that newly established Cape Fear Chapter (President Ray Decker ’72) contacted him for QAC best practices to aid them in developing their Chapter’s processes.

### Next, Robin asked if there had been any discussion at the January breakfast about re-establishing the Chapter committees. While there was no announcement or dialogue at the breakfast, afterwards a Chapter Member and Nancy discussed committee membership as a meaningful way to get involved in Chapter operations. Since committee chairmen set their committee’s meeting times/formats and division of labor, participating in a committee may be more manageable for busy Chapter Members than holding an Officer position. Framing committee participation this way may be a viable recruiting strategy. Robin intends to include a committee membership/employment discussion at February’s breakfast.

### Robin and Bob Taylor then engaged in a discussion about Bob’s Classmate, Rusty Yeiser incorporating the Chapter in a Midshipman ethics class in lieu of hosting a breakfast speaker. The group was in favor of pursuing this option so Bob will contact Rusty to determine his availability for the June breakfast. Since The Hampton Inn is not available on June 2, Ron will check The Holiday Inn’s ability to support.

### Next, Robin thanked Ron and Bob Taylor for their work developing an alternate invitation system to avoid Evite’s new policy of charging, per dissemination, for invitations exceeding 50 guests. Bob developed a system using Google Sheets and ran a successful beta test. However, after the test concluded, Evite unexpectedly allowed Ron to send a second invitation (for the basketball watch party). Ron will monitor how much Evite charges for that second distribution, if anything. If Evite does charge for the second invitation, going forward, Ron will send several small Evites per Chapter event to circumvent the 50-invitation limit. Bob Taylor suggested we monitor the situation but be prepared to more fully explore a transition to Google Sheets if creating multiple Evites is untenable.

### Nancy updated the group on the status of her action items:

### Contacted the Washington, DC/NCR-based West Point Society and USAFA Association of Graduates.

### Invited the West Point Society (and the NOVA Parents’ Club) to the 21 January and 11 February Army-Navy Basketball Watch Parties at 6 Bears and a Goat.

### Awaiting a response from the USAFA Association of Graduates point of contact (Alex Granados).

### Bob Sonnenberg informed the group that Chapter elections are imminent and that we need to develop a slate. Bob Taylor suggested that either Robin or George (recommended George) send out a Chapter email soliciting nominations for Vice President, a traditionally hard-to-fill position.

### Robin adjourned the meeting at 1046.

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N. A. Springer, QAC Secretary