



Minutes of the 2022 Spring Council 26 March 2022 ZOOM Tele-A-Conference

CALL TO ORDER: The council was called to order at 1105 by D/C Janet Hartesvelt, P

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: D/Lt/C Bill Stano, JN

- A Quorum is 17 Council Voters.
- Present at the meeting: 7 Squadrons represented (Ann Arbor, Birmingham, Detroit, Flint, Grand Traverse Bay, Grosse Pointe, Mt Clemens), 6 District Bridge Officers, 8 P/D/C, 1 P/DEO, Total of 22 Council Voters.
- Quorum: There was a quorum at the 2022 Spring Council Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Report of the Audit Committee from P/C Robert Malicki, JN – P/C Malicki was not present at the Council Meeting however the Audit Committee submitted a written report to the Treasure & Secretary. The Audit Committee Report stated they found the reported balances agree with the statements provided by Chase National Bank for the checking, savings, and investment accounts. In addition, the Audit Committee finds the reported income from membership dues and investments agrees with these statements, and that reported expenses agree with debits.
- Budget Committee- No report. No members of the Budget Committee were present at the Council Meeting.
- Report of the Planning Committee given by Cdr Joseph Grathoff, AP – No Report
- Report of the Rules Committee given by P/D/C Mary Ann Jensen, SN – Report on the Dissolution of the Grand Rapids Club/Squadron. P/D/C Jensen, SN stated she was not aware she would be called upon to give a report on the dissolution of the Grand Rapids Squadron, so she was not prepared to give a report. SOP 44 “PROCESS FOR A SQUADRON TO REQUEST DISSOLUTION” (created 13 April 2019) is in place.
- Report of the Conference Coordinator, No report from the Conference Coordinator.
- Report of the Nominating Committee given by P/D/C Ralph Ziegler, JN.
 1. Nominating Committee
 - *D/C Janet Hartesvelt, P – 1st of 3-year term
 - *P/D/C Michael Babiarz, AP- 3rd of 3-year term
 - *Open Seat – 3- year term
 - *P/D/C Ralph Ziegler, JN – 2nd of 3-year term



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
DISTRICT 9



2. Auditing Committee
 - *D/Lt Paul W. Loock, JN- 2nd of 3-year term
 - *D/Lt Bonnie Kreig, AP – 2nd of 3-year term
 - * P/C Ronald Utz, AP – 1st of 3-year term

3. Budget and Finance Committee
 - *D/Lt Dale Lashbrook, AP – 3rd of 3-year term
 - *D/Lt Thomas Fisher, JN – 2nd of 3-year term
 - *D/Lt Kim Ratcliffe, AP – 2nd of 3-year term

4. Planning Committee
 - *D/Lt Connie Hallenbeck, JN – 3rd of 3-year term
 - *D/Lt David Brinks, AP – 3rd of 3-year term
 - *P/D/C Dawn Flynn, JN – 2nd of 3-year term
 - *P/C Gary Jialanella, JN 1st of 3-year term
 - *P/C John Sulkowski, AP 1st of 3-year

The Council needed a vote to approve the nominations for the Planning Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee. A motion was made, the motion was second and the motion was approved.

Continuation of the Report from the Nominating Committee:

District Bridge Nominations

1. District Commander – D/Lt/C Alanna Harvey, P (Lansing)
2. District Executive Officer – D/Lt/C Albert Schwaller, JN (Detroit)
3. District Education Officer – D/Lt/C Judy Delargy, SN (Birmingham)
4. District Administrative Officer – D/Lt/C Chester Dunbar, AP (Grosse Pointe)
5. District Secretary – D/Lt/C William Stano, JN (Grosse Pointe)
6. District Treasurer – This position is vacant as of 3/26/2022
7. District Assistant Education Officer – Thomas Geggie, SN (Birmingham)
8. District Assistant Secretary – this position is open as of 3/26/2020

Auditing Committee

1. D/Lt Paul W. Loock, JN (Birmingham)
2. D/Lt Bonnie Kreig, AP (St Clair Shores)
3. P/C Ronald Utz, AP (Grosse Pointe)



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
DISTRICT 9



Nominating Committee

1. D/C Janet Hartesvelt, P (Grand Traverse Bay) 1st of 3-year term
2. P/D/C Ralph Ziegler, JN (Lansing) 2nd of 3-year term
3. P/D/C Michael Babiarz, AP (Grosse Pointe) 3rd of 3-year term
4. Open Seat 3- year term
5. Open Seat 3-year term
6. Open Seat 3-year term

Rules Committee

1. D/Lt Cheryl Muylaert, JN (Dearborn) 3rd of a 3-year term
2. P/D/C Mary Ann Jensen, SN (Lansing) 1st of a 3-year term
3. Open Position 1st of a 3-year term

The Nominating Committee continues to search for potential candidates for the open district positions.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Treasurer Report D/Lt/C Chester Dunbar, AP

- The Treasurer's Report is the Council Seat Packet.
- The district made money from the Fall 2021 PENTA Conference, \$219.93.
- Not much else to report from the Treasurer.
- There is no report from the Budget Committee. The Treasurer has had no contact from the Budget Committee; the Budget Committee has not responded to the Treasurer's calls. The Secretary received no communication from the Budget Committee.
- The Treasurer suggests continuing using the same budget the district has been using for the past 3-years. Net income of \$4000.00 on the budget, same as last year. Therefore, the Treasurer stated to use the same budget in the absence of a report from the Budget Committee.
- End of the Treasurer Report.

Secretary Report D/Lt/C William Stano, JN

- The Secretary's Report is in the Council Seat Packet.
- D/Lt/C Stano acknowledged the District 9 Clubs/Squadrons who won the 2021 Distinctive Communicator Awards.

The following District 9 Clubs/Squadrons were awarded the 2021 Distinctive Communicator Award for their websites:

ANCHOR BAY – ANN ARBOR – BIRMINGHAM – DEARBORN – DETROIT – FLINT – GRAND RAPIDS
GRAND TRAVERSE BAY – GROSSE POINTE – LANSING – MT. CLEMENS
PORT HURON – SAGINAW BAY – ST CLAIR SHORES – WYANDOTTE



District 9

Anchor Bay Power Squadron

Ann Arbor Power Squadron

Birmingham Power Squadron

Detroit Power Squadron

Saginaw Bay Sail & Power Squadron

Grand Traverse Bay Sail & Power Squadron

Grosse Pointe Power Squadron

Mount Clemens Power Squadron

Port Huron Sail & Power Squadron

The following District 9 Clubs/Squadrons were awarded the 2021 Distinctive Communicator Award for their Newsletters:

D9 – Interlaker

Ann Arbor - The Porthole

Birmingham – The Bilge Chatter

Dearborn – Anchor Lines

Detroit – Dumping Grounds

Grand Rapids – Waterspout

Grand Traverse Bay – The 45th Parallel

Lansing – Crow’s Nest

Port Huron – SPLASH!

- The National Marketing Committee approved two new USPS/ABC logos. These two Logos, horizontal and rectangular, include the United States Power Squadrons name. You can download these logos at [Approved Logos \(usps.org\)](https://usps.org). These logos are not meant to replace currently approved ones.



You can also download the America’s Boating Club Letterhead to send “Official Correspondence.” [ABClub_Letterhead.docx \(live.com\)](https://www.usps.org)

- The National Secretary’s Report from the 2022 Annual Meeting can be found at the National Meetings Website: https://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?sp_mtg_id=38&mtg_id=43
- End of the Secretary’s Report



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- The District Commander has no unfinished business to discuss with the council

NEW BUSINESS – DISSOLUTION OF THE GRAND RAPIDS SQUADRON/CLUB

- D/C Hartesvelt informed the Grand Rapids Commander, Greg Heath, P that the dissolution of the Grand Rapids Club/Squadron would be discussed at the Spring Council Meeting.
- D/C Hartesvelt needs a motion to acknowledge that Grand Rapids Club/Squadron has dissolved.
- D/Lt/C Harvey informed the Council that a correction is needed. Grand Rapids requested dissolution. Council has to vote on the dissolution and the vote by Council needs to go to the National Organization to approve Grand Rapids dissolution. Grand Rapids Club/Squadron has REQUESTED DISSOLUTION.
- Motion needed to acknowledge the request of Grand Rapids Squadron/Club to dissolve. Motion made by D/Lt/C Schwaller, second by D/Lt/C Stano, no further discussion. Motion was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- D/C Hartesvelt has awards to distribute at Spring Conference.
- D/C Hartesvelt has the bell and in the box with the bell is Lansing's Award & packet of commander's pins which can be given to the "new" commanders who do not have commanders' pins. The D/C Flag is also in the bell box. All this will be given to Cindy Sinicki and D/Lt/C Harvey can pick up these items from Cindy Sinicki.

MATTERS OF INTEREST – USPS REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL UPDATE

- America's Boating Club's Reorganization Plan
Per D/Lt/c Harvey, will not discuss the Reorganization Proposal at this Council Meeting. Today, the intent is to make everyone aware of the document, the processes that are happening and discussion of future discussion opportunities. The District Secretary sent the Reorganization Proposal to the Council Members before the Council Meeting. The National Organization realizes the organization needs to make changes (declining membership, retaining members is a problem because members needs are not being met, it is becoming harder to fulfil our education mission, lack of volunteers, difficulty finding leaders & engagement in activities). An Ad Hoc Committee was formed to represent boating from around the



United States. D9 has good cohesiveness but not all USPS districts run like D9. Some districts having Difficulties with their squadrons identify with their districts. D/Lt C Harvey recommend that members look at the goals of the reorganization. The Ad Hoc Committee is looking at what clubs need to function, who is our customer, updating our educational material.

Section 4.2 of the Reorganization Proposal is about Education.

Section 4.3 addresses social events.

Section 4.4 addresses communication.

Section 4.5 addresses the restructuring of National Committees.

Section 5.2 is the structure the committee is recommending and focusing on. Will the restructuring be disruptive & require changes...YES and communication is the key to make the restructuring happen. Restructuring on the National level will be crucial to give clubs/squadrons what is needed to be successful.

How does the restructuring plan affect District 9?

1. Clubs in the district can decide whether or not they want to discontinue functioning as a district or transform into a consortium of clubs/squadrons.
2. This may be a good option for District 9. The clubs/squadrons in district nine to decide what they want to do.
3. Issue of finances - At the D/C DEXO at the Annual Meeting, National stated the districts can keep their finances however D/Lt/C Harvey stated the D/C's and DEXO's distrust what the National Organization stated about finances. District nine is making inquiries about establishing a foundation.

The National Organization sent notification to members about the National Town Hall Meeting (virtual) scheduled for Tuesday 29 March 2022 at 2000. D/Lt/C Harvey urges the membership to attend the Town Hall Meeting about the Reorganization Proposal. The National Organization will hold three Town Hall Meetings about the Reorganization Plan.

District nine will hold a Town Hall Meeting about the Reorganization Plan (Virtual) on Saturday 23 April at 1430. This meeting will last for 60 minutes.

P/D/C Flynn expressed her concern that there are no female members on the Ad Hoc Committee. Per P/D/C, Ziegler, The Ad Hoc Committee has added two new members to the Ad Hoc Committee and one of the new committee members is a woman, Tracy Simpson, the District Commander of District 30. The other new committee member is P/D/C from District 10, David Fine.



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
DISTRICT 9



- The Grosse Pointe Commander, Rose Stano, wanted to alert the council about the trifold brochures developed by the National Organization's Marketing Committee and found on *the* Marketing web page. Clubs can fill in their information on the backside of the trifolds and print them. Placing stickers on the brochures is no longer necessary. There are three trifolds: What is America's Boating Club, America's Boating Course, and Become A Better Boater, Have More Fun.
- D/C Hartesvelt asked there was any additional topics needing discussion. No new topics were brought up by council members. D/C Hartesvelt stated the District Nine Council Meeting is adjourned.
- The 2022 Spring Council Meeting was adjourned at 1134

2022 Spring Conference is the 23 April 2022 and will be a virtual conference.

Respectfully Submitted by:

D/Lt/C Bill Stano, JN
District 9 Secretary



**Minutes of the 2022 Spring Council
26 March 2022
ZOOM Tele-A-Conference**

ADDENDUM

On 27 March 2020 at 1449, The District Secretary received the following email from the District Administrative Officer which was emailed to the entire District Nine Bridge:

“In reviewing my notes, I do not believe that the Council approved a budget for the coming year.

Chet Dunbar SUGGESTED that we continue this year’s budget for the incoming bridge.
There was no motion, second or vote by the council.

What is needed to approve a budget for 2022-2023?

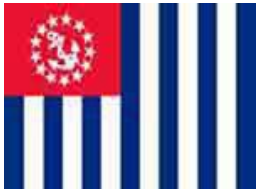
Al Schwaller JN-CN
D9 Administrative Officer.”

The District Secretary responded to the District Administrative Officer’s email on 27 March 2022 at 1449 with the following email which was sent to the entire District Nine Bridge:

To: D/Lt/C Schwaller,

“Al, you are correct. The Council **did not** approve a budget for 2022-23. Chet noted the Council received no report from the Budget Committee. Chet stated he tried contacting the Budget Committee without success and the District Secretary has not received any communication from the Budget Committee. D/Lt/C Dunbar suggested using the same budget used for the past 3 years. There was no motion, second or vote by the council to approve continuing to use the current budget. I suggest an email be sent to the D9 Council requesting a vote to continue using the current budget for the year 2022-2023. I spoke with Chet this afternoon and he agrees with sending an email to the Council members to vote on the 2022-2023 budget. It is my opinion that if an email is sent to Council, the email needs to be composed by the District Commander.

Stf/C Bill
Secretary
District 9”



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
DISTRICT 9



The Following email was sent to the District Nine Bridge by the District Executive Officer on 30 March 2022 at 0955:

“After reading the bylaws I don’t think we can do this via email. I believe we will need to reconvene the council to vote on budget. I would suggest we reconvene the council at noon and then move into conference afterwards. I think you could send an email explaining why we are requesting a reconvening.

Alanna”

“The District Administrative Officer also sent an email on 31 March 2022 at 1033:

In reading our By Laws I agree that we should have a council meeting at the Spring Conference.

Al”

The District Commander sent the following email to the District Nine Bridge on 31 March 2022 at 1350:

“OK, to avoid confusion and abide by the bylaws, lets reconvene the Council at noon April 23 for a quick budget vote...

Thank you,

D/C Jan”