

2020 USSVI POST-BOD MEETING MINUTES

VIA ZOOM

AUGUST 31, 2020

National Commander Wayne Standerfer opened the meeting at 1200 on August 31, 2020

As this meeting is a follow-up on the Annual Business Meeting, we dispensed of the normal opening items.

Wayne welcomed Vic VanHorn as the new Western Region Director. Vic has been joining in the National Meetings for many years and has been an active member of USSVI. Vic has relinquished his position as DC and appointed Dennis Ottley as his replacement. Dennis is presently the Tucson Base Commander and did an excellent job coordinating the Tucson Convention which was postponed until 2023 due to COVID-19.

Wayne also congratulated Ed Irwin for being elected as the District Commander of the Year. Ed is serving as Central Region District 1 Commander.

Wayne then presented and ask for a vote to approve his proposed appointments for 2020-2022 Committees and Appointed Officers as listed below.

2020-22 USSVI Committees and Appointed Officers

The Board Member that is responsible is listed at the end of the committee description (NC, NSVC, NS etc.)

Standing Committees

AWARDS COMMITTEE – CRD

Chair – Harold W. (Bill) Scott II

Member – No one assigned at this time

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE – NC

Chair - Parliamentarian Skip Turnbull

Member - IPNC John Markiewicz

Public Relations and Future Planning Committee - NJVC

Chair – Richard Mitchell

Members – To be appointed by Chairman

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – NJVC - Dictated by Constitution & By-Laws

Chair - NJVC Steve Bell

Members - Fred Borgmann (National Office Manager)

Ray Wewers (National Secretary)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES COMMITTEE – NS

Chair - Joe Mathis

NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE – NSVC

Chair - Richard (Ozzie) Osentoski

Members - Jay Mack

Lou Hamill (Convention Webmaster)

NEW BASE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – NJVC

Chair – Diederick (Dick) Kanning

Members - Pete Juhos (Western Region)

Les Altschuler (NE Region)

Wayne Phillips (SE Region)

Marlin Helms (Central Region)

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE – NS (Biennial)

Chair - IPNC John Markiewicz

Member - PNC Tom Conlon

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

This is a unique and talent orientated committee that is difficult to properly staff from our pool of members. No response to date from anyone that I feel is qualified.

Will continue sending out feelers.

USSVI INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NC

Investment Fund Manager - IPNC John Markiewicz

Alternate Fund Manager – PNC Patrick Householder

Members - NSVC Jon Jaques

NT Paul Hiser

CF Ken Earls

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE – NSVC – Dictated by Constitution & By-Laws

Chair - NSVC Jon Jaques

Members - NJVC Steve Bell

NT Paul Hiser

Ad Hoc Committee(s)

BOARD OF INQUIRY COMMITTEE -NC

Chair - Ross Sargent (Judge Advocate)

Members - Herbert Orth

Bill Windle

Special Committees

AUDIT/REVIEW COMMITTEE – Dictated by Constitution & By-Laws

Chair – NSVC Jon Jaques

Members - NE Region – Les Altschuler
SE Region – Ken Nichols
Central Region – Tom Williams
Western Region – Vic Van Horn
DCOY – Edmond Irwin (Alternate)

Appointed Officers

AMERICAN SUBMARINER MAGAZINE -NSVC

Editor - Michael Bircumshaw

Treasurer - Paul Hiser

Distribution and Proof Team members are appointed by the Editor.

Distribution - Neal Britner

Proof Team - Joan Miner

Neal Britner

Bill Andrea

BINNACLE LIST MANAGER – NERD

Ron Harder

BOAT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM – NSVC

John (Jack) Messersmith

Convention Website Webmaster

Louis Hamill

ELECTIONS MASTER – NC

Tom Conlon

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIRMAN – Elected Annually by Holland Club Members

Bud Atkins

Holland Club Vice Chairman

Appointed by Holland Club Chairman (Has been vacant for some time and is not needed at this time)

NATIONAL ARTIST -NSVC

Tom Denton

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN – NS

Carsten Stigers

NATIONAL CONVENTION WEBSITE MANAGER – NSVC

(Member of National Convention Committee) - Lou Hamill

NATIONAL HISTORIAN - NS

Ron Martini – This is a change due to inactivity from previous Historian

NATIONAL ATTORNEY– NC

Todd Snow

NATIONAL LEGAL TEAM – NC

Judge Advocate Ross Sargent

National Lawyer Todd Snow

Parliamentarian - Skip Turnbull

NATIONAL OFFICE MANAGER – NJVC

Fred Borgmann will retire at the end of November and will turn over his duties as National Office Manager to Bremerton Base Member and National Office Assistant Dennis Nardone.

NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIAN – NC

Skipton Turnbull

NATIONAL POC MANAGER – NC

Bill Andrea

NATIONAL WWII HISTORIAN – Works under AS Editor Michael Bircumshaw

John (Jack) Jeffries

NATIONAL SCOUTING PROGRAM MANAGER – CRD

David Farran

NATIONAL STOREKEEPER – NSVC

Barry Commons

VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICER - NC

John Dudas

Jon Jaques made motion to accept the appointments, second by Steve Bell. Motion approved unanimously. Appointments and Committees approved.

USS BONEFISH – END4 Cdr Art Glover ask for that the USS Bonefish SS-582 be added to the list of Lost Boats included in our Lost Boats Tolling Ceremony.

A brief history of what occurred during the incident that virtually made the Bonefish unrepairable and resulted in the loss of three crew members was given as listed below.

On April 24, 1988, the USS Bonefish SS-582 had a catastrophic fire while submerged during an exercise with the Guided Missile Frigate USS Carr off the Atlantic Coast of Florida. This fire was caused by seawater leaking onto cables and electric buses in a battery-supply cableway. The arcing then caused an explosion, which flashed into a fire within minutes, with the temperature in the battery space reaching 1,200° Fahrenheit.

The heat was so intense that it melted the soles of the shoes of the crewmembers in that were in that space. Bonefish surfaced, and the captain ordered the crew to abandon ship.

Over the next three hours the crews of a whaleboat from *Carr* and helicopters from both Carr and the aircraft carrier, USS John F. Kennedy rescued 89 men.

Three crewmembers – Lieutenant Ray Everts, Radioman First Class (RM1) (SS) Bob Bordelon, and Yeoman Third Class (YN3) (SS) Marshal Lindgren – died due to the fire.

Their bodies were recovered by members of the Frigate USS McCloy.

The Bonefish was towed to Charleston, SC where Naval authorities deemed the damage to Bonefish to be too extensive to warrant repair and thus decided to decommission and scrap her.

Les Altschuler made a motion to include the USS Bonefish in the Tolling of the Boats list. Second by Ken Nichols.

Following a discussion, a vote was called for to approve the addition of the USS Bonefish SS-582 to the list of Lost Boats.

The vote was approved unanimously. Wayne Standerfer will talk with Warren Branges about including the Bonefish to his ceremony list and take care of notifying the membership.

NOTE: This vote to add the USS Bonefish SS-582 to the Lost Boat Tolling Ceremony was removed/rescinded by the National BOD's at membership request on 09/08/2020

CLOSING COMMENTS FROM ATTENDEES

Ken Nichols mentioned there is an auction of submarine memorabilia being organized for our next convention in Orlando to raise funds for the Charitable Foundation. A Central Texas Base member is donating much of the memorabilia. John Markiewicz said he was not familiar with the Orlando Convention auction, but there was a two (2) night auction planned for the Tucson Convention that would benefit next year's convention, but since the Tucson Convention was cancelled, a decision will have to be made as to where we proceed with a future auction.

Ken Earls has requested a table for the Charitable Foundation at the next convention.

Paul Hiser recommended that an advertising manager be appointed for the American Submariner Magazine. We are doing okay at present, but it would lighten the load on the magazine's editorial staff if someone were appointed.

Michael Bircumshaw said he would feel better if someone assumed this responsibility, but the AS is doing well at present.

Wayne said to let Michael make this appointment if and when he feels it becomes necessary.

Wayne Standerfer said it has been a pleasure working with Board over the last two years. They have very efficiently resolved issues as they have arisen. Many Boards in the past have not worked in unison which resulted in unwarranted problems, but that has not been the case with the present board. All of them have been not only been very cooperative, but they address issues promptly and effectively.

Steve Bell made a motion to close the meeting, Second by Tom Williams.

National Commander Wayne Standerfer closed the meeting at 1228 on August 31, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Wewers
USSVI National Secretary