



## **Executive Committee Meeting**

### **Teleconference**

**May 25, 2016**

#### **MINUTES**

The following members of the Executive Committee were present: President, COL Jim Sweeney; Army Vice President, LTC Hazel Robinson; Army Executive Committeemen, LTC Richard Spencer and COL Monti Zimmerman; Naval Services Vice President, CWO4 Dale Andersen; Naval Services Junior Vice President, LT Jennifer Franco, Naval Services Executive Committeemen, CAPT Rick Thomas and LT George McElwee; Air Force Executive Committeemen, Lt Col Don Stockton, Maj Leonard Sobieski and CMSgt Shane Smith; and Executive Director, Mr. Jeffrey Phillips.

Appointed national officer present was Public Relations Officer, CAPT Henry Plimack. Invited guests in attendance were: Chairman, Department National Council Members, LTC Duane Richards; from Smith Bucklin, Mr. Brian Teague and Mr. Scott Lowe. Also in attendance were ROA National Staff members: Ms. Lani Burnett and Ms. Susan Lukas.

Elected and appointed national officers absent were: Immediate Past President, BG Mike Silva; Army Junior Vice President, CPT Fatima McPhaul; Army Executive Committeemen, CPT Steven Barnard; Air Force Vice President, Col Margaret Cope; Air Force Junior Vice President, Capt Zachary Walker; Naval Services Executive Committeemen COL Will Holahan; Treasurer, CPT Shannon Bibbee; Judge Advocate, LTC Bill Pentecost; Health Services Officer, CAPT Marco Montoya; and National Chaplain, COL Sherman Reed

Ms. Lani Burnett, recording secretary, called roll. With a quorum being in attendance, President Sweeney called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

#### **President's Remarks**

President Sweeney recognized the passing of Paul Peletier and Jim Hannigan. Monty Zimmerman also recognized the passing of Col Dean Montague who was participating in the Ironman competition and died at age 51, weeks from retirement.

Attendees were thanked for their participation.

A legal review is nearing completion concerning the transfer of the Minuteman Memorial Building to a 501(c)(3), for example the STARs Foundation, for tax advantages. Under DC law it is not as favorable as other states.

Also, we are waiting on the results of the legal review concerning paying off the building loan.

The President and Executive Director met with the NAUS board, which then voted unanimously to be integrated into ROA, and to present the question to its membership during NAUS's annual meeting in October 2016.

#### **Financial Update – SmithBucklin (Scott Lowe)**

The ROA April 2016 consolidated financial statements i.e. Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Activities, and Year-to-Date Statement of Cash Flow and Net Income were distributed to the ExCom prior to tonight's call.

Overall there isn't much to report since this is the first month of the new fiscal year. For April we have earned Operating Revenue of \$205K that represents about 7% of our overall budgeted revenue. For Operating Expense we are at a year-to-date of \$157K that represents about 5% of our overall budgeted expense. Bottom line net income for Operations is currently at \$48K. Non-Operating activity for April is primarily made up of investment activity and some depreciation expense. The bottom line for Non-Operating is \$59K however; this can fluctuate based on market activity.

#### **Executive Director Update – Jeff Phillips**

Mr. Phillips provided a status update on activity since the last conference call.

MMB maintenance: LtCol Richards is currently reviewing the DPR contract items for the generator and elevator. Found satisfaction in the other components and an HVAC equipment has been ordered. Other lower cost items are being done to show forward momentum.

MMB renovation loan repayment progress

Rebate calculation update: Mike Silva is communicating with Sarah Alcock at Smith Bucklin to ensure accuracy of the rebate owed to Department. The true rebate liability will be presented to the ExCom.

Prudential Fund: Working with A2W and MJM Strategies to develop and launch a grassroots advocacy program. Will look at expanding developmental effort once we show we can be effective. It is first big amount in the newly updated industry partners program.

Meeting with Shannon Bibbee and Grainger to discuss RC employment.

#### **Meeting/Events Update - Lani Burnett**

Silver Legacy (Convention hotel) contract has been signed. Currently developing fees and hope to have them posted in July.

There are 40 registrations for the August CIOR meeting being held Aug 2-7, 2016 in Madrid Spain. Last day to register is July 15<sup>th</sup>. Event and registration information is on ROA's website.

There are three UPORFA registrations for the September 15-17, 2016 meeting in Puerto Rico. Event and registration information is on the ROA website.

#### **Legislative Affairs (Susan Lukas)**

Explained HASC and SASC marks are out and ROA has been working on amendments with both, i.e. SBP-IDT. The Senate mark includes a pilot program for Guard and Reserve to take part in a FEHBP-like health care plan. There was also extensive language for BAH reform that ROA is working on with the Pentagon. Will also get with the service legislative liaisons for any conference issues.

ROA was invited to attend a meeting with Leader Pelosi and Congressman Walz to discuss veteran issues. Identified problems with Guard and Reserve disability approvals, which are low compared to other groups. Even though ROA is not a VSO we still get involved in veteran issues for Guard and Reserve on employment and education, to name a few.

Continuing to work on veteran status with HVAC who is getting ready to introduce it in a bill.

### **ROA STARs Foundation – Jeff Phillips**

Mr. Phillips provided an update on the STARs Reception and Gala. We are moving ahead with development plan and compiling a list of potential donors. Reassured everyone that the firm ROA hired to help with foundation events is proving very favorable.

### **Inquiry Committee - Lieutenant McElwee**

*Upon a properly made motion by the Inquiry Committee, and upon a majority vote, it was resolved ... "The Inquiry Committee's investigation of the matter referenced in the Excom's 13 March 2016 minutes has CONCLUDED and the matter has been resolved, and the committee's recommendation is that the temporary suspension of membership be rescinded, and that no further action be taken."*

### **NAUS Integration - President Sweeney**

After noting that these C&B proposals will not be voted on tonight because of some possible alternatives, Sweeney presented and facilitated discussion concerning each of the proposed amendments. He explained that the proposed amendments simply reduced the terms of the motions the Excom passed on 13 March 2016 to the proper format for submission to the convention; that they are mere embodiments of the Excom's previous decisions. He further noted that the vote on whether to endorse and send these proposed amendments to the delegates for approval at the convention will be delayed until 2 Jun to allow further consideration and discussion of the alternatives. Shane Smith said he will not be able to attend the 02 Jun meeting.

Membership eligibility: One motion passed by the ExCom on 13 March, exercised its ability to nominate for membership those NAUS members who are not otherwise qualified. This nomination must be approved by the body. Conversely, this first proposed amendment, to Article A-3, would add a section (Section 5) to allow the Excom to accept as regular members any members of an integrated entity not otherwise eligible for membership. Sweeney noted an alternate amendment to Article A-3 would instead change that Membership Eligibility section to take out certain wording in Section 1 to open up membership to a broader group; i.e., E-1s to E-3s. Like all of the proposed amendments, the Section 1 proposed change and the alternate proposed change will go to Departments and Chapters to get feedback on the proposed changes. Shane Smith spoke in favor of the alternate proposed change, stating that ROA desires to increase membership and he believes only people we want will become members so we should make it easier for that to happen. Hazel Robinson asked for clarification. Jim Sweeney reit-

erated that on 13 March 2016, the Excom already voted to nominate for membership under Article 8, Section 4, those few members of NAUS to be members who would not otherwise be eligible, i.e. E-3s and below. This decision is subject to the approval by the delegates; whereas the proposed amendment and alternative proposed amendment would obviate the need for approval.

He restated the hope that the integration of NAUS becomes a template for other associations that would look for a partner to merge with in the future. The alternate amendment would allow the Excom, with proper due diligence, to act between conventions. Leonard Sobieski asked what the hold up was in finding out what comprises their membership. Jeff Phillips said we know there are about 800 enlisted NAUS members. Monti Zimmerman said that number had not previously been identified. Less than what we had in REA. President Sweeney noted that NAUS could accelerate its internal discussions and get buy in to have it done sooner if they hold a special vote before October. In the interim, ROA will continue its due diligence.

The next proposed amendment embodied the Excom's 13 March 2016 decision to provide NAUS representation on the board as provided in the MOU also authorized by the Excom on 13 March 2016. The President recommended that the proposed amendment needed to be tightened to provide for such representation to last only until the next convention, and that the amended provision would thereafter automatically expire and be deleted. He noted that an alternate proposal would be to make the proposed amendment a general amendment applicable to any integrated organization. Again, the alternative would allow the Excom to integrate a compatible association between conventions. The noted changes to the proposed amendment and alternate proposed amendment would be circulated in the next read-ahead prior to the 02 June meeting. No questions or comments from attendees.

The next proposed amendment embodied the Excom's 13 March 2016 decision to retain NAUS's mission to protect benefits. Our charter provides for the promotion of national security, which does not preclude promoting the benefits NAUS would like to preserve since benefits enhance recruiting, morale and retention, etc., and therefore national security. Leonard Sobieski expressed his concern that advocating for benefits might be in conflict with advocating for national security. It was explained that this proposed amendment to protect benefits earned in no way undermines ROA's mission, and as noted, is complimentary to promoting national security. Indeed, ROA is doing this today and has done this through its history (e.g., drill pay, health care access, retirement benefits, etc.). The proposed amendment would not obligate ROA to be a VSO. Moreover, just as with matters of national security policy, ROA is not obligated to accept the benefit recommendations/desires of DoD if they are contrary to our national security. No further discussion from attendees.

Proposed amendment to the HJR Scholarship, which the Excom has been discussing for months, will be circulated and further discussed on the 2 Jun 2016 call.

Sweeney summarized that in the 02 June 2016 meeting, the Excom will further discuss, if necessary, and vote on whether to endorse and send these proposed amendments, and/or the noted alternatives to the delegates for approval at the convention. Any proposed amendments the Excom endorses, will be sent to the Departments at least 90 days prior to the convention for Department consideration.

### **New Business and President Concluding Remarks**

Mr. Phillips: Matt DuBois, DASD, Retired Navy Captain, is being considered as a speaker for ROA's 2016 Convention. He brought his team over to meet with ROA. The meeting was productive and identified

the problems from restructuring OSD/RA. Asked for any opinions as speaker. President Sweeney affirmed the value of the meeting and that Mr. DuBois was fully engaged for the benefit of the Reserves. No one spoke against.

Monti Zimmerman: Recognized retirement of Jeff Phillips and noted it was a very moving retirement and the reception was very enjoyable. Jeff said we used the outdoor portico and it could possibly be used in the future for revenue.

Shane Smith: He will provide an update on the PACE program.

President charged the ExCom to continue any and all fund raising efforts they can.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by President Sweeney at 7:48 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Mr. Jeffrey Phillips, Executive Director.