



## North Star Flotilla 013-07-06 Meeting Minutes 18 January 2024

Meeting held at the Throwbridge Conference Room in Warwick, RI

**Meeting called to order** at 1900 by FC John Merrill followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.

**In-Person Attendance:** Gary Davis, Nick Butziger, Roz Butziger, Bernie Fournier, Lisa Fournier, Steve Hill, Charles Jenison, Vanessa Jenison, Gene Lessard, Pauline Lessard, Delores Maiorano, Ralph Maiorano, John Merrill, Mike Quinn, New Members: Bill Hogan, Donna Hogan and Connor Hogan.

**Zoom Attendance:** Donna Bagdasarian, Rich Booth, Karen Caron, Craig Clark, Craig Hammer and Tim Lynch.

**FC John Merrill:** (Flotilla Commander)

Welcoming new members Bill, Donna and Connor Hogan who were referred to us by members Dan Shaw and Felicia Smart.

Secretary Minutes for the last meeting held in November 2023 were accepted.

Finance Report was emailed at the end of December. Reviewed by Karen Caron via zoom and displayed on screen by Mike Quinn assisting via laptop. Report was accepted.

**VFC Mary Ann Moran:** (Vice Flotilla Commander) Not present.

### **Staff Reports:**

**FSO-NS Mike Quinn:** Navigation Systems are busy correcting things such as fog lights, etc. There are 154 ATONs (Aids to Navigation) to check this year.

**FSO-MA Mike Quinn:** Materials. If you need assistance in obtaining uniforms that are required for what you want to do, please reach out. If you don't get your required uniforms, you will go into R-YR by December 31 of that year. Please also check the expiration date on your Aux ID card. Email Mike if you need a new one.

**FSO-CS Mike Quinn:** Computer Systems. Aux Data II was explained to the new members along with BQ (Basic Qualifications) and Safe Boating course requirements.

**FSO-IS Karen Caron:** (Information Systems) Elaborated on Aux Data II and exemption vs requirement for uniforms.

**FSO-MS Gary Davis:** (Marine Safety) We want to start training boaters regarding awareness, pollution control, vessel safety checks, etc. Auxiliarists could volunteer to be 'Dock Walkers' to speak to boaters about how they could be more knowledgeable. Reminder that Vessel Safety Check Auxiliarists need to keep up with workshops which are yearly. There will be a workshop before the boating season starts.

**FSO-OP Charles Jenison:** (Operations) The bay is quiet right now but will get busy in May or June.

**RS&S Charles Jenison:** A list shown on screen of PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) that we have available. Check your personal locator beacons for expiration dates and let Charles know if you need replacements or any items.

**FSO-CM John Merrill:** (Communications) CG Castle Hill needs more Tele-Coms assistance. Training starts in February.

**FSO-MT Nick Butziger:** (Member Training) Safe Boating Classes are required if you were born starting in 1986. You must have the course completion card. Now that Covid restrictions are done, boaters need to take the classes. NASBA (National Safe Boating Authority) wants to unify all states to honor one same course completion card for uniformity. The course, though, does not include Navigation where 'Situational Awareness' is very important. **They are working on adding it into the course but**

"706 has built an 8 lesson 2.5 each lesson"

It would bring the length of the class beyond the now required eight hours. Courses are being planned.

Core Training explained.

'Notice to Mariners' is an important app to get on your phone.

Perhaps at the next meeting, we may do a presentation on uniforms.

Culinary Assistants are needed at Point Judith and on The CG Eagle. Castle Hill is downsizing hours to weekdays 9am to 5pm.

**Immediate Past Flotilla Commander:** Charles Jenison expressed 'Best Wishes' for this coming year.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None. Watch for email regarding new classes offered starting soon.

COW (Change of Watch). So far, we have nine people signed up to go (see flyer emailed). There will be a 'Swearing In' and a meal.

**Awards Given:** Cullinary Assistants: Bernie Fournier, Lisa Fournier, Delores Maiorano, Ralph Maiorano. Charles Jenison for his Hours of Instruction. Delores Mairoano for obtaining BQ Status. Charles Jenison received a Gift Card to The Old Grist Mill for all the hard work he has done.

**Meeting Adjourned:** at 20:37.

Respectfully Submitted; Pauline Lessard, Secretary