

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & SPECIAL STAFF
Video/Teleconference Meeting Minutes
19 May 2022

- I. CALL TO ORDER: *1118 PDT/1418 EDT* President Godshall
- II. ROLL CALL: *President Godshall, VP Taylor, Secretary Jensen, Treasurer Devon, Director McClure, Director Padgett, Director Rivero, Director Haase*
- III. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST: *Bonnie Cooper, Linda Leavitt, Ray Frovarp, Ivan Davis, Steve Yevich, Tilt Meyer*
- IV. BUSINESS MEETING:
- A. Regular Business:
1. Approval of agenda: *President Godshall called for a motion to approve the agenda, VP Taylor so moved, Director Haase seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.*
 2. Approval of Minutes: (21 Apr 2022) *President Godshall asked for a motion to approve the minutes, Director Haase so moved, Director Rivero seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*
 3. Committee Reports
 - a. Financials – *Balance Sheet now has a liability of \$16,137 which matches the funds donated for the 5th SFG Hall of Heroes display. Since 4/30/22, \$10,000 has been allocated toward display funding of \$15,000.*

Profit and Loss statement is very good. There is not currently much activity. Activity will increase when funding for SOAR begins to ramp up in several months.

Restricted Funds balances that were published at the year-end have been revised. There were comp allocations that were not recorded at the year-end. With the allocations recorded, the restricted funds are now accurately reflected.
 - b. Congressional Gold Medal – *Jim Day was unavailable. VP Taylor mentioned that he had recently read a very fine article about a group that had been awarded the CGM after 18 years. The group had good bona fides, maybe not as good as SOG in his opinion, but pretty great nonetheless. Bonnie Cooper reported that the Gold Medal committee has drafted the proposal which is circulating.*
 - c. Brightlight – *Director Padgett reported that he is working with the new Brightlight Chairman Ron Owens. He made a motion to increase the per mile reimbursement of SOP Annex N from 25 cents to 50 cents. He also made a motion to increase Annex N airfare from \$500 to \$800. President Godshall asked for a motion to table these adjustments until each Committee and/or Annex can be appropriately considered. Director Haase made a motion to table these matters, Director Rivero seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.*

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- d. POW/MIA – *Chairman Mike Taylor reported that POW/MIA Committee member Wade “Ishi” Ishimoto attended the previous quarterly DPAA teleconference in his absence. During the Q&A session, Ishi raised issues regarding DPAA’s pronouncement that Vietnam War accounting is their highest operational priority which is presently ineffective given the congressional budget battle. Chairman Taylor suggested that likely given the current DPAA budget, there will only be two investigation teams sent to Southeast Asia the next quarter of this fiscal year...one to Laos and one to Vietnam with no excavations or recovery efforts. The lack of excavation and recovery effort flies in the face of their DPAA’s pronouncement of “highest operational priority”*

The upcoming National League of POW/MIA Families meeting is giving 15 minutes to veterans and VSOs to respond to DPAA’s current efforts. Chairman Taylor expressed concern that the presentations will feature “vinegar” rather than “honey” at this meeting. He will report the outcome following next months meeting.

Chairman Taylor also reported his introduction to a newly formed Vietnam War Panel. Human remains and bone fragments that could not be previously handled by DNA testing are now being resurrected for improved DNA testing.

B. Unfinished Business

C. New Business

1. **SOA Agenda Item 2022.5.19.01:** Set SOAR Registration Fee

Treasurer Devon says he has done an analysis of last year’s cost versus this year’s preliminary costs of five of the major items, banquet, liquor, luncheon, hospitality, etc. The preliminary pricing is not good, some increases are substantial. The banquet fees are up approximately 30% over last year. Based on his year over year analysis he recommends the following SOAR Registration fees - \$215 full and \$90 per day. These new fees will not make the SOA whole at SOAR but will mitigate some of the anticipated losses. Between now and SOAR, cost cutting efforts that will not diminish the events are to be explored

Registrar Davis confirmed that the Banquet only fee is to be set at \$90.

President Godshall moved that the fees of \$215 Full, and \$90 Daily be approved for SOAR XLVI. Director Rivero seconded the motion.

Registrar Davis asked about a previous discussion on cancellation fees. Treasurer Devon reports that SOA cancellation fees are negligible.

The motion carried unanimously.

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2. **SOA Agenda Item 2022.5.19.02:** Scholarship Award increase proposal

Scholarship Chairman Steve Yevich proposed to increase scholarship awards from \$3,000 to \$4,000 per calendar year due in large part to extraordinary inflation.

President Godshall moved to increase the scholarship awards to \$4,000 per year effective immediately. Director Padgett seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

3. **SOA Agenda Item 2022.5.19.03:** IT Committee Items

a. Webpage and Webpage Administration

The Website Manager, Bonnie Cooper, reports that the SOA website has been redesigned and updated to replace outdated software. She recommends that the SOA Members Only side of the website be discontinued because it creates confusion and is no longer needed.

President Godshall moved that the Members Only side of the website be eliminated, Director McClure seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Bonnie Cooper points out that there is no longer any need for additional website administrative support. She also points out that website back-ups by Jackie Leavitt is no longer needed. President Godshall will take the administrative support matter under advisement and advise Jackie Leavitt's back-ups will be eliminated. He will discuss SOAF website creation and support with Jackie Leavitt.

b. QM Sales system and webpage

The Quartermaster Sales system and webpage continues to be developed along with the other administrative upgrades.

c. Redirecting checks for all SOA functions to Linda Leavitt

While the focus is to direct all checks to Linda Leavitt, this specific issue to transfer order forms with checks from the QM to Linda. Linda will scan and email the QM order form to the QM store. QM order forms with credit card payments will continue directly to the Quartermaster.

4. **SOA Agenda Item 2022.5.19.04:** Shuffle SOA BoD Meeting from 16 June to 23 June to facilitate Las Vegas meeting schedule

This is a moot point. The SOAR Committee meeting with The Orleans is now set for 24 June which facilitates the regularly scheduled BoD Meeting on 16 June.

5. **SOA Agenda Item 2022.5.19.05:** SSG Huley's 5th SFG Legion Week poster in the SFA Drop

This poster presents the week that the SOA will put together the mannequins for the 5th SFG's Hall of Heroes SOG display of Eldon Bargewell, Bob Howard, Ken Bowra and his interpreter Bong.

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President Godshall will reach out to Bruce Christensen for a report at next month's meeting

D. Good of the order:

Registrar Ivan Davis – *asked Treasurer Devon asked for a new bank deposit book for SOAR. Treasurer Devon said new bank deposit books can be ordered for SOAR. Linda Leavitt said she has several deposit books, one of which she will send to Ivan's mailing address.*

He also asked for the SOAR Group Code... "SOAJ22C"

Director Padgett – *inquired about getting additional shirts for SOAF. It was recommended that he contact former president Rick Estes who likely knows the previous vendor. President Godshall said that if that fails, he has another vendor not associated with SOA that may also be of assistance.*

Director Padgett also asked about the timing of ordering SOAR gifts. He suggested consideration of a more substantial gift such as a shirt or windbreaker this year. President Godshall directed the Director to contact the Quartermaster regarding cost, etc. VP Taylor mentioned a very nice long sleeve black T-shirt with the SOA crest on the left breast.

Website Manager Bonnie Cooper – *addressed the timing of going live with on-line registration on June 1 assuming the new registration computers are on-line. Ronnie Frovarp asked about the final registration information on group codes, room rates, fees, suspense dates, etc. All information has been finalized, the computers are the only thing not finalized.*

Secretary Jensen – *reported that Tally Chairman Ray Frovarp has completed the jotform ballots and will execute a mock election on Monday, May 23rd. He will send the electronic ballots to the BoD and certain Special Staff.*

V. MEETING ADJOURNMENT: 1237 PDT/1537 EDT

Respectfully Submitted by

Duffy Jensen

Secretary, Special Operations Association