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**Minutes**

**Cruising Club of America**

**Governing Board Meeting**

**VIA ZOOM**

**Thursday, September 23, 2021 1500 hours (EST)**

1. Commodore Medland called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees and expressed his thanks to the CCA’s leaders who have worked so hard over the past year and a half serving the interests of the Club’s membership and dealing with the impacts of the global pandemic. He noted that the publication of the Yearbook and Gam had been delayed due to personal reasons of the editors, and expressed his thanks to Tony Will, Chris Otorowski, Michael Moradzadeh and Jay Gowell for helping to complete these publications, as well as Murray Beach and Haley Lhamon for their efforts. He also noted we are looking for new editors for both of these publications. He recognized that Peter Chandler has announced his is ready for a change of watch after his long service as Treasurer and dedication to the CCA, BOS and BROC. Plans for the Annual Meeting in March, the Bermuda Race, Club and Station cruises and the Centennial Celebration are well under way. But the ever-changing Covid situation requires vigilance and an update in the Club’s Covid policy.
2. 30 people were in attendance, constituting a quorum, including Commodore Bob Medland, Vice Commodore Chris Otorowski, Treasurer Peter Chandler, Membership Chair Ernie Godshalk; the following Rear Commodores: Bob Beebe, Les Crane, Rick Meslang, Pat Montgomery, James Phyfe, Dennis Powers, Bernard Prevost, and David Tunick; Post Captains Dale Bruce, Paul Bushueff, and Dick Waterman; the following Elected Governors: Chace Anderson, Molly Barnes, BrianBillings, Gerry Douglas, Dennis Durgin, Ami Green, Peter Griffin, and Roddy Hearne: and the following delegees: Wilson Fitt for Hans Himmelman, Marjorie Robfogel for Mark Myers, Michael Moradzadeh for Jim Quanci. Invited guests in attendance were: Fleet Surgeon Jeff Wisch, Events Chair Anne Kolker and BOS RC-elect Carter Bacon. Excused: Secretary Jay Gowell, Historian John Rousmaniere, RCs Steve Calhoun, Mark Myers and Jim Quanci and EGs Ian Gumprecht and Hans Himmelman.
3. Upon motion duly made, seconded and passed (“MSP”), the reading of the March 4 and March 30, 2021 Governing Board Meeting minutes were dispensed with, and the minutes were approved with a correction regarding the attendance of Molly Barnes at the March 30 meeting.
4. Vice Commodore Otorowski reported on the many initiatives of the Communications Committee, among them the need for new editors for the Waypoints, the Gam and the Yearbook, and his thanks to the late Dev Barker for his guidance regarding Waypoints. Chris also reported on the plans for the 100th Anniversary Celebration in Newport in September 2022, as well as plans for future cruises in Newfoundland, Baja, Mallorca and the Caribbean.
5. Peter Chandler gave the Treasurer’s report, noting the Club is in fine financial shape largely due to the lack of activities, and noted bills are expected soon for the Yearbook and Gam publications. He expressed his gratitude for being able to serve the Club as Treasurer, and also thanked the following persons for their support and assistance: Commodore Medland, Michael Moradzadeh, and Nick Kennedy. Wilson Fitt expressed his appreciation to Peter for his many years of service and efforts. Commodore Medland noted the budgeting process for next fiscal year was underway led by Kathleen O’Donnell. Chace Anderson and Peter Griffin noted the good work that Kathleen and her committee have done with the budget process.
6. Ernie Godshalk gave the Membership Committee report.

14 Candidates were up for election at this meeting, down from 36 at last year’s Fall Meeting, including 7 Next Watch, with an average age of 55. The list having previously been circulated to the Governing Board, reading of the candidates’ names was omitted.

Upon motion MSP, the 14 candidates were elected to membership, pending posting for 15 days and assuming no negative comments.

Second, Ernie also described the proposed amendment to the By-laws so the posting of candidates would occur before the Governing Board meeting.

Third, Ernie described the Next Watch initiative, led by Drew Plominski and Next Watch Captains who had been appointed at most Stations, aimed at getting current younger members more fully engaged in the Club’s activities.

Fourth, Ernie reported on the diversity and inclusion initiative.

1. Fleet Surgeon Jeff Wisch presented a detailed PowerPoint about the state of the pandemic, different variants that had emerged, and the current surge in new cases, hospitalizations and deaths, primarily, but not exclusively, among the non-vaccinated.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the desire for the CCA to have a policy regarding face-to-face meetings and other events.

Upon motion duly made seconded and passed, the following policy was adopted:

“Any CCA event, whether indoors or outdoors, requires proof of vaccination of any member eligible for vaccination.  Any CCA event, whether indoors or outdoors, requires mask wearing consistent with CDC recommendations which at this time includes mask wearing outside when social distancing cannot be achieved and indoors except when actually eating or drinking.  Should a state law or local government authority provide more stringent requirements than the CDC, that state law or local government authority must be followed.  The CCA will create, on its website, a simple method of uploading vaccination cards so that event organizers can know that attendees are in fact vaccinated.”

A further lengthy discussion ensued regarding whether all indoor events should be prohibited until further notice. A motion was made to this effect by James Phyfe for the purpose of furthering the discussion, but was subsequently withdrawn.

1. Anne Kolker presented the Events Committee report.

After some discussion, upon motion MSP, it was approved that the Annual Meeting for 2022, as well as future Club meetings, be scheduled to take place on weekends, for the purpose of making the meetings more accessible to younger people. It was noted that the NYYC had been very flexible in terms of holding dates, and also with deadlines and deposits.

1. The Commodore announced formation of a Covid Task Force with Fleet Surgeon Jeff Wisch, MD, as the chair to study the ongoing pandemic and in consultation with the Commodore to communicate to the membership appropriate information and recommendations on a timely basis.
2. Commendation by the Commodore and a round of applause was had in support of Peter Chandler who is retiring at the March meeting after 21 years of amazing service to the CCA as Treasurer.
3. There being no other business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 1635.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Gowell

Secretary