

ASMC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
26 Mar 09

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1105 by Capt Dan Genest

ATTENDEES:

Capt Dan Genest, President
Lisa Regulus, Hurlburt Vice President
Brenda Dininger, Secretary
April Chapel, Treasurer
John Dininger, Education
Pati Galvan, Publicity
Jennifer Denega, Ways & Means
Deborah Washington, RPDS Co-Chair

The main purpose of today's executive council meeting is to discuss the chapter's budget. But before we get started with the budget, Capt Genest wanted to express his concern with executive committee attendance, which has showed a steady decline over the year. Capt Genest asked those present their opinion concerning having the executive committee meeting in conjunction with our monthly luncheon. We seem to have better attendance when we hold the executive committee in conjunction with the monthly luncheon. Capt Genest would like to provide the incoming committee with some suggestions/guidelines concerning executive committee meetings and asked for everyone to send him feedback.

Budget: Capt Genest would like to see quarterly reviews of the budget in the future. One of the biggest concerns is the new incoming administration will only have a beginning balance of approximately \$5,300. April briefed the budgets for previous incoming administrations as follows:

2005 - \$13,000
2006 - \$23,000
2007 - \$18,000
2008 - \$16,000

At the beginning of the current administration, we decided as a committee to spend some of the money surplus on worthwhile programs. We increased

the budget for the Education and CDFM programs. An instructor was brought in to teach the CDFM-A class at the cost of approximately \$6,000. We also increased the scholarship program to include offering scholarships to high school graduates. Both of these programs also helped secure additional points in the Annual Chapter Competition.

Deborah Washington briefed that we didn't make as much money as we did last year on the RPDS. We had about 100 less registered attendees this year compared to last year. One of the causes is that a lot of people have their EDO on Friday and didn't choose to attend. Next year we plan to hold the RPDS on Thursday and have the Golf Tournament on Friday to see if that increases attendance. If we had the extra 100 people, we would have made as much money as in 2008. Several discussions around the table continued concerning the cause for not making as much as last year. It was suggested that paying more for quality speakers may be the problem. Everyone liked the speakers and we all agreed it was money well spent.

Lisa Regulus suggested that maybe we should adjust our expenditures for the rest of the year to make money up and cut back on the dollar amounts of the scholarships. Deborah replied that attendance at the RPDS is still the problem. Over the past three years attendance at the RPDS has steadily increased and this year it went down.

April continued briefing the budget and as we reviewed the deposits, Capt Genest asked a question concerning the difference between last years membership rebates and this years (2008 - \$3,372 and 2009 - \$1,604). April explained that last year we received an extra, one time payment of \$1,300 from National. This comprised most of the difference between years.

Fund Raisers: Jennifer Denega suggested a 50/50 raffle at our July luncheon. We can't hold 50/50 raffles on base but we always have our July luncheon off-base. We made good money on the 50/50 we had at the RPDS. A suggestion was also made to hold another golf tournament as that was a good money maker. Capt Genest said he would get with John Slingerland concerning holding another golf tournament. Brenda suggested that we do a car wash or a burger burn. It was mentioned that to hold a fund raising event that involves food, the servers are required to attend a food handling course on base. No one was interested in the car wash.

Request for Donations: Capt Genest mentioned that the family support center had sent out an e-mail asking for private organizations on base to contribute money to help sponsor a night out for deployed families (\$500). After asking everyone's opinion, we all agreed not to donate due to our current financial situation.

Community Service: Vanessa Fuentes our community service chairperson had sent an e-mail asking for chapter donations for the Relay for Life team. Do we as a chapter want to contribute \$100? April said that last year we contributed \$200, \$100 toward registration and another \$100 to the actual cause. Capt Genest said that he will get with Vanessa for further clarification of what she is actually asking for.

RPDS: Capt Genest asked about RPDS feedback. Deborah stated that there is a meeting on 6 Apr 09 and feedback and lessons learned will be discussed. John Dininger mentioned that we might get better response from our feedback survey if we had an electronic version with radio buttons which makes it easier for attendees to respond. Deborah is going to get with Ken Pickler who may be able to help. Capt Genest asked Deborah if next years RPDS Co-Chairs have been selected and Deborah said no. April mentioned that she might be interested. This subject will be further discussed at the 6 Apr meeting.

National PDI: A discussion was held concerning what we as a chapter will purchase as fund raiser items for the charity raffle. Last year the gift basket wasn't a money maker and it was too cumbersome to carry back home on the plane. Some other ideas might be t-shirts, coins and mugs. Capt Genest said that things are different this year. Each chapter is allowed to have up to 3 gifts/items to raffle off. After discussing all our ideas, it was decided that we would raffle the following three items:

-I Touch Phone cost approximately \$400

-Visa Gift Card (\$100)

-Quilt/Blanket with Air Force emblem made by Laura Gamble at a cost of approximately \$40

We all agreed that these would be good money makers. April volunteered to head up this effort.

Chapter Elections: The chapter election process has begun and Sharon Pajk at Hurlburt is chairing the committee. An e-mail soliciting nominations was sent out on 23 March.

Chapter Constitution: Lisa Regulus and Dedra Hickman have been working hard to re-write/update our chapter constitution. Lisa commented that she is still working on a 2/3 majority vote from the executive committee on the approval of our new constitution. She will then send out a vote notification e-mail to the general membership announcing the vote to approve the updated constitution at our May luncheon.

A copy of the slides briefed today will be posted with the executive committee minutes on our web site.

The meeting was adjourned at 1215.

Recorded by: Brenda J. Dininger, Secretary, Gulf Coast Chapter