



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

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District 27



Minutes of the District 27 Fall Council and Conference Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5700 Westpark Drive, Charlotte, NC October 9 - 11, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER D/27 FALL COUNCIL:

The D/27 Fall Council was called to order at 1330 by District Commander David E Parsons JN. D/C Parsons asked Cdr Jack Moore AP, of the Charlotte Power Squadron, to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. D/Lt/C Gene Alligood, AP of the Pamlico Squadron then led the singing of the National Anthem. District Chaplain Pat Hakanson SN of Charlotte Power Squadron, read the names of the 17 members of D/27 who have crossed the bar since the last meeting. She then gave the invocation. D/C Parsons announced that there are 132 registered attendees.

2. Miscellaneous Housekeeping, Quorum and Change of the Order of Business

D/C Parsons announced that the Parliamentarian for the meeting will be D/Lt Hugh Hayes JN, Shallotte River, Chairman of the D/27 Rules Committee. D/Lt/C John E ("JB") Bagby, JN, reported that there was a quorum present. D/C Parsons announced that if there no objections, the order of business would be changed to expedite the meeting. There were no objections.

3. Introduction of P/D/Cs, National Officers and Guests

P/D/C Harold O'Briant JN introduced the Past District Commanders, National Officers and guests.

4. Council Voting Procedures and Eligibility

D/Lt Hugh Hayes, Chairman of the D/27 Rules Committee, explained who is a member of the Council and who is eligible to vote in the Council Meeting.

5. Approval of the Spring Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes which had been posted on the D/27 Website in advance. The motion passed and the minutes were accepted as published. There were no additions or corrections requested by the Council members.

6. Old/New Business

Old Business – None.

New Business. P/D/C Pearson, Nominating Committee Chairman, announced that Budget and Finance Committee member John Clarke has resigned. P/D/C Pearson stated that the Nominating Committee recommends Lt/C Arthur W. (Bill) Beers, AP,

Catawba Sail & Power Squadron, to replace John Clarke. As a motion from a Committee, this does not require a second. D/C Parsons called for any discussion there was none. He called for a vote, and the motion carried.

7. Recess the Council and Convene the Conference

D/C Parsons recessed the Council at 1347 and convened the Conference at 1347.

8. Miscellaneous Housekeeping, Quorum and Change in the order of Business

D/C Parsons announced that the Parliamentarian for the meeting would be D/Lt Hugh Hayes. D/Lt/C JB Bagby reported that a quorum was present for the Conference. D/C Parsons then announced that, if there were no objections, the order of business would be changed to expedite the meeting. There were no objections.

9. Conference Voting Procedures and Eligibility

D/Lt Hugh Hayes, Chairman of the Rules Committee, explained who is a member of the Conference and eligible to vote in the Conference Meeting.

D/C Parsons asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the Spring Conference as posted on the D/27 Website. Such a motion was made and seconded. He called for a vote, and the motion carried.

10. Introduction of the Chief Commander's Representative

P/D/C Robert Howd introduced V/C Gary Cheney, SN, National Administrative Officer, and P/C/C John Alter, SN, as the Chief Commander's Representatives. V/C Cheney and P/C/C Alter presented Chief Baldrige's message to the members. V/C Cheney discussed the financial situation of USPS and the fact that the shrinking membership of USPS has slowed but is still declining. He reported that at the Pittsburgh Governing Board meeting, it was announced that a first electronic course is *eBook Seamanship* which is coming on line. We may phase out printed books. Governing Boards will continue as voted on in San Diego. Thirteen Boating Skill Virtual Trainers are now available. They both commented on the upcoming Leadership Conference Weekend in Raleigh on 20-21 November 2015 with the Board of Directors.

They then opened the floor to any questions in a town hall format.

Lt Lorraine B. Ryan of Rocky Mount related an encounter with the NC Wildlife Commission giving a boating safety course for a NC boating certificate in which the instructor gave answers to quiz questions. How can we compete with that? It was suggested to report the incident to the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA).

P/D/C Jamie McCurry asked about membership and finances. V/C Cheney reported that USPS has about 31,000 members and loses about 5% per year. P/C/C Alter predicted that income this year may be less than expenses and USPS might be in the red. The biggest budget items are Headquarters staff and travel costs. A recent cost cutting measure has been the elimination of some Chief Commander's Representatives travel to fall council/conference meetings where there is no Change of Watch. V/C Cheney and I are here at our own expense. Lt/C Russ Klein of Lake Norman asked

about unsolicited advertisements with the USPS logo. V/C Cheney responded that a recent mailing with an Office Depot discount card was deemed a member benefit, but the logo cannot be used without permission.

11. Committee Reports

D/C Parsons called for Committee Reports.

Audit Committee: No Report.

Education Fund - Ann T. Bailey reported that for the last three years, District 27 has had 100% participation of all 20 squadrons in the Education Fund. Three squadrons have not this year. Please make a contribution.

Budget and Finance Committee: Chairman Richard VanDyke submitted his report which is attached to these minutes.

Law Committee: No Report

Rules Committee:

Chairman Hugh Hayes submitted his report which is attached to these minutes.

Planning Committee

Chairman P/D/C Bob Howd submitted his report which is attached to these minutes.

Nominating Committee

P/D/C Burt Pearson presented the report of the Nominating Committee. The nominees for the 2016-2017 D/27 officers are attached to these minutes.

12. Bridge Officer Reports

D/C Parsons announced that District Bridge Officers Reports had been distributed via the *Carolina BITTS* newsletter and also posted on the D/27 Website on the newsletter page more than one month prior to the meeting and would not be read during the meeting. However, each Bridge officer gave a short verbal summary of what was in his/her report.

Treasurer — David McMahon

Secretary — JB Bagby

Admin — Paula Stewart

Education — Clay Helm

XO — Gene Alligood

Commander — Dave Parsons

13. Announcements

D/C Parsons invited and encouraged everyone to attend the Winter Training Session to be held at the Resurrection Lutheran Church School in Cary, NC, on 9 January 2016. He also encouraged everyone to attend the USPS National Meeting which will be in Orlando, FL on 14-21 February 2016.

D/C Parsons then discussed the up-coming D/27 Spring Council/Conference and Change of Watch which will take place at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Atlantic Beach Oceanfront on 18-19 March 2016. The host squadron for the meeting will be the Goldsboro Sail and Power Squadron.

D/C Parsons asked D/Lt/C Alligood to give some information on the 2016 D/27 Rendezvous next summer. He reported that the 2016 D/27 Summer Rendezvous will be in Washington, NC June 17 - 18, 2016. A block of hotel rooms and slip reservations have been reserved and other activities planned. Further information will be forthcoming and will be available on the D/27 web site

14. Old Business

There was no old business.

15. New Business

There was no new business.

16. Thank You and Adjourn

D/C Parsons asked the members of the Charlotte Power Squadron in attendance to stand to accept thanks from all in D/27 for hosting this Council and Conference.

The Conference was adjourned at 1513 and the Council which was in recess was adjourned at 1514.

Respectfully submitted,

D/Lt/C John E Bagby JN-IN
Secretary