

USAF Recruiting Alumni Association Board Meeting

August 9, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 am by president Billy McAllan. Members present were Andy Coppi, Matt Macho, Billy McAllan, Dale Ullrich, Tino Tinoco, SMSgt Chris Rabenold, Mary Gandolfo and Stan Staples via telephone. MSgt Matthew Garza was introduced from the Training Team at Recruiting Service as the newest representative to the Association. Members absent were Greg Valdez, Bob Cantu, Ed Curbelo and Danny Roby.

Minutes from the May meeting were read and accepted as written.

Stan gave the treasurer's and membership report. We have \$2,653.41 in the General fund, \$14,398.28 in the Blue Suit fund and \$31,529.01 in the Monument fund for a total of \$48,580.70 in the bank. The Association spent about \$10,000.00 for Blue Suit last year. There are currently 74 members in the Association. Stan has attempted to talk with Tom Strack concerning a Go Fund Me page but has not had success in talking with him.

It is time for elections again. Billy will send a letter to the membership asking for those interested in running or for nominations from the membership. Once the letter is sent, we will need to send the slate of candidates to the membership for the election to take place.

ACTION ITEM: Billy McAllan will send a letter to the membership asking for nominations and volunteers for inclusion on the ballot.

Sal Lagudi has volunteered to be the point of contact with the school to ensure that we are represented and can present the top recruiter award to the class. A list of graduation dates was provided.

The rest of the meeting was dedicated to discussion of the Monument. Jason Scott reported that he talked to the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce about funding for the Monument. Basically, we were told to get in line for funding requests, there are so many that it is very competitive to get funding. Also, there is no avenue through the Air Force to obtain funding.

Billy handed out a couple of documents about 501(c)(3) status and how we go about attaining that status. Without further study of the documents it was not voted on this meeting and the discussion has been tabled until the September meeting.

The letter from CMSgt (Ret) Vance Clarke was distributed and discussed. The letter is a request for the Association to help the Air and Space Force

Association (AFA) in recruitment efforts for the Air Force. There is also mention of the Monument in his letter and helping get the fund raising stimulated. Since we really already support recruiting in several ways, this discussion was also tabled until further conversations with Vance Clarke. We discussed the inclusion of other organizations, such as the Daedalians, in the efforts to help and support recruitment.

Andy brought up some ideas for fund raising. He proposed a quarterly mixer, including a 50/50 raffle, to be held at the local VFW. The venue is large enough to accommodate this gathering. Along with the current efforts this could be helpful. Increasing our membership pool was also brought up. This effort would be geared to reaching active duty members for membership. There are questions about active duty personnel as it relates to fund raising and contacting sponsors to seek funding.

ACTION ITEM: Chris Rabenold will talk with Major Bowman about active duty members for the association and funding activities.

We also need to widen our scope and in term of promotion of the Association. To do this we need more volunteers to help at events available to us. We also need to seek funding from sources with more resources.

It was discussed that we need to raise our membership fees and raise the price of the pavers for sale in support of the monument. Dale mentioned that he has information about the price of the pavers/bricks for us to consider this increase. Matt Macho also mentioned a challenge to the CMSgt community. He will talk to his contacts in that community.

ACTION ITEM: Dale will get the price of a paver/brick and have that information for us at the September meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Matt will reach out to his contacts and report back at the September meeting.

That being all the business for this meeting, we adjourned at 11:45 am. The next meeting will be on 13 September 2023. We will meet in the training conference room at Recruiting Service at 10:00 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Mary Gandolfo

Secretary