

**COAST GUARD ACADEMY PARENTS ASSOCIATION (PA) NATIONAL COUNCIL
MEETING**

USCGA, Commandant of Cadets Boardroom
February 23, 2008

We had a remarkably good turnout of folks for our informal meeting on the 23rd of February despite the wintry mix of weather that closed the Academy on Friday and precluded many of you from making your travel arrangements. We changed the venue to the Commandant of Cadets Boardroom from the Alumni Center and had a lively and productive meeting. Unfortunately, my decision on Friday to cancel the meeting and hold an informal meeting of those who did make it to New London may have discouraged local folks from attending. That said, we do have plenty to do based upon this meeting.

The following Executive Council Members were present:

Carolyn and Dom DiIulio, Members-at-large (Virginia), CGAPA President
Nevin Wiest, Member-at-large (Ohio)
Elizabeth and Bill Korn, Members-at-large (Florida)
Frank Rodino, Greater New York Chapter
Kelly Morgan, Member-at-large (New Jersey), CGAPA Treasurer
Joan and Dug Daffler, Members-at-large (New York)
Debby Parker, Georgia Chapter
Donna McElroy, New England Chapter
Lizann Miller, Member-at-large (West Virginia)

Also in attendance:

LCDR Kathy Felger, Liaison Officer to the Parents Association
Donald Trone, Leadership Institute, USCGA Alumni Association

Agenda items: discussed:

1. By-laws and Constitution amendment to increase number of at-large members.
2. Leadership Sail Training Craft (LSTC)
3. Dayroom appliances and CGAPA support to Cadet Activities
4. Nomination Committee for Council Officers for the 2008-2009 year

Upon convening, after discussing the purpose of the day's meeting, a majority of those present determined that per the By-laws we did have a quorum sufficient to consider the meeting a business meeting of the Executive Council. Further, that any additional action taken between this meeting and the next scheduled meeting on June 29, 2008 should be pursued via phone, newsletter, and email by all interested members. The following is a summary of the discussions based on notes made at the meeting:

Agenda:

1. By-laws and Constitution amendment to increase number of at-large members. Nevin led the discussion on the proposed text for the By-laws amendment that he and Bob Lally had developed. The Council approved the proposal with a minor modification (see below). Additionally, the Council approved conducting a vote by the General Membership on this change via email and newsletter. The goal is to get the change approved before the next meeting so that additional members may be sought during the summer months. A two pronged approach was approved. A ballot will be distributed via email through the listmasters and a paper ballot will be published in the upcoming Parents Newsletter which is scheduled to be published and distributed to members in April.

The current text in Article II reads:

Section 4: The Executive Council shall consist of the Chapter Presidents (providing the Chapter is in

compliance with annual reporting requirements), fourteen sets of parents or guardians (or individual parents or guardians where two are not available) holding regular membership status and all living Past Presidents, in compliance with provision in Article IV, Section 5 of these By-laws. The fourteen sets of parents shall be Members-at-Large.

The proposed text presented reads as follows:

Section 1: The Executive Council shall consist of: 1.) the Chapter Presidents (providing the Chapter is in compliance with annual reporting requirements), 2.) twenty sets (five from each class) of parents or guardians (or individual parents or guardians where two are not available) holding regular membership status, these members will be Members-at-large and 3.) all living Past Presidents, in compliance with provision in Article IV, Section 5 of these By-laws.

The text approved at the meeting is as follows:

Section 1: The Executive Council shall consist of: 1.) the Chapter Presidents (providing the Chapter is in compliance with annual reporting requirements), 2.) up to twenty sets (up to five from each class) of parents or guardians (or individual parents or guardians where two are not available) holding regular membership status, these members will be Members-at-large and 3.) all living Past Presidents, in compliance with provision in Article IV, Section 5 of these By-laws.

2. Leadership Sail Training Craft (LSTC). Donald Trone, CGA '77 – Institute for Leadership, an affiliate of the Alumni Association, presented a proposal for acquisition of eight sailing boats to replace the current 44 foot luders sailboats (which are over 40 years old). The proposed replacement craft is called the Leadership Sail Training Craft (LSTC). Mr. Trone presented the specifications of the LSTC. He commented that cadet experience aboard the LSTC is the single most important leadership opportunity for cadets. He then continued his presentation with an overview of the acquisition strategy and a request to the Parents Association to support the effort. The specific request was for the Parents Association to fund one boat (of the eight). The cost for one boat is \$750K which includes \$550K for the boat itself, \$100K for sails and \$100K for "contingencies". General discussion of the concept followed Mr. Trone's presentation. There was general agreement to lend Parents Association support to the project despite the significant amount of money sought in such a short time frame. The Council approved supporting the effort and the creation of a committee to develop a plan of action for the Council to consider at its next meeting. All parents interested in participating should contact Kelly Morgan. There will be continuing discussion this topic.

A detailed briefing was distributed to those attending. It provides further detail on the project. If anyone who was unable to attend would like a copy of the briefing, I can email a copy to you from my work address. It is in PowerPoint presentation (.ppt) format which I am unable to see on or send from my home computer.

3. Dayroom appliances and CGAPA support to Cadet Activities.

Rich Vihonski is working with LCDR Felger to coordinate the purchase of refrigerators and microwaves for the eight company dayrooms. The request for coffee makers was being reevaluated as safety and cleanliness issues are issues with bunn type underpot heaters. Use of thermos carafes may not be workable given the counterspace available, and the schedule that would be required to keep them clean. Further both the 1/c and 2/c cadets are authorized personal coffeemakers in their rooms. LCDR Felger stated that cadets are now more interested in having reliable toaster ovens in lieu of coffeemakers. Rich will continue to coordinate with LCDR Felger to complete appliance outfitting.

General support of the cadet activities budget and the impact of supporting the LSTC ensued. The majority of members present agreed that our continued support of the cadet activities budget should not be affected by efforts to support the LSTC. In calendar year 2007, as noted in the Treasurer's Report, we contributed over \$48K in general support to the cadet activities budget. (This figure does not include the \$1260 provided for cadet lounge upgrades aboard EAGLE.)

A discussion on licensing fees generated questions on how that program is working. Specifically, how is the money tracked, and where do the royalties go? The Council will ask the Alumni Association to provide an update on the licensing program at the next meeting.

4. Nomination Committee for next year's Council Officers. Executive Council officer terms expire upon the close of our Reporting-In Day meeting. Elections are held during that meeting. The new officers step up and are in place for Reporting-In Day. Per the By-laws, the Chair of the Nominating Committee for next year's slate of new officer is Vice President, Kaye Hollifield. All council members are eligible to serve on the nomination committee. Please contact Kaye if you desire to participate on the committee, or if you desire an officer position.

Other reminders...

Spring is the time of year local chapters typically install new officers. When new parents are stepping in to local chapter leadership positions, I ask that the outgoing and incoming chapter officers contact the Webmasters to ensure your contact information is updated on our website.

2006-2008 Member-at-large positions expire on the eve on the next General Membership meeting which will be held on the Saturday of Parents Weekend. So, parents of prospective grads unless you resign earlier than that date, you are considered an active member of the Executive Council until that day.

5. Other business:

On R Day over the past few years, several new swabs have been observed wandering the parade without parents or others with whom to interact during the 10-minute "family reunion" (a.k.a. "kiss and cry"). The notion of offering these swabs some form of refreshment was suggested. Niles Pierson of the Paul Foye Chapter will look into the feasibility and coordinate any Parents Association support desired.

LCDR Felger received a letter from the West Point Parents Club Coordinator which invited our Association to send representatives to their Parents Club Presidents Conference to be held April 15-17, 2008. I may seek volunteers to from NY or NE chapters to participate.

The minutes of the Parents Weekend Meeting of October 12, 2007 were presented and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and approved.

In summary and as amended 2/28/08:

Parents Gift Fund - \$171,703.65

Challenge Coin Fund - \$45.00

Parents Cadet Activity Endowment - \$164,991.60

Parents Cadet Transportation Endowment - \$152,375.37

Regards,
Dom DiIulio, '74
CGAPA President
Fredericksburg, VA

Zachary '08 - Bravo Co. (Idlers, Glee Club, Ice Hockey(B))
Daniel '04 - USCG Maritime Law Enforcement Academy, Charleston, SC