COAST GUARD INVESTIGATIVE ASSPCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

Charleston, South Carolina

Saturday, October 8, 2010

Howard Giblin called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Howard introduced Jim Loesch, Hosting Regional Director.

Jim Loesch welcomed all in attendance to Charleston. Jim reminded everyone of the President’s Reception at 6:00 PM this evening. Jim led the group in making the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

Bruce Shiels opened the meeting with an invocation. Bruce made comments on the history and significance of the Challenge Coin. Each attendee was given a Challenge Coin when they checked in.

Introduction of Officers in attendance: Howard Giblin; Jack Pressler; Don Roark and Jeff Kilpatrick.

Introduction of Past Presidents in attendance: Toby Chapeau and Ray Sanford.

Introduction of Regional Directors in attendance: Jim Loesch. The Northeast Region is in need of a Regional Director. Bud Hall is retiring and moving from Maine to North Carolina. Need to fill this position.

Dick Dionisio had an emergency and sends his regrets.

Gus Oviedo had a death in the family and sends his regrets.

Herb Force’s wife recently passed away and he sends his regrets.

Introduction of all members in attendance. A quorum was present.

Review of the Business Meeting Agenda was completed by Howard Giblin: No new Business to add. No changes were needed.

Ray Sanford commented on the work done by the Coast Guard in response to 9/11. Coast Guard did a fantastic job of getting people out of harm’s way. Hauled people away from the sea wall in the vicinity of Ground Zero. 500,000 people were moved off the island in three (3) hours.

Executive Reports:

Howard Giblin reported this has been a trying year for the Association. Had trouble finding a location to host this year’s conference. The contract with the hotel was not signed until March of this year. A great deal of work was done on the Agent of the Year Award and the Association will be making its first presentation tomorrow night at the dinner. Howard advised that Jack Cornett stated the Association had been invited to attend the CGIS Regional Meetings. The SAIC would be contacting Howard to make arrangements to have a representative from the Association; however, this did not happen. No SAICs contacted Howard. During February, Jack Cornett retired and the new CGIS Director, Dan Butler, was selected. Howard apologized for changing the selection of the Key Note Speaker for this meeting from World War II Medal of Honor recipient, Walter D. Ehlers, to Dan Butler, the new CGIS Director. Howard thought it important to invite the new director to ensure CGIA continued to receive support from CGIS. Jack Pressler got an invitation to attend the Central Region CGIS meeting. Jack was able to recruit two (2) new active duty members as a result of his participation in this meeting.

Jack Pressler was contacted by Marty Martinez to assist in setting up the guidelines for the Agent of the Year Award. Nominations were submitted to Jack and Howard. Don Roark was on the selection board. Howard asked Don Roark to set up a “How to Manual” for CGIA. Don has been working on this manual and the draft copy has been distributed to the executive board for comments and input.

Jeff Kilpatrick distributed copies of the Secretary’s Report, including meeting minutes from the Portland, Oregon, meeting held on October 9, 2010. There was one correction needed, change “Charleston, NC” to “Charleston, SC” on page 3. Upon a motion by Ray Sanford, seconded by Lonnie Johnson to accept the Secretary’s report as presented with the aforementioned correction. Motion carried unanimously. Jeff showed the new CGIA Membership card and told attendees that they would receive their new cards during the conference. Jeff also advised that he is maintaining a membership list and is constantly updating. Jeff asked that members submit updated information so that the lines of communication remain intact.

Jack Pressler presented the Treasurer’s Report. A detailed financial report was presented. George Finch reviewed the financial records and reported no discrepancies were noted. Income for the Association for the past year was $4,376. Expenses for the past year for the Association were $4,737.75. The account balance today is $9,970.73. Upon a motion by Lonnie Johnson, seconded by Toby Chapeau to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Break from 9:55 AM to 10:30 AM. During this break period a group photograph was taken.

Howard called the meeting back to order at 10:30 AM.

Old Business:

New Business:

Howard reported that Gus Oviedo has made some initial contacts for the 2012 Conference to be held in Arizona. Progress has been slow, due to Arizona being in the baseball playoffs. Once baseball season ends, anticipate that Gus will be able to move forward. Dan Motley agreed to assist Gus. Dan lives in Arizona. Jack Pressler and Howard Giblin also agreed to assist in making arrangements for the 2012 Conference.

There was a discussion on combining the Secretary and Treasurer positions; however, it was determined that this would not be a good decision to make at this time.

Bruce Shiels suggested the Association look into creating a 5th Region. A Central states region. The map that Bruce distributed showed the current location of the Association members and creating a 5th Central Region as he envisioned it. It was noted that most of the attendees at this year’s conference reside in the Southeast Region. The question was posed, “what is the acceptable number of attendees to sustain having an annual Conference?”

It was decided that a survey would be distributed to the members in an attempt to ascertain why they don’t attend Conferences? What would members like to see to become more involved? Where are the active duty people stationed? Need to make a serious effort to recruit members. Contact members and ascertain why they haven’t attended. It was decided that prior to moving forward, the data from the survey would be needed.

The location and the time of the annual Conference is not locked into place. We are flexible, need to consider costs. The Columbus Day weekend, is a busy weekend for hotels in regions that have large soccer interests. This hotel, this weekend is full of soccer players and their families. Most of the membership is not working and having the Conference midweek, would be doable if the costs were better.

Howard advised that a written proposal would need to be submitted to create five (5) regions as this would require a Bylaws change. The vote would need to occur at the next meeting. Bruce Shields agreed that he would prepare the proposal and Bylaw changes establishing a 5th Region.

Lunch break from 12:20 PM to 1:30 PM.

Howard called the meeting back to order at 1:40 PM

Walter Bodner agreed to investigate the possibility of creating and maintaining a CGIA web site.

Steve Little agreed to be the person responsible for collecting articles and preparing the newsletter.

The Membership Committee is recruiting members. There is a huge need to bring younger people into the Association. Past President, Ray Sanford, is the chair of the Membership Committee and works closely with the Regional Directors.

It was decided that an honorary membership should be provided to the new CGIS Director, Dan Butler.

The new CGIA Operations Manual is modeled after the CPOA Operations Manual. Woodrow Clookie agreed to look into what NCIS does with their association. Need to sit down with NCIS and see how their association works.

There was a discussion on LEOSA and the right for retired agents to obtain concealed weapon permits. The Coast Guard does not support retired agents to CCW.

The 2012 Election of Officers needs to follow the established procedures in accordance with the Bylaws. It is important for all members to have a say and a vote, not just those in attendance at the 2012 Conference. Need to ascertain early who is interested in what position? Who do you want to nominate for a board position? Upon a motion by Walter Bodner, seconded by Ray Sanford to ensure the 2012 Elections were conducted in accordance with the current Bylaws. The motion passed, with one vote in opposition.

Mike Ferrick agreed to accept the position as the new Northeast Regional Director. Mike will assume this position as Bud Hall is relocating from the Northeast Region to the Southeast Region.

The Operations Manual that Don Roark has been working on should really be called the Procedures Manual. Don agreed to send this manual out to the membership for review and comment as a PDF file.

The Past President Plaque was unveiled. It was decided that the plaque would be kept by Don Roark. Howard recognized Toby Chapeau as the Association’s first president. For all his work in getting the organization started.

Members in attendance expressed their thanks and appreciation to Jim Loesch for all his work in putting together this Conference as well as stepping up and volunteering to assume the role as the Southeast Regional Director.

Upon a motion by Ray Sanford, seconded by Walter Bodner to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jeffrey H. Kilpatrick

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CGIA Secretary