

**USNA Alumni Association
Board of Trustees Fall Meeting
December 10, 2020
Minutes**

The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Board of Trustees met for its regular Fall meeting via virtual teleconference beginning at 1500 on 10 December 2020. ADM Sam Locklear '77, USN (Ret.), chair of the Board of Trustees, acted as chair of the meeting and CDR Craig Washington '89, USN (Ret.), acted as secretary of the meeting.

ADM Locklear convened the Board at 1500. The Chair welcomed all in attendance and determined that a quorum was present. To further discuss the complexity and work of the Special Committee for Alumni Culture, Diversity and Inclusion, the Chair put forth a motion to begin the meeting in executive session. The motion carried.

Open session of the Board of Trustees meeting began at 1614. ADM Locklear observed the "Last Call" and asked for a moment of silence for those members who passed away since the last meeting.

ADM Locklear stated that the Executive Committee met via virtual teleconference on December 8, in which the Authorization to Transact Business Resolution was unanimously approved.

The following actions were taken by the Board:

- Approved Executive Closed Session
- Approved the Spring 2020 Minutes
- Approved the Ad Hoc Committee Resolution
- Approved the FY20 Audit
- Approved the BOT representation to the DGA Selection Panel Membership
- Approved the 2021 Regional Trustee Election Slate
- Approved the Board of Tellers
- Approved the Board Selected Trustee
- Approved the Committee Assignments
- Approved the Extension for Chairman Search

ADM Locklear asked for the Special Committee leadership to provide an overview of their final report. LtGen Dave Beydler '81, USMC (Ret.), Vice Chair of the Alumni Association BOT and Special Committee Co-Chair, provided a comprehensive overview of the findings and recommendations of the committee's work since June 2020. This effort was a culmination of over 5 months of qualitative research to include discovery sessions and focus groups, interviews and conversations. ADM Locklear thanked the committee for their tireless dedication and commitment to improving the Alumni Association with respect to equity and inclusion. ADM Locklear then opened the discussion to the Trustees for consideration of a path forward. A resolution to create an Ad Hoc Committee of the Board of Trustees was put forth and unanimously approved. The Alumni Association Board of Trustees Ad Hoc committee will report to the BOT Chair to address the findings and recommendations of the Special Committee develop a course for Board consideration. The newly formed Ad Hoc Committee will be responsible for generating a comprehensive survey of alumni opinions regarding the alumni

association and validating the appropriate priority for future changes to be considered. The census alumni survey is scheduled to be released in February 2021. The results of the survey will help to clarify alumni concerns and prioritize the efforts to be completed. The membership of the Ad Hoc committee will include current trustees and committee members as well as members from the Special Committee.

Byron Marchant '78, President and CEO, next gave the President's Report. He thanked the Co-Chairs of the Special Committee and the thoughtful work accomplished during their 5 months of meetings. Marchant next gave a comprehensive overview of the state of the Alumni Association with emphasis on how the Alumni Association is adapting and moving forward in a virtual world. Moving on to his financial presentation, he highlighted the performance of the FY21 budget and future revenue projections and provided a snapshot of what we can look forward to once out of the COVID pandemic. He thanked the Distinguished Chapters that have grown in numbers with 13 chapters receiving awards. Special recognition and thanks were made to staff for the work they have accomplished with the new Alumni Center.

The USNA Superintendent, VADM Sean Buck '83, USN, provided the Board with an update of the impact COVID-19 has had on the Brigade of Midshipman and the Naval Academy. He spoke about the changes that have occurred since May, what the institution has been able to accomplish thus far, along with the way forward for the spring semester.

ADM Bob Natter '67, USN (Ret.), Chair of the Alumni Center Advisory Panel, followed with an overview of the ongoing Alumni Association and Foundation Center progress. The Center is progressing into final design and remains on schedule and on budget. Opportunities for individual and class recognition in the new building remains a focus for the Foundation staff.

LtGen Dave Beydler '81, USMC (Ret.), Chair of the Joint Finance & Audit Committee, presented the committee's report. Matt Hemelt, RSM representative, gave a comprehensive overview of the FY20 audit. Bob Gast '81, VP for Finance & Investments, delivered the Joint Investment Committee report.

CAPT Karin Vernazza '90, USN (Ret.), Chair of the Nominating Committee, provided a review of the committee's actions with the unanimous approval of the following resolutions:

- 2021 Regional Trustee Election Slate
- Board of Trustees representation to the DGA Selection Panel Membership

Additional reports were received from board committee chairs of the Governance, Other Chapter Selection, Membership & Alumni Services, Communications, Admissions, House and Council of Class Presidents. CDR Doug Ballard '74, USN (Ret.), Chair of the Other Chapter Selection Committee announced the selectees for Other Chapter representation to the Board beginning in May 2021 will include Tulsa OK, Columbus OH, and Tampa FL Chapters.

CDR Steve Hall '75, USN (Ret.), Membership & Alumni Services Chair, focused his presentation on Volunteer Leadership Information Technology (IT) Tools and emphasized the need to move forward on contracting a new Alumni Platform. Mark Rupprecht '76, Hampton Roads Chapter Trustee, concurred and put forth a motion that the President & CEO execute a contract for a set of collaborative IT volunteer tools within the next 60 days. The motion was seconded and approved.

ADM Locklear then gave a formal farewell to CAPT Karin Vernazza '90, USN (Ret.), Mrs Cathy Wagner, our Alumni Association BOT Administrative support, and to CDR Dave Church '67 USN (Ret.) retiring after 30 years with the Alumni Association. ADM Locklear and Byron thanked the three for their loyal and dedicated service.

The Fall portion of the Board of Trustees meeting formally adjourned at 1855.

The new Fall Board of Trustees reconvened to include the newly appointed board member Matice Wright-Springer '88.

The final resolution the Board reviewed and approved was an extension to the nomination process to identify and select a relief for the Board of Trustees Chair in May 2021.

The chair announced that a special meeting of the board will be scheduled with the tentative dates of March 31 or April 1, 2021. The next meeting date for the formal spring meeting: May 13, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 1909.

Craig J. Washington '89
CDR, USN (Ret.)
Secretary, U.S. Naval Academy Board of Trustees