



Summary Meeting Minutes – 2026 Spring Meeting of the USNA Alumni Association Board of Trustees

May 1, 2026 – Annapolis, MD

The Board of Trustees convened for the Spring 2026 regular meeting at 8:00AM EDT. ADM Mark Ferguson '78, USN (Ret.) acted as chair for the meeting. CAPT Wes Huey '87, USN (Ret.) acted as secretary for the meeting.

Quorum was confirmed. The Chair welcomed the newly elected trustees and non-voting committee members, and extended congratulations to multiple trustees for notable personal and professional achievements since the last meeting.

A moment of silence was observed for alumni lost, notably Distinguished Graduate Award recipient LtGen William M. Keys '60, USMC (Ret.).

The Chair reviewed the agenda, reaffirmed meeting ground rules, and recognized the most senior and junior classes present. The Board unanimously consented to the agenda as published and approved the consent agenda.

Management Reports

The President and EVP Alumni Association provided their reports.

President and CEO Jeff Webb '95 summarized the work of the Alumni Association and Foundation, highlighting:

- Continued fundraising progress for the Foundation.
- Coordination with Naval Academy leadership on emerging priorities, aligning philanthropic support with the Superintendent's new strategic initiatives (e.g., robotics and autonomous systems programs).
- The Naval Academy Athletic Foundation (formerly the Athletic & Scholarship Programs) exceeding athletic fundraising targets, with funds above budget placed into a sustainment reserve to support Academy athletic facilities and equipment needs.
- The announcement that the Board's Vice Chair was selected as a 2026 Distinguished Graduate Award honoree (to be recognized at the upcoming DGA ceremony).

EVP Alumni Association TJ "Catfish" Grady '96 provided updates on:



- An expanded alumni roadshow program reaching 18 cities since January (visiting a total of 78 chapters and 51 parent clubs to date).
- Completion of fundraising for the USNA columbarium expansion (awaiting final Navy approval to proceed).
- Modification of Induction Day (I-Day) support activities (with USNA assuming the plebe parent picnic) and continued engagement events at the Alumni Center (e.g., the Annapolis Cup croquet match and Blue Angels viewing) to strengthen the alumni community.
- High utilization of the Fluegel Alumni Center with 187 events hosted in the current fiscal year (exceeding the prior year by 2,000 guests).
- Efforts to develop metrics linking alumni engagement programs (e.g., roadshows, career programs, daily Shipmate, podcasts), in order to assess program effectiveness and guide future engagement strategy.

Standing Committee Reports

Standing committee chairs (and the Council of Class Presidents chair) provided their reports:

- **Governance Committee.** Summarized an evaluation of remote attendance for Board meetings and recommended against offering virtual attendance for general members. Instead, the committee proposed piloting an alumni virtual town hall to increase membership engagement and transparency. The committee presented amendments to the Association's Bylaws and Operating Manual to implement Board composition changes (formally recognizing affiliate organizations such as shared interest groups and parent clubs, and establishing new Affiliate Services and Member Services Committees). After discussion, the Board approved the Bylaws amendments (retaining the existing SIG trustee selection process) and approved the Operating Manual revisions, including the new committee charters and renaming the Admissions Committee as the Candidate and Community Outreach Committee.
- **Nominations Committee.** Reported on the 2026 regional trustee elections and the Board's upcoming leadership transitions. The Board Secretary announced the election results for the Central and Eastern Region trustee:
 - Central Region
 - Darryl Smith '88 – 422 votes
 - Jeff Griffin '04 – 214 votes
 - Clay Davis '99 – 99 votes
 - Write-in candidate Emanuel Tsikalas – one vote



- Write-in candidate Lowell Crow – one vote
- Eastern Region
 - Devin Winklosky '93 – 439 votes
 - Scott Herbener '87 – 368 votes
 - Jennifer Tyll '01 – 335 votes
 - Caleb Cronic '11 – 187 votes
 - Write-in candidate Jeff Griffin – two votes
 - Write-in candidate Kevin Sullivan – one vote
 - Write-in candidate Stew Lingley – one vote
- **Candidate and Community Outreach Committee (formerly Admissions).** Reviewed the committee's updated mission of supporting USNA outreach and admissions efforts through alumni networks and affiliates. Noted the committee name change to avoid any perception of directing Academy admissions.
- **Alumni Center Committee.** Provided oversight updates on the Fluegel Alumni Center's operations and finances. The Alumni Center has continued strong usage by both alumni and external clients. The committee commended staff for successfully managing a high volume of events at quality standards. Discussion included balancing mission-focused use of the facility with revenue events and plans to market the venue.
- **Communications Committee.** Commended the communications team for continued modernization efforts and campaign support. The committee noted the consolidation of alumni podcasts under one umbrella and the introduction of a new class news submission portal for Shipmate magazine. It discussed developing metrics to gauge communications reach and effectiveness, and ensuring alignment of messaging with overall strategy and upcoming campaign objectives.
- **Awards and Selection Committee.** Summarized the committee's work in selecting Thriving As Leaders award recipients. The committee reported a successful process and shared lessons learned to inform future award selection efforts. The committee recommended against adding a group category to the TAL award program.
- **Council of Class Presidents.** Outgoing COCP Chair summarized the council's meeting on Tuesday 28 April, which included briefings from the Superintendent and senior USNA staff, a briefing from former 7th Fleet commander VADM Fred Kacher '90, and briefings from AA&F staff.

Financial Report and FY2027 Budget Review

Joint Finance & Audit Committee Report



- The Treasurer/CFO updated the Board on FY2026 financial performance.
- FY2026 year-to-date results were ahead of plan, with higher-than-expected revenues and reduced reliance on reserve funds.
- The Chair noted the Joint Investment Committee (JIC) report was provided during the joint session with the Foundation Board of Directors.

FY2027 Budget Review

- The Treasurer/CFO noted growth in operating revenues and a continued focus on prudent management of expenses and strategic allocation of resources.
- The Board reviewed and approved the FY2027 budget as recommended (see Board Actions).

2025-2026 Board Adjournment

With no new business, the Chair adjourned the 2025-2026 Board and bid farewell to 22 departing trustees and non-trustee committee members.

2026-2027 Board Convening and New Business

The Chair convened the 2026-2027 Board and seated nine new trustees. During New Business, the Board approved the 2026-2027 committee slate.

Executive Session

The Board entered executive session for a brief trustees-only discussion at the conclusion of the meeting.

Summary List of Board Actions

- Approved the Consent Agenda
 - Authorization to Transact Business
 - Recognition of Board Vice Chair service
 - Approval of incoming class and chapter trustees
 - Approval of amended joint resolution commemorating 50 years of women at USNA
 - Approval of amendment to DGA program guidelines



- Approved amendments to the Bylaws, formally defining alumni affiliate organizations (adding shared interest groups and parent clubs alongside chapters and classes) and updating trustee selection procedures.
- Approved amendments to the Operating Manual, including role definitions for class, chapter, regional, and shared interest group trustees; establishing the Affiliate Services Committee and Member Services Committee; revising charters of several standing committees; and renaming the Admissions Committee as the Candidate and Community Outreach Committee.
- Approved the results of the Spring 2026 regional trustee elections, seating Darryl Smith '88 (Central Region, re-elected) and Devin Winklosky '93 (Eastern Region, newly elected) for three-year terms.
- Approved the FY2027 Operating Budget, enabling continued high-level support for the Naval Academy and alumni programs while reducing reliance on reserve funds.
- Adjourned the 2025-2026 Board.
- Convened the 2026-2027 Board.
- Approved the 2026-2027 committee slate.

The meeting adjourned at 11:51AM EDT.