

2024 DISTRICT 5 SUMMER COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday 27 JULY, 2024
Solomons Island, MD

The District Commander Robert Blevins, AP, called the 2024 District 5 Summer Council Meeting to order at 0930.

D/C Blevins asked the District Secretary, D/Lt/C Penn Hess, AP to call the roll of squadrons.

District Secretary D/Lt/C Penn Hess, AP, called the roll of the squadrons present and reported that a quorum was present. (D/C, 4 - D/Lt/C, IP/D/C, 3 - Committee Chairs, 11 Squadron CDR; 20 Total)

D/C Blevins changed the order of business to expedite the conduct of the meeting.

D/C Blevins appointed P/Stf/C Kenny Pergo, SN-IN as parliamentarian.

D/C Blevins called on the Immediate Past District Commander Joe Gibson, AP to introduce the past district commanders present.

Past district commanders

P/D/C William Eldridge, SN	1987
P/R/C Kathryn J. Simkins, AP	2006
P/D/C J. Brian Becker, AP	2008
P/D/C Ralph Bernard, AP	2009
P/D/C Bernard S. Karpers, Jr, N	2011
P/D/C J. Jeff McKinney, JN	2012
P/D/C Randy Stow, AP	2016
P/D/C Walter Neese, SN	2019
P/D/C Jeffrey Short, JN	2020
P/D/C Joseph Gibson, AP	2023

D/C Blevins stated the minutes of the 2024 Spring Council had been distributed and called for questions or corrections.

There was a question about Richmond Squadron presenting the Hospitality Suite Award.

D/C Blevins called for a vote to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

D/Lt/C Gene Danko, SN presented the report of Treasurer's Department and updated the balance in PNC checking account to \$21,900. The full report is filed on the district web site for this meeting.

D/Lt/C John O'Reilly, JN-IN presented the report of the educational department. The full report is filed on the district web site for this meeting.

D/Lt/C Bill Hammett, JN reported he is currently in the initial planning stages for the 2025 Summer Council and have so far contacted one squadron to host this event.

The chairman of the finance committee, D/Lt Louis M. Kates, AP presented the recommendation for the 2024 – 2025 district budget.

A motion to approve the 2024 – 2025 district budget was made, seconded and approved without further discussion. The budget will be forwarded to fall conference for approval.

D/C Blevins reported a successful Spring Conference at the Holiday Inn hotel in Ocean City.

D/Lt/C Gene Danko, SN the Spring conference chair presented the report of the conference. The conference costs were \$7000. Income was \$239.30.

D/C Blevins presented his report which is included here.

Report of the D/C:

We have been busy since spring conference.

On behalf of USPS and the D5 bridge, I would like to thank everyone for your continued efforts to make sure all of the new boaters out there are operating safely and responsibly!

We have monthly calls with squadron commanders to discuss and share what our squadrons are doing. I also have monthly calls with Our D5 Bridge to discuss the business of the District. We are now focusing on planning our Fall Conference in August at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum, Md. We also, NEED MEMBERS TO attend the USPS Governing Board in Pittsburgh, PA..to gain knowledge of what National is doing and to represent District 5

We THANK EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR suggestions and HELP. Please continue to CONTACT ANY bridge member WITH YOUR THOUGHTS, IDEAS, QUESTIONS, We're open to improve all aspects of District 5.

D/C Blevins introduced our NATIONAL EDUCATION OFFICER Chuck Wells, SN-CN to say a few words on the National Education efforts.

V/C Wells discussed a new boat insurance buying guide available to all members and reminded squadrons to submit nominations for the Chapman Award

D/C Blevins introduced our CHIEF COMMANDER Ralph Bernard, AP, to give insight as to what's happening at NATIONAL.

C/C Bernard reported that we had 8 boats participate in the Southbound cruise and another 8 boats in the Northbound cruise. He then briefly discussed the status of the national website transition to iMIS and the work of Marine SEO to make us better recognized on the internet.

D/C Blevins asked if there was any unfinished business

There was none

D/C Blevins asked if there any new business

C/C Bernard made a motion that the district give PDC flags to PDC Neese and Short. The motion was seconded and passed.

D/C Blevins Thanked the Patuxent River Sail & Power Squadron for hosting this Summer Rendezvous

D/C Blevins reminded the group of the Sail Regatta and the Navigational Contest boat captains and crew would be meeting immediately after the Council to discuss rules of the contests.

D/Lt Nancy Gorman, gave the benediction.

D/C Blevins adjourned the Summer Council at 1017.