

Reporting M. Drzyzga, 2/11/2016

Participants: L. Fletcher, M. Drzyzga, G. Sininger, W. Laessig, J. Mattison, E. Sprous, R. Lefarth, B. LaRosa, J. Dunn, P. Diel, R. Julian, W. Petrie.

1. Meeting Duration 114 min., it began promptly at 8:00 p.m. EST, Prez. L.F. completed roll call.
2. Secretary's Report (M.D.):
  - a. The Minutes from the Dec. 8, 2015, Telecom, were accepted as distributed.
  - b. MD reported that he was contacted via email by Mr. Edsel Heath, a civilian working for General Dynamics at an Army Base in GA. He requests Associate Membership. W.L. reviewed the by-laws, and Ed is welcome to join. M.D. sent him an Application Form. The form had not been returned and Ed contacted D.W. to inquire about the reunion this year. Of course, D.W. was not yet aware of Ed's previous emails to me.
3. Treasurer's Report, (M.D.): Doug was unable to attend this call, and he previously sent M.D. and L.F. the figures for a Treasures' Report, as follows,

We have a Balance of \$32,833.67 -- **both** accounts

A payment of \$1,090.85 to TWE, one third of the final payment requested by the IT team, leaving \$2181.70 that will be the final payment. Have made one \$600.00 maintenance fee.

PayPal fee is not covered in the maintenance fee, at least we have been paying them monthly

We spent approximately \$850.00 in mailing of newsletters

We have received \$1,525 in donations for the bench in Dayton. We have the Monies for a down payment of \$3,000.

4. Quartermaster's report – G.S.
  - a. It will take about \$5000 to restock Gus's inventory.
  - b. Gus had recently received ~ 10 ea. "tie-able" ascots for both 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. May be a valuable addition for the Feb. Firing Circle. ACTION: Gus will send Mike new Ascot pics.
5. Newsletter / FLASH / Firing Circle:
  - a. The Flash will be renamed the *Firing Circle*. M.D. will start one for Feb. The goal for M.D. is to recruit help with his multiple tasks.
  - b. M.D. distributed an email with an outline for Firing Circle. Any comments (info to add or delete) contact M.D. W.L. would like to include a "mailing-out" end-section at the end where return address and "to:" address labels affix. We need to be cautious on the total number of pages, to stay under postage weight limits. ACTION: W.L. will provide to M.D. a Final Flight update.
6. Web Site (IT Committee) report, W.L. –

The eCommerce module is mostly complete, still want the ability to print a full inventory report. We can use Lee. Wolf's knowledge of the CMS to do this.

Reunion registration module is complete, yet we need to get the report into an XLS format.

The structure of the Web Site is complete, we need to continue uploading Association's content, such as our by-laws, and other items.

MySQL database is focused on getting on-line reports exported as XLS files, TWE needs to write some coding to do that. W.L. and Earl are planning a "go-to-meeting" session to continue this. Goal is for completion in one-month. We could do a "practice run" on the new site in the next *Firing Circle*.

We will pay a \$600 maintenance fee to TWE next quarter.

B.P. – will incur ~\$200 fee for hosting the existing web site. The IT Committee needs an Off-line call to discuss web-site host transition. ACTION: W.L., B.P., and TWE will do a conference call.

There is also a German company that is hosting out dot-com name, and we should go to a dot-org name.

7. Media Manager – Ev.

a. Ev discussed a brief summary of his tasks and goals as such. He is handling CDs and DVDs.

ACTION: We need to have Gus communicate with Ev when orders arrive. The Big list of available videos that Ev made is on the Web Site. ACTION: W.L. needs to ask Earl about Ev joining the notification list.

L.F. suggests we also "plug" videos availability in *Firing Circle*.

R.L. (Asst. Treasurer): feels out-of-the loop with Association communications. L.F. compliment R.L. on the monthly expense chart he created for the 2015 expenses. L.F. suggests doing more for communications and recruiting for more help with Association business. W.L. clearly stated that once the initial loading of the MySQL is complete, he will not be the sole content manager. Other web site content owners will be needed to update their part web. We will need a "web co-ordination" to help with web updates.

8. Reunion XVII, FWB update

a. re: Guest Speaker Alan Milacek, at FWB. Actually, Allan will be a speaker for the 2017 Dayton reunion. B.P. added that Alan is having his memoirs written by a third party, as Alan is suffering Esophageal Cancer. Alan is willing and able to speak at Dayton.

b. B.L. suggests Col. Burton, Cmdr 4thSOS, as speaker for FWB. ACTION: Gus can ask Col Button if he is willing and able to present for us. Gus also reminded us that we not always have a guest speaker, and now we may want to focus more time on the two auctions to help raise funds.

9. Reunion 2017, Dayton, OH,

a. R.L. sent a recommendation for Hotel Choice to L.F. and M.D. ACTION: MD will forward that word doc to the entire Board. After the reunion team reviewed 5 hotel proposals and visited each, the best hotel for price (\$121 tax and breakfast included), locale, facility space and offerings (recent renovations), and free parking: is **the Holiday Inn**. Only outstanding issue is seeing the 1700 sq. ft. "Hooch" Room. R.L. seeks Board decision by mid-March. By Mid- April a caterer will be chosen. One question: is there a desire for a broader social event for Sunday – the team will consider options provided by local Dept. of Commerce. We should query members/attendees in support of a social tour, at the Member Business meeting at FWB. R.L. question: He needs to obtain copies of final contract for ABQ and STL. ACTION: Ev will send R.L. the STL contract.

**BOARD APPROVED the Holiday Inn as the host hotel.**

b. Memorial Bench Update: L.F. said the next step is to submit design to the Museum for approval. Dobbs Memorials Inc. will need a contract to continue. The front and rear images have been sent to the Board for review and comment.

Gus motioned to approve a contract with Dobbs, many voices seconded that motion.

10. Last Orbit:

a. B.L. asked about our criteria for Phil's History Project. There is none now. The focus is on History of the Association. Once all the annual business meeting minutes are available – Phil will move forward.

b. Ev connected B.L. to a Stinger who lives 16 miles away in NM. He will plan attending FWB reunion.

c. Gus asked for clarification on D.W.'s email re: Ed Heath. All is good.

d. J. Dunn reported on his cruise with C. McCall, and Mary was in a hospital, therefore Cash is not able to attend this call. Jim reports that Cash and Jim will take care of supplying our publications with reunion advertisements.

e. ACTION: R.L. will obtain the ABQ contact from W.L.

f. Ev reported that the FB page for "AF Gunners" is >500 members.

**NEXT BOARD Teleconf Meeting: Tues. March 8, 2016**

**Respectfully,**

Mike D