



SUNY Maritime College Parents Association Corp.

Board meeting

March 11, 2022

6:00

Maritime Academic Center (MAC)

Board members present: Joe Sesack, Jeannine Sesack, Larry Castello, Andre Amrhein, Jeremy O'Brien, Suzanne Donovan, Zameena Salim Rasheed, Luis Davila, JoAnn Davila, Cleo Gakshteyn, Stephen Biscotti

Board members absent: Keith Reilly, Betsy Grabher, Joe Donovan

Guest parents: Frank & Liz Harnos, Ana O'Brien

Call to Order: Joe Sesack called the meeting to order at 6:05PM

Approval of the February 8, 2021 meeting minutes: Copy of meeting minutes emailed to all board members. Approved by Stephen, 2nd JoAnn

President's report:

- Super Bowl party recap
- SGA President Jesus Fanilla has taken the lead to organize the party. He has requested funding for raffle prizes. Thank you for voting by email. We have donated \$1125-
 - 15- \$10 Amazon gift cards
 - 15- \$25 Amazon gift cards
 - 2- \$50 Amazon gift cards for team spirit awards
 - 20- \$25 Ship Store gift cards
 - 15- Maritime t-shirts
 - 15- Maritime baseball hats
 - 15- Maritime winter hats
- Jesus did advertise in an email sent to all students and announced all prizes were donated by the parents association and reminded the students to have their parents join. As forwarded to all of you, we received an email from Admiral Alfultis thanking us for sponsoring the party as it was a huge success. Dr. Waters added- I was on campus and able to talk with many of the students at the event. They were indeed so thrilled and so thankful for it -- the recurring sentiment was that they are eager for even more events!



SUNY Maritime College Parents Association Corp.

- From JESUS EMAIL :The event was a success. We had about 120+ students at the peak & 66 at the end of the night. Chartwells menu was great, especially the Nachos. The students loved the brownies from the parents association Raffle & merchandise. I have (1) a \$50 dollar gift card left. Which we will donate to the talent show or logo contest.
- At our February meeting we called a second name for the 2022 Holiday Party Scholarship. Andre called #47 Maureen Noble- Class of 2022 student John Noble was sent \$500. John sent a thank you stating that he will put the money towards his 1/C Summer Sea Term.
- ELECTIONS Zameena posted on Facebook 2/13/22 the upcoming executive board member positions that will be available for the 2022/2023 school year. An email blast was sent out 2/15/22 and again on 3/7/22. As of today we just have Cleo on the slate for treasurer. Joe, Jeannine, and Zameena have no replacements and will remain until April 2023 unless any of you are interested. You can request to be nominated from the floor at the April general meeting. We encourage anyone interested in these positions after next year to let us know so you can shadow us. We will take you through the next year from ship departure this May until the end of April 2023.
- We still have no one for recording secretary. Jeannine will continue with this unless one of you would like to take it over.
- We need a hospitality chairperson.
- We will need a technology chairperson as Keith Reilly is unable to attend meetings and events due to his work schedule.
- Joe Donovan will continue as shop manager.
- Since our last meeting we have had 1 new member join on line.



SUNY Maritime College Parents Association Corp.

- Facebook- Joe/Jeannine and Zameena are administrators of our Facebook page. Again, we try to monitor daily, if you see something that you think is inappropriate please let us know by call, text, or email.
- In the future if a zoom meeting is needed Liz Harnos has volunteered use of her zoom account so we don't get cut off in 45 minutes.
- Frank and Liz Harnos have been attending our board meeting and events. We would like to nominate Liz and Frank Harnos to our board. Larry 2nd. We will lose Andre, Larry, and Keith as board members this year but gained the Davilas and Harnos. So ending this year we have 13 board members. Our constitution says the "board shall consist of not less than 10 or more than 25 members of the association."
- Accepted Student's Day - On February 14th Jeannine and I attended a zoom meeting with Roxanne Thompson, VP for Finance and Campus Operations, and Danny Robinson, Associate Director of Admissions, to discuss the Parents Association on campus. The event will be in person, starting around 10-3. We will start set up at 8am.
- Due to construction in the quad the event will be moved to the MARITIME wall for registration, the gym, and the fields for festivities. We will be able to have a membership table and an apparel table.
- It was brought to our attention that the book store's contract is over at the end of the school year. Follett is currently the vendor. They own the Maritime trademark and have exclusive rights to it. We cannot use this trademark. Jeannine spoke with Roxanne Thompson, VP for Finance and Campus Operations on 3/10/22. She said that the athletic department has a trademark on the M with the anchor. Maritime College itself does not yet have their own trademark but they are working on it. The President and the cabinet want us to have our own logo- can be somewhat similar but not the trademark. She said Admiral Alfultis knows how much of a hit we took the last few years and they will allow us to sell out what we have but asked that as we go forward we use our own logo. Roxanne said to reach out to Odalis Mino and Virna Wang in communications, particularly Virna for help with this. She stressed this is nothing against the parents association. The



SUNY Maritime College Parents Association Corp.

group decided to have a student contest where they design our logo. This can be part of SGA talent show. Jeannine will reach out to Jesus.

- Danny suggested we give her a flier and they will put in the Parent's folders for Accepted students day. Jeannine gave Danny our old brochure and membership form. A beautiful brochure has been made. Thank you to Alex El Helou, Assistant Director of Admissions for Communications for printing us a batch at no charge. The next batch will need to have the Sesack home address taken off the membership part of the form.
- Danny also mentioned that on the admission portion of the school website they hope to put a parents page. She would like to advertise for us there or put a link to our website there.
- We talked about maybe sponsoring a food truck for the event as they only want Chartwells to feed the families once .
- We discussed with Roxanne possibly donating to the new student union which will be completed in 2023- she will be meeting with the SGA regarding their wants and needs for the project and get back to us.
- April groundbreaking for the new Seamanship Center
- We were invited to the Alumni Association virtual meeting 2/17/22- but could not attend.
- We attended the Black History Month Scholarship dinner on Feb. 24th. The culture club and Pat Norman ran this event. The scholarships were awarded by the Organization of Black Maritime Graduates (OBMG). Guest speakers were Tevin Freeman '13. Tevin has become the 1st black harbor pilot in the Tampa Bay Pilot's Association and all of Florida. Captain Zeita Merchant was the second speaker. She is the Commander, Sector NY- Captain of the Port, USCG.
- Captain McManus and Rob Crafa have approved the SMPA chartering the Island Current for ship return. The cost for 140 people will be \$6,840. This is a fundraiser for us. The charter will board at 4am and return to Maritime's dock by 9am.
- Zameena will look in to advertising the Parents Association on twitter



SUNY Maritime College Parents Association Corp.

- Alumni Association Director Jeanne Murphy informed us today that 150-160 of 500 cadets going on SST applied for SST scholarships. This is easy money. There is an application and essay. She also informed us that at the Career Fair yesterday about 90% of students were cadets. When we discussed this with SGA President Jesus prior to this meeting he said a lot of students did not know about it. There will be another fair next week.
- SGA President Jesus Fanilla met with us before today's meeting to tell us about the SGA Talent Show. The Alumni Association will be working with the SGA on this event. He had the date set for April 7th which is the day before our meeting and Accepted Students Day. Would can't commit to coming to campus because we will be there the next 2 days. He thought we might like to sponsor a photo contest. We have decided instead of a photo contest to have a logo contest for our new Parent's Association logo. Jeannine will contact Jesus about this new idea.

Treasurer's report:

- Currently we have \$ 37,766.70 in our account.
- Constant Contact monthly fee \$48.88
- Jeannine spent \$62.14 on a reusable BIG CHECK for our donations
- Larry contacted our accountant Danielle regarding our taxes. He forwarded to Danielle our 1099 from Square. She will charge us \$1000.
- Club fund requests
 - 1. Ski & Snowboard Club, President Chelsea Gostomski \$500 issued in February.
 - Larry found out that the ski club money went to the last trip in January to Jay Peak. All were in favor of sending another \$500 for the February trip to Smuggler Notch. Larry received fund request form from Chelsea and another \$500 was sent.
 - 2. USCG club Brian Murphy requested \$403.88 for raffle items for fundraiser- email & text sent for voting 2/15/22. All approved by 2/20/22. Larry sent the check but it has not been received as of 3/8/2022. Larry will follow up with Brian.
 - Rob Crafa - waterfront fund request for \$7291 to purchase a SawStop table saw. Rob discussed with Joe the benefits of the Wood Shop to the campus community such as potentially building Adirondack chairs as a project for students in the shop, an alternative may be to have the Parents Association work with our Institutional Advancement Office to have donors (i.e. parents, alumni, friends, community residents) buy a chair in honor of someone. Rob has seen [attractive, heavy, durable resin Adirondack Chairs made by Pollywood for <\\$300](#) that really add to the friendliness of other college campuses (see



SUNY Maritime College Parents Association Corp.

attached picture and [Pollywood Rocker](#)). Jeannine will reach out to Rob to see if he is available to discuss at our next meeting or on Accepted Students Day. We need to confirm that this table saw would benefit many students not just a select few.

- We found out from Henry (Chartwells) that the check we submitted at the Holiday Party was misplaced. Larry has stopped payment and reissued a check which has been received.

Shop report:

- Thank you to the Donovan's straightening the storeroom and taking inventory.
- Joe S. put an order in for parent's shirts, mugs, and Maritime t-shirts for accepted students day.
- Discussed SST shirts. This will be the final cruise of the College Training Ship Empire State VI. Joe expressed concern over our large loss of SST apparel money due to the pandemic. Also dated items become hard to sell. We could default and let Stitches and Screens sell again. Board seems eager to sell them ourselves since it is the last cruise. We must decide by our April meeting. Luis suggested placing 1 order for departure, see how they sell then order more for ship return if needed. Capt. McManus suggested calling it the Farewell Cruise. As the Russian invasion of Ukraine continues there is a small possibility that ports may change.
- SST shirts-we must also reach out to Henry at Chartwells to see if he wants t-shirts.
- Joe S. Will discuss with Joe D. prices of certain apparel.
- Our mug for your mug- we must order some mugs without this phrase for the intern students
- Joe and Suzie will not be here for Accepted student's Day- volunteers needed

Unfinished Business:

- Sean James Varela, Class of 2019, died of cancer in January. He was 24 years old. His brother Michael is a 2/C. We are trying to make a donation to the family but could not find information from obituary or Capt. Hanft. Jeremy reached out to his son, there was no fund me. Jeannine emailed Michael Varela and got no response. We will not pursue this issue any further.



SUNY Maritime College Parents Association Corp.

- Traditionally, we make a \$5000 donation to the SST, they use the money for tours, transportation, new gym equipment. Board wants to make sure the students know that the donation came from the parents association. We can vote on this at last meeting in April meeting and give check to Capt. McManus if approved.
- Senior awards- traditionally we give a \$250 award to the SGA President. This year Jesus Fanilla is very deserving of this award. Joe would like to nominate Jesus, 2nd Stephen. All approved.
- **Upcoming Events and Meeting schedule for spring semester:**
- Tonight, March 11, 2022 MAC. Captain McManus, Captain Hanft and students will discuss Summer Sea Term at the general meeting starting at 7PM.
- 2022 Alumni Dinner at Tribeca 360 in Manhattan. New date is April 29, 2022. We hope to sponsor a table of 10 students at the cost of \$2650. As discuss previously, we would like Larry and Andre to attend this dinner as this is their last year on the board. Traditionally, we pay for the President and spouse to attend, we also pay for half of the transportation from Maritime to Tribeca. This is usually about \$250.
- April 8, 2022 6PM board meeting with elections to follow in the TIV, McMurray Hall. There was a suggestion of having some graduates come talk to the group about their job search and career. At this time we have no guest speakers scheduled.
- Saturday April 9, 2022 Accepted Students Day- this is our biggest member drive of the year. We need many volunteers for this event.
- May 5, 2022 Senior Awards- traditionally we give a \$250 award to the SGA President. This year Jesus Fanilla is very deserving of this award.
- May 27, 2022 Empire State VI departs to Philadelphia, Porto Portugal, Belfast Ireland. Volunteers will be needed for this event. Departure will be during Fleet Week this year!
- July TBD- Orientation- volunteers will be needed



SUNY Maritime College Parents Association Corp.

- August 2, 2022 Empire State VI returns- we will schedule the Island Current Charter boat to meet the ship for parent association members, bagpipe and drums band. Volunteers needed for this event.
- August 22, 2022 starts Indoctrination and the Civilian Experience- we would like to donate funds for a food truck night or some other event.
- 2023 New student center should be complete, we would like to donate to this project.

Adjournment:

- Joe adjourned the meeting at 7pm.