

November 15, 2022 TCA AOG Board Meeting Minutes

Date: November 15, 2022
Time: 1730 Hours
Location: VFW/American Legion Post

Meeting Called By: Jason VanOverbeke
Type of Meeting: TCA AOG Open/Board Meeting
Name of Meeting Facilitator: Jason VanOverbeke

List of Attendees: Jason VanOverbeke, Rick Knoll, Terry Flower, Denny Sultany, Mike Riess, Bob Hockman, Curt Brown

Summary of Discussion

Rules of Order:

- Pledge of Allegiance - accomplished
- Quorum established - 5 Board members minimum
- Introductions of all present - No Remarks
- Last Month's Board minutes approval - Rick made motion, Mike second, approved unanimously.

Summary of Discussion Events/Current/New/Old Business:

Upcoming Events:

- Army vs Navy football watch party was discussed. More info to come from Jason/Tom concerning the event.
- Veteran Day dinner - The Dinner happened on Monday 14 November at Mancini's supper club. We had a good turnout of around 15 folks. Enough Board members were present to approve \$100.00 tip for our awesome servers. Mancini's showed us a great time. More in the future.
- Chapter Presidents' Conference Recap: Jason attended and will be sending his remarks to attach to the minutes. See Below.
- Other Events
 - Wreath across America donation. This was discussed and Board approved \$250.00 to provide wreaths for Veterans interned at the USAFA cemetery.
 - Scotch Tasting was discussed. Timing will be in the January timeframe with Terry as POC.
 - People are needed to support the Political offices in the Selection of New Cadet Appointees.

Financial Status (Rick Knoll):

- Balances - approximately \$10,052 in Savings, approximately \$1472 in Checking.

Old Business:

- Challenger Learning Center (Terry) - No major update. Waiting on the city of Bloomington and the World's Fair location announcement to move forward.
- Facebook/Website (Bob): The Education and Tri-service Hubs are down and no ETR. It was discussed and decided to remove Board emails/phone numbers from website. Need to update your Board Bio.
- Education Website (Terry): No changes.
- ALO Program: From Jason, no updates. Tom to write letter concerning ALO support, to be approved by Board, to express our concerns to the Academy admissions office.
- Younger Grad Engagement (Terry): Still working the issue. Terry bought up having a Class representative call people for upcoming events to get more involvement. Maybe use Instagram and other social media platforms to reach younger Grads.
- Parents Club - Same as last months.
- News Letter (Tom) - Out in early December. Inputs to Tom if you have anything by the end of Nov.

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

- Next Meeting: December 20, 2022, 1730 at the VFW/American Legion Post, 311 W 84th Street, Bloomington, MN. Social hour starting at 1700.
- Meeting Adjourned: After discussion of all items, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn this meeting at 1827.

Chapter Presidents' Conference

The Air Force Academy Association of Graduates Chapter and Affinity Group Presidents' conference was held on Thursday, 3 Nov 2022 in Dallas, TX. There were about 20 chapters present representing a variety of geographic and affinity chapters. (For those of you who aren't familiar, affinity groups are AOG chapters based a shared experience such as a club sport or other group rather than where you live.)

The conference covered a wide variety of topics and items of interest for members of the AOG. Gen Mike Gould, CEO of the AOG and Foundation gave a brief presentation on the status of the AOG, current Academy DEI initiatives and their responses to public comments, and some of the results of the AOG survey completed last spring. Next, Naviere Walkewicz, SVP Alumni Relations provided an update on the AOG membership for all process. Currently 59% of grads (34k/51k) have opted into membership for all or were already AOG members. Next, Naviere addressed the results of the AOG membership survey. The survey found that graduates can be roughly broken into 6 categories spanning grads who are extremely proud of the Academy and engaged with AOG activities to those who are disengaged for a variety of reasons to those who feel at odds with the Academy and the AOG. The challenge going forward for the AOG is to reach out to all grad groups, but tailor the message to resonate with people with various views of the AOG and throughout different phases of their lives.

After Naviere, Karina Ross, Senior Director Alumni Engagement, provided insight into the AOG's upcoming initiatives to engage graduates. First, the AOG will be developing a new portal which is intended to be a one-stop-shop for Grads to more easily and seamlessly engage with the AOG and other grads. It is expected to roll out in early 2023. The AOG is also going to work to better highlight grad activities and accomplishments through a volunteer month (April) an entrepreneur (Nov) month.

Finally, when registering for the conference all of the presidents were requested to identify some of their biggest challenges for their chapters. The AOG identified common threads. At the conference, there was a breakout session to brainstorm among the chapter presidents on ways to overcome those challenges. There were a lot of good ideas that came up regarding the AOG and local chapters finding ways to reach out to people in different phases of their lives. Graduates from 1962, 1992, and 2022 have different needs and the AOG needs to provide value to all of them. Based on the discussions and information shared, one of the takeaways for me was that the TCA-AOG is actually doing pretty well. A lot of us get down on the number of activities we have or the number of attendees we get. However, some of the ideas the TCA-AOG has implemented (partnering with the Parents Club, a silent auction at the Heritage Dinner, helping offset costs for young grads or everyone) were pretty novel ideas to the other chapters. We have you to thank for that.

The Chapter Presidents' Conference for 2023 is targeted for what will be called "The Long Blue Line Weekend." It will be in July or August to coincide with the march back from Jack's Valley and is intended to avoid conflict with the Parent's Club conference on Parents' Weekend.

All in all, the conference provided a lot of good information and it was a great opportunity to learn about the AOG and the Air Force Academy and to network with other Chapter Presidents through the Grad community.