



Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 30, 2016 – Loews Don CeSar Hotel, St. Petersburg, FL

Attendance

Attending

National Officers

Mike Blount (President)

*Jane Penny (IPP)

Sal Nodjomian (PE)

Kurt Ubbelohde (VP)

Marv Fisher (VP)

Joe Schroedel (XD, non-vote)

Harold Rosen (Counsel, non-vote)

Executive Committee Members

Scott Prosuch (STEM)

Siokey Gastelum-Galvez

(RVP, SW)

Bob Sidoti (RVP, SC)

Matt Altman (YM)

Brian Balukonis (NE)

Cindy Lincicome (RVP, RM)

SAME Staff (non-voting)

Nick Desport (Programs)

Ann McLeod (Events)

Allison Ingram (Finance)

*Kathy Off (Stakeholder

Relations)

Note (*): Teleconference

Not Attending

National Officers

Rich Khalil (Treas)

Executive Committee Members

CAPT Rod Worden (RVP, Europe)

Col (Ret) Bill Haight (JECO)



Agenda

The agenda at enclosure 1 was followed. The meeting was called to order by the XD at 10:30 AM with a quorum and adjourned at 12:00 PM. Briefing slides are attached at enclosures 2 thru 12.

“One Society” Venue

The XC was held in conjunction with the Post Leaders Workshop (PLW) and Academy of Fellows Conclave, offering the national leadership and XC the opportunity to mentor, coach, and train 150 post leaders from 75 posts who were in attendance. The presence of the national leadership and national committee chairs was a tremendous motivator for post leaders.

a. Opening

- a. SAME President Mike Blount welcomed the 2017 Executive Committee (XC) by congratulating them and thanking them for their service to SAME. A flag was not present; no Pledge of Allegiance was rendered.
- b. The President then opened the meeting with his introductory remarks and guidance:
 - i. He specifically welcomed the new members of the XC and thanked them again.
 - ii. He reiterated that we are headed in a good direction with our Strategic Plan 2020, thanked the staff for their support and leadership and reemphasized the volunteer nature of our members.
 - iii. He then highlighted communications as a primary concern and offered that we have a long way to go. He challenged the XC to lead the Society to get better.
 - iv. He challenged the staff to continually measure how we can improve in everything we do.
- c. The Executive Director then emphasized the great work of Stephen Karl who was appointed in January as the National Staff Communications senior manager. All concurred that he is the right leader for the task and is already making an impact as evidenced by the outstanding quality of the recently released Vietnam Commemorative Edition of *TME*.

b. Decisions

- a. The Executive Director then introduced the decisions for XC consideration.
 - i. Transitioning the TISP Council. The XC approved the recommendation to rename the TISP Council as the Resilience Committee immediately, effectively concluding the integration of TISP into SAME. Nick Desport emphasized the need to align the efforts of the committee with Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan. The XC also approved initiating the



search for a new committee chair, further signaling the conclusion of the TISP Integration. Ernie Edgar successfully led a challenging effort to transition TISP from an academically oriented discussion group to an integrated and productive part of SAME. The XD also pointed out the ongoing planning of the 2017 Critical Infrastructure Symposium (CIS) in Boston which is focused on producing opportunities for execution at the Post level in support of Goal 4. Bob Sidoti noted that the safety of children in local schools is an issue that can be addressed by posts.

- ii. Post Board Composition. The XC approved Marc Bialek’s recommendation to expand the post board composition to include STEM, Young Member and Uniformed/Government Membership. Part of the intent of the expansion is to encourage greater participation by members and to address the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan. The President also suggested that we standardize the role of President Elect at the Post level to support succession planning. He also pointed out that the wider range of positions at the post level should be characterized as a menu of options. Marv Fisher, VP, suggested that the “Military/Government” position be characterized as Public Sector (all agreed) and that these positions be termed “coordinators”, connoting action. The XD noted that CAPT (Ret) Jim Donahue briefed his approach to a large post board as an approach to expanding active member participation. CLAS and the Post Operations Manual will be changed accordingly to capture the direction of the XC.
- iii. Investment Committee Recommendations. The XC approved the SAME Investment Committee’s recommendations to change investment firms. Allison Ingram explained the committee’s months-long effort, the minimum risk exposure presented by the recommendation and the importance of making a decision now to set the stage for the new Foundation. The first full Foundation Board will convene in January 2017. The Investment Committee consists of Heather Wishart-Smith, RADM Mark Handley, and Rich Khalil. The XD emphasized the reliance of the National Staff over the past two years for his time and expertise in support of the audit, the budget, the Foundation and all financial management efforts.

c. November Board Agenda (15 November, Atlanta, Georgia)

- a. The XD referred to the draft agenda for the November Board. He emphasized the importance of establishing an annual battle rhythm for assessing the society’s Strategic Plan 2020 progress. The XC agreed with the approach.
- b. Marv Fisher emphasized the need for global metrics. The XD committed to incorporate.
- c. The President emphasized the need to have board members participate in a SWOT analysis (Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats) in order to focus the outcome on actionable direction to the Society.



d. Information Briefings

- a. The XC had no questions pertaining to the information briefings given at enclosures 6 thru 10.
- b. The XD provided a verbal update on a Phoenix Post alleged embezzlement case that is currently under investigation. Brig Gen (RET) Pat Burns of the Phoenix Post volunteered and has completed the investigation for post president Emery Layton. It is alleged that the former post treasurer embezzled \$25,686 from the post bank accounts. The Mesa County police now have the investigation. The FBI has been involved too since the former treasurer moved out of state and continued to embezzle funds from her new location. All accounts have been protected and her ability to access funds stopped. The XD explained that the likelihood of recovering any money is remote. Holding the individual accountable is now the objective. The President emphasized the need to communicate with Post Presidents regarding how to prevent similar circumstances. The XD committed to do so at the right time (after the individual is arrested).
- c. The subject of Director and Officer Insurance was discussed. The national level officers are covered. The President asked that we pursue D&O insurance for post officers.

e. President Guidance and Conclusion

The President thanked the XC and staff. He also asked that the XC immediately rejoin the PLW participants to allow the XD to formally farewell Marc Bialek, Director of Membership, Marketing and Sales who was moving to Rhode Island.

The Executive Committee Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM.

12 Encl – as

Joseph Schroedel
BG, USA (Ret), P.E., F.SAME,
Executive Director

3 September 2016