



International Order of the Blue Gavel

The Association of Past Commodores

Fall Regional Meeting

October 17, 2020

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM (Eastern Daylight Time)
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (Pacific Daylight Time)

Call to Order: President Robert 'Buzz' Bisanz called the Fall Regional Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. EDT

Roll Call of Executive Committee: President Buzz Bisanz, President Elect Mark Vadaj, 1st Vice President Kathy Smith, 2nd Vice President Marsha Landreth, Treasurer Marshall Nemoy, Executive Secretary Mary Nye Meyers and Past President Sherry Barone. Auditing: SWVP Sheila Anderson, SEVP Karen Shea, NCVP Steven Hyder and NWVP Jim Martinson. Appointed Officers Present: Recording Secretary Joyce Jackson-Coomber. Absent: NEVP Stephen Tisack.

Quorum: A quorum was present.

Introduction of Past Presidents: Joel Kay, Rosalie Davis-Green, Tony Durieux, Gary McGrath, and Steve Willing.

Self-Introduction of Members and Guests: John Robbins, Kathryn McCarthy, Larry Inguagiato, Butch Brown, Liz Allison, Roger Dutton, Leo Vortouni, Steve Sawdon, Dean Smith, Don Peacock, Paul Clausson and Tom Seibert.

Approval of Agenda: Approval of the Agenda was moved by Sherry Barone and seconded by Mary Nye Meyers in the usual manner. The motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Regional Meeting: Motion made to approve the minutes by Kathy Smith and second by Marshall Nemoy. The motion passed.

Introduction of 2021 Elected Officers:

Treasurer – Marshall Nemoy
President Elect – Mark Vadaj
1st Vice President – Kathy Smith
2nd Vice President – Marsha Landreth
Executive Secretary – Mary Nye Meyers
Immediate Past President – Sherry Barone
President – Robert P. 'Buzz' Bisanz

Introduction of 2021 Area Vice Presidents & Assigned Districts:

Northwestern – Jim Martinson - Districts 1 & 5
Southwestern – Sheila Anderson – Districts 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, and 51
North Central – Steven Hyder – Districts 7, 9, 23, 25, and 50
Northeastern – Stephen Tisack – Districts 3, 12, 20, 22, 26, 27

Introduction of Appointed Officers:

Legal Officer – Steven Hyder
Communications Director – Mary Nye Meyers
Protocol Officer – Marsha Landreth
Recording Secretary – Joyce Jackson-Coomber
Education Officer - Open
Sergeant at Arms – Larry Inguagiato
Past Presidents Liaison Officer – Joel Kay
Historian – Rosalie Davis-Green
Supply Officer – Commodore Insignia

Introduction of Representatives:

IOBG Auxiliary Liaison – Marsha Landreth
Humanitarian Foundation Liaison – Tony Durieux
Boat U.S. Liaison – Marshall Nemoy
Membership – Kathy Smith
Public Relations – Marsha Landreth
National Boating Federation Liaison – Marlene Barrington
US Sailing Liaison – Mark Hansen
US Coast Guard Auxiliary Liaison – Bob Brandenstein
American Boating Club (formally Power Squadron) Liaison – Audrey Rice

Introduction of Committees:

Audit – Sherry Barone, Mark Vadaj, Marsha Landreth
By-Laws and Policy/Procedure Manual – Mark Vadaj, Kathy Smith, Marsha Landreth
Finance – Sherry Barone, Buzz Bisanz, Mark Vadaj, Kathy Smith, Marsha Landreth, Marshall Nemoy
Annual Meeting Review – Sherry Barone, Buzz Bisanz, Marsha Landreth, Marshall Nemoy.
Annual Meeting Elections – Mark Vadaj, Mary Nye Meyers
Nominations – Buzz Bisanz, Sherry Barone, Bud Higginson, Jeanne Irwin – Westside Rep,
Open - Eastside Rep

Old Business: Steve Willing stated at a previous function he gave a report on how to increase membership. To his knowledge the ideas were never discussed. Sherry Barone stated that it was addressed in 2020. Everything was taken into consideration including the reduced cost to travel to Portland to give back to the members.

Mark Vadaj stated he was between a rock and a hard place. He wants to be knighted at his turn but he is willing to forgo it to save money. Steve Hyder states that he does not turn in receipts to save the membership money. Karen Shea stated that Portland is about tradition, but saving money is more important. Larry Inguagiato is in agreement to discontinue the Portland meeting. It costs too much money.

Gary McGrath stated that if we are talking about saving money then eliminating one meeting would help. Leo Vortouni does not attend regional meetings because of the expense and he is on a fixed income. Don Peacock suggested waiving the local dues for 2021. Marshall Nemoy stated that some people like to travel to the Portland meeting and others don't. To have good people we can't put them in the poor house. With face to face meetings, more will get done.

Marsha Landreth “moved to form a committee to investigate how to come up with a feasible solution for dues and the regional meetings”. A second was made by Butch Brown. Sheila Anderson suggested that the districts reduce their dues. Sherry Barone stated that it's up to the committee to meet and discuss the dues and the regional meeting in Portland.

Jim Martinson stated that if some chapters and districts complain why we are spending their money, they need to get involved to find out why. Mary Nye Meyers stated that the work gets done and the relationships get better. We develop strong bonds face to face and networking can't be done on a Zoom meeting. Karen Shea suggested that we incorporate into our meetings some IOBG yachting or other events where we can build more membership. Have a regatta or something to make our presence known. Buzz Bisanz stated that he enjoyed the Regional meeting in past years in San Diego, CA. We have a large number of members and member clubs in that area. It would be a great place to have a Regional meeting in the future but in April 2021 we are scheduled for Atlanta.

Kathy Smith suggested to continue the knighting but not at a Regional meeting. Leo Vortouni wants to continue the Zoom for those who can't afford to travel. Roger Dutton stated that some people were mad when dues were raised before. If it was Zoom meeting more people could join in. Steve Willing stated that face-to-face is good but we can't afford the cost right now.

Why Portland? It has nothing to do with boating. Steve Sawdon recommended the Tall Ships in Los Angeles. Larry Inguagiato stated, “anything but Portland”. People are tired of the Rose Festival and the knighting ceremony. Marlene Barrington stated that the National Boating Federation attended a Wheelchair Regatta in California during one of their meetings.

A vote was taken on the motion and passed. Volunteers for the committee are as follows: Sheila Anderson, Mark Vadaj, Liz Allison, Karen Shea, Steve Willing, Gary McGrath, Roger Dutton and Kathy Smith.

New Business: Buzz Bisanz was going to discuss job descriptions but he decided to forgo the subject due to the length of the previous discussion. The ByLaws and so forth can be found as links at the bottom of the IOBG homepage.

Announcements: The 2021 Regional Meeting is on hold for April in order for the committee to meet and make a decision.

Sherry Barone stated that the 2021 budget still needs to be approved. Marshall Nemoy went over the budget on the screen and reviewed it with everyone. A motion was made to approve the budget by Kathy Smith and Sherry Barone made a second. The budget was approved.

Adjournment: The motion was made to adjourn by Mark Vadaj. Sheila Anderson made a second. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m. EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Jackson-Coomber

Joyce Jackson-Coomber
Recording Secretary