



UNITED STATES ARMY
WARRANT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
TAMPA BAY CHAPTER (0522)

1. The Tampa Bay Chapter President (CW4 Rodney Ferguson) welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 1755 hours, 18 April 2013. Chief Ferguson cracked the gavel and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. CW4R Blanco led the opening prayer. A quorum was present.

2. CW5 Pitts took Roll Call: 14 members & 3 guest present:

Members: CW5 Pitts, CW2 Roman, CW4 Ferguson, CW4 Cook, CW2 Crosby, CW4R Blanco (Past President), CW5 Venckus, CW4R Peters, CW3R Rich, CW5R Fagin, CW5R Teitelbaum (Proxy), CW3 Peters (Proxy), CW2R Wimberly (Proxy), CW5R Wimberly (Proxy).

Guest: CW5 Boughton, CW3 Harr, Chief Matthew Ferguson

3. Secretary's Report: Minutes of the previous meeting were read by CW5 Pitts. Chief Blanco motioned that they be accepted as written and Chief Cook seconded. During the discussion it was noted that the previous minutes should be amended on two counts: 1st to reflect that CW5 Venckus is advocating for a 50/50 raffle at each meeting to raise some funds. Secondly, the minutes will be amended to reflect that CW3R Rich is the membership committee chair. Chief Blanco motioned that the minutes be approved with these two amendments. The motion was seconded by Chief Rich and the motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report: Chief Roman delivered the report and notified the chapter that we now have \$100 in the chapter bank account. Chief Blanco motioned that the report be accepted as given. The motion was seconded by Chief Peters and the motion carried. The financial report is submitted along with these minutes.

5. President's Report: CW4 Ferguson rendered a report. He stated that he had presented the Ridge Community HS in Polk County four JROTC medals on behalf the chapter. He also stated that the photos would be posted to the chapter web page. Chief Warrant Officers Irlanda and Harr were part of the presentation ceremony. Discussion: CW3R Rich pointed out that the request for these awards would possibly escalate as other schools become aware of our intent to support this program and he suggested that we coordinate with National to cost share at minimum. Otherwise he suggested that we clearly define the requirements for who qualifies for award and how many we will present annually. Ferguson indicated that he had paid for the medals from his own pocket as a means to get the chapter some positive press. CW3R Rich stated that the Special Forces Association went from four to 17 high schools in the matter of a few years. CW4 Ferguson states that he would provide criteria for award for chapter ratification. Chief Crosby recommended only four awards of one per school. Chief Blanco motioned to accept the report as delivered. The motion was seconded by Chief Cook and the motion carried.

For the record the following info is provided on the awards presentation.

April 4th the Tampa Bay Warrant Officer Association presented the USAWOA award to 4 Cadets from Ridge Community High School at their annual JROTC Awards Ceremony. The Professor of Military Science is MAJ(R) Miles.

The awardees:

Gold: Cadet Captain Llamonttisha Sabol

Silver: Cadet Captain Elianny Rodriguez

Bronze: Cadet First Lieutenant Taylor Paulin

Copper: Cadet Corporal Jordan Ingham

The United States Warrant Officer Award recognizes cadets who have distinguished themselves through a combination of academic performance, commitment in word and deed to the mission and goals of the JROTC program, and demonstrated leadership potential within the JROTC unit, the school, and the broader local community.

6. Vice president's Report -Not Given

7. Historian's Report: Not Given

8. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee Chair CW3R Rich: No Report Given.

Ways and Means Committee Chair WO1 Slaughter: No Report Given.

9. Old Business:

a. Appointment of Officers and Committee Members:

Chapter Secretary: CW4R Cook motioned that he be relieved of the secretary duties and be replaced by CW5 Pitts. CW5 Pitts agreed to execute the position. CW4 Ferguson and members present agree and CW5 Pitts moves from assistant secretary to secretary. Chief Blanco motioned that CW5 Pitts become the secretary. The motion was seconded by CW2 Roman and the motion passed.

b. Chapter Gideon: Background: CW4 Ferguson wants to present a plaque with a miniature flag to the donor. CW5R Wimberly stated that the donor was Mr. Bill McCloud. CW4R Blanco stated that plaque will cost \$50 to \$60 but will have to go outside the local area to procure. CW5R Fagin suggested we talk with the Silver Chapter and see if they can assist with a design. CW5 Venckus says it should be reproducible. CW4R Blanco motions that CW5 Fagin Assume the lead on the effort. Motion seconded by Chief Peters and the motion carried. Follow on discussion...CW5R Fagin says he will gladly take the lead.

d. USO Update: Tampa Bay Chapter is a plank holder of the USO at Tampa International Airport. The chapter has committed to purchasing a miniature chapter flag to place on the wall. The issue was tabled for further discussion next meeting. CW3R Rich will provide a USO update at the next meeting as to volunteer opportunities and background check requirements.

e. Community Support: The chapter still wants to do something for the American Legion post that hosts our meetings. CW2 Roman has the ball for coordination. CW2 Roman stated that the Flagg base and the dock need painting. CW5 Pitts confirmed that these activities qualify as Bright Futures Scholarship Credit for High School students. There was also discussion about tying the projects to a Chapter BBQ and a fund raising car wash. CW3R Rich motioned that we lean forward on all, coordinate with the post commander for a good date time group, and execute some or all of these efforts prior to the next meeting if possible. CW5R Fagin Seconded the motion. The motion passed and CW5 Pitts will work with CW2 Roman to move the ball.

f. Shirt Development: Background: The members want a distinctive Shirt for the Chapter. CW4 Ferguson demonstrated some potential T-Shirts and the members present selected one above the others. The cost will be between \$24.99 and \$26.99 depending on weather or not the chapter can order 25ea or more. The chapter previously voted to have "Charter Member" on the sleeve of the shirt for the 1st year members of the chapter. A polo shirt was selected and approved by the chapter. CW3 Crosby was responsible for the procurement of the shirts noted that the logo demonstrated to the tailor was not exactly copied and he will follow up to get it fixed before we proceed with ordering. The issue was tabled for the next meeting.

g. JROTC Award Presentation in Tarpon Springs: Tampa Bay Chapter will present these awards. CW4 Ferguson says the chapter that sells the medals is non-responsive. Medals are \$49 per set. Medals were awarded as per the President's report. The issue was tabled for further discussion at next meeting.

h. New SOCCENT CG: CW4 Ferguson will try to get an office call with the new SOCCENT CG to let him know that the Tampa Bay Chapter exists and that the Chapter President is from his command. The issue is tabled until next meeting.

j. Fundraiser with the HAGA: Background: CW4 Ferguson is in talks with the Hispanic American Golf Association President who is he says is willing to help the Tampa Bay Chapter in organizing a Golf Tournament for fundraising. CW5R Jorge Martinez was to coordinate with representatives from the HAGA and invite them to a meeting for direct coordination on issue. The issue was tabled.

k. Non-Profit Status: The Chapter previously voted to file non-profit Articles of Incorporation with the state of Florida to ensure tax exempt status. CW4R Blanco motioned that he would be willing to file and pay on behalf of the chapter. CW5R Fagin seconded the motion and it passed. Upon discussion it was decided that the members present would donate money for the action. For the record \$180 was collected and provided to the Treasurer for deposit into the account.

l. Credit Card Square: CW3R Johnson briefed that the machine costs either \$275 per month or 2.75% of each purchase transaction. Additionally, personal information is required to establish an account. CW3R Rich stated that he may have another option and will brief it at the next meeting. Issue tabled for further discussion next meeting.

m. Raffle Tickets: CW4 Ferguson states he will have tickets for 50/50 raffle at the next meeting. The issue is tabled.

New Business:

a. CW5 Ferguson opened a discussion on the need to elect a new Vice President. It was noted that an election would need to take place and that proxy info would need to be updated. In the interest of time the issue was tabled to the next meeting.

b. No further new business was brought forward.

10. Adjourn: CW4 Ferguson ask for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by CW5R Fagin and seconded by CW5 Venckus. CW4 Ferguson hit the gavel and the meeting adjourned at 1935hrs.

11. The next meeting is scheduled for 16 May 2013 at 1730hrs.

//Original Signed//
ROBERT C. PITTS III
CW5, OD
Chapter Secretary

//Original Signed//
RODNEY L. FERGUSON
CW4, QM
Chapter President