

SAME – Charleston Post
Board Meeting Minutes, 21 January 2010

The board meeting started at 10 am, prior to the monthly post luncheon meeting at 11:30.

Attendees:

Len Dillinger, President
Anna S. Lucas, Membership Director
Russell Patterson, Past Post President
Barry Lewis, Programs Director
Blair Goodman, Young Member Chair
Bill Easley, Publicity Director
Nicole Randazzo, Scholarship Director

The current membership is 230 members, as of 1 December, which falls within the range for a medium-sized post, but it is close to the threshold for a large post, 250 members. This makes a difference on the requirements for earning streamers.

The board discussed some of the streamers which the post has not earned in several years. Len Dillinger noted that making this a continuous effort through the year and planning the required efforts which would be needed to be executed during the year is critical to the post's improvement.

One of the streamers discussed was Outreach and Communications. Bill Easley volunteered to put together a newsletter as an offshoot of the website. A quarterly newsletter is sufficient to satisfy one goal for the streamer, in addition to the website already being updated. A couple of the other goals for this streamer are more related to the Young Membership and Scholarship areas. We are very close to our goals for that streamer.

Bill Easley will work with Russ Patterson to use the website which had been used for the regional meeting, <http://www.samecharleston.com/>, as the Post's official website, since it is much easier to remember than the free site through the SAME HQ site, <http://posts.same.org/charleston/>.

The board agreed that it would be okay to add links from the Post website to the non-profit organizations we've sponsored in the past, such as the Morris Island Lighthouse and Water Missions.

One concern raised during the discussion of the Outreach and Communications streamer was that the post did not currently have a Post Secretary. Bill Easley tentatively volunteered to fill that position. (Following the meeting, Paul Mills, a member in Greenville, contacted Len expressing interest in the position.)

Another streamer discussed is the Homeland Security/Readiness streamer. The Post's Readiness Director position is currently vacant, but Russ Patterson agreed to take the lead in working with the military members (USACE and the Air Force) in pursuing that streamer.

It was noted that Barry Lewis had done an admirable job in lining up speakers for the monthly meetings through May. Most of the topics on the list he'd distributed even identified the continuing education areas which the post is trying to support.

The board agreed that board meetings will be held monthly at 10 am before each meeting. This will make it even easier to keep on track for our goals for streamers instead of having a last-minute scramble for documentation at the end of each year.

The Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo (JETC) is coming up May 4-6, 2010 in Atlanta, and a Post Leaders Workshop in Grapevine, TX, on 4-5 March. The post may be able to cover the travel expenses for one or two officers to attend the latter. The deadline to register is 14 February. Blair Goodman , Young Member Chair, and Len Dillinger, Post President, will attend.

There was a detailed discussion of proposed changes to the scholarship program as follows:

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Graduating high school senior or college student (*limit to 1st and 2nd year in college?*)
2. Must be a resident of Charleston, Berkeley, or Dorchester County. (*Didn't notice anything like this on other SAME post scholarship applications*). **Recommend we add "...or the child or spouse of a member of the Charleston Post."**
3. Citizen of the United States (*other applications didn't have this part*) **Recommend we delete this.**
4. G.P.A. of 3.0 or greater (*consider it being higher? 3.2 perhaps?*) **We probably should require a 3.2 or better high school GPA. It may be reasonable, however, to leave the requirement at 3.0 for college GPA.**
5. Accepted or confirmed enrollment in an accredited South Carolina college or university studying engineering, architecture, science, math, or a related field of study in 2010/2011. **Strongly recommended we delete the South Carolina requirement.**

Selection Requirements:

1. Graduating high school applicants: SAT or ACT test results
2. 2 recommendations by advisor/counselor and/or instructor/professor
3. 2-3 page double-spaced essay describing your academic, athletic, social and extra-curricular activities, along with why you are pursuing an academic career in an engineering or related field.
4. Academic background and achievement
5. Leadership (in school, civic, academic achievement etc)
6. Extra-curricular activities
7. Expressed interest in engineering or a related field of study
8. *Do we want to have anything about being an active member, son, daughter, or somehow related to the SAME Post? Savannah has this element included.*

Recommended that preference be given to spouses or children of Charleston Post members

The board of Charleston SAME officers will make the selection with no regard to race, color, creed, sex, or national origin.

2010 Schedule:

March 18: Deadline for receipt of applications.

April 8: Notification to scholarship recipients by April 8th.

April 22: Distribution of scholarship funds to recipients at monthly SAME Post Meeting.

Most of the suggestions were accepted by the board, although there was a question about the citizenship requirement. It was noted that citizenship is not required to enter military service, so it might exclude dependents of some of our military members. Scholarship Chair, Nicole Randazzo, will revise the criteria and selection requirements and will forward them to all Board Members for final review.

Len brought up a few requirements from the By-Laws to think about. An annual meeting needs to be scheduled for the spring, at which point annual reports will be presented from the officers and the board of directors to the members.

Len still needs someone to take the lead for documentation for the Recognition and Awards streamer.

Russ needs additional committee members for assistance in planning investments and distribution of funds from the regional conference.

SAME – Charleston Post
General Meeting Minutes, 21 January 2010

The general meeting for January 2010 started later than the usual time of 11:30 am, because there was a much larger number in attendance than usual. The attendance list is maintained by the membership chair, Anna Lucas.

In addition to informing the attendees of the highlights of the board meeting discussed above, Post President Len Dillinger introduced the monthly speaker, Greg Jones of ADC Engineering, who gave an excellent presentation on the Reconstruction of Runway 0321 at Charleston AFB, including its historical background and how it relates to the Charleston Airport main runway.

Minutes Recorded by William S. Easley