



USAFA Minnesota Parents Club

Minutes of Saturday, November 3, 2018

Blue Cross Blue Shield Meeting Center, Eagan, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order at 9:01am by Brett Wharton. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Linda Boyd, co-President, and recited by all.

Minutes from the October 2018 meeting were briefly reviewed and submitted for approval by Linda Boyd, co-president. A motion was made by Christine Hockman for the minutes to be approved; it was seconded by Steve Gustafson, and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's report: Wendy Ojala was absent, and Suzanne Wharton covered the following topics:

- We still need a substantial amount of cash and donations for the Minnesota Night at USAFA, to be held on Feb 28th, 2019.
- An amendment to the Club Bylaws to establish a reserve fund in the amount of \$10,000.00 was proposed. This was previously discussed and generally approved by all. Questions were asked for and none were raised. A motion was made by Zyronne Langan and seconded by Christine Hockman. A voice vote was called and it was unanimously approved.
- Since it was the day of the Air Force - Army football game, various members suggested attending a watching party at McCoy's with the AOG or to stay at the Legion Hall, since the American Legion has provided us free use of the room for this and other parent meetings during the year, and this would be a way to 'give back'. It was also suggested that parents stop in for breakfast or stay for lunch before or after parent's meetings.

Additional topics were discussed, including the following:

- Cookie Packing – A discussion then took place regarding cookie packing, which took place on Dec 1, 2018 starting with set-up at 7am setup at Blue Cross. Water bottles were sold and the cookie packing was a great success. Thank you to the 2019 parents who organized this.
- No update on all Academy Ball.
- Minnesota Night – The date has been confirmed as Feb 28, 2019, from 5-7:30pm at Arnold Hall at USAFA. The budget calls for \$10,000 in cash and \$5,000 in prizes. As of this meeting, \$3,175 had been received in cash donations and \$1,200 in prize donations. It was suggested that all parents help with cash and price donations, and use the purpose of the event to help generate more donations. It was also stated that the purpose of Minnesota Night at USAFA is to provide a respite and fun night for Minnesota cadets and one additional guest. There is a need for parents both in Minnesota and at USAFA the day before the event (Feb 27th) and the day of the event (Feb 28th) starting at 10am for set up.

- The new cadet / AOG Banquet will be held this year at a new venue: The Best Western Premier in Burnsville. As usual, this will be helped with the Minnesota AOG.
- The new cadet orientation will tentatively be held on May 18, 2019. This should coincide with a 96 hour leave for all cadets, so we should encourage at least 1 cadet from each class to attend to meet the incoming cadets. The Parent's Club can reimburse up to \$1,000 total for any cadets coming back to share their experiences. Location should be at the Blue Cross conference room, and the date will be finalized in early 2019.
- Parent's Night Out – The last event had 15 parents attending. The next event was held on November 15th at Doolittles Woodfire grill in Eagan MN. Please RSVP-Yes to Jill Bruns (email) if attending.
- Sporting events – USAFA Women's Basketball vs. Gopher Women at Williams Arena, Sunday, Dec 2nd. Also, the Club continues to look for an Athletic Liaison to help support teams when they come to Minnesota. Reach out to the Tomes family (daughter in class of 2021) who is on the team. Audrey Gadison (Kimber & Jessie) also member of the Women's basketball team.
- Donations to the Club – Reminder that Parent's employers may provide a 'match' of donations to charitable organizations, including the Parent's Club. Please review your company's donation matching program for more information.
- What to expect in 3rd Degree year – The Gustafson's provided an overview of the 3rd degree year, with other 2020 parents contributing to the conversation. Q&A took place, including information about taking a job in their squadron, surviving Survival training including eating the rabbit (or not), operations during the summer, etc. Other wisdom was shared around how the freedoms have increased however the workload is still tough albeit different.

The Club then participated in Cadet sharing. One comment that came out was the use of a website called "Thrifty Traveler", which provide specials on airfare including between COS/DEN and MSP.

With all business complete, the meeting adjourned at 10:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

A.R. Weiler,
Club Secretary

January 19, 2019