



USAFA Minnesota Parents Club

Minutes of Saturday, October 5, 2019

Livio Health, 401 Harding St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

The meeting was called to order starting at 9:01am by Bev and Mike Spangler, Club Co-Presidents, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer's report: Wendy Ojala was absent.

Bev reviewed the agenda, acknowledging that the majority of the attendees have attended before. She then discussed the need for class of 2023 parent representatives, as well as a new people to handle Facebook updates for the Minnesota club, Sporting Events Liaison, and Mom's Night Out.

Bev reviewed the meeting schedule for the year. It was noted that the date for the November meeting may still be in flux given the University of Minnesota football game that weekend.

Additional updates were provided as follows:

Cookie packing will be held at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, 1750 Yankee Doodle, Eagan, MN, on Saturday, Dec 7th. It was noted that some cadet's may already be home at this time, and if so parents can coordinate cookie delivery locally. A volunteer sign-up was circulated.

The Minnesota All-Academy Ball was briefly discussed as an event over the Christmas Holiday, but little discussion took place other than to describe what the event is and to note the date of last year's event.

Minnesota Night at the Academy will be held on Thursday, Jan 30 @ USAFA. Dave Ryan will emcee. Set-up for event will only be the day of the event this year, so please plan to arrive late Wednesday to be ready for set-up early on Thursday before the event. Those involved with food prep will need to be there to help on Wednesday, the 29th. Regarding donations: to date, only \$1,500 has been donated and we have less than 100 days until the event and a goal of \$25,000 (\$15,000 in cash plus goods were donated in 2019). Donations are urgently needed, and advice was shared about how we can go to businesses that invested in 2019 that could sponsor a local cadet in 2020. The cost is around \$150 per cadet including 2 guests. A link to www.veteranownedbusiness.com was shared as a site to solicit military-friendly businesses. Each parent could also contribute at least \$100 per cadet.

Mom's Night Out – no one has filled the position in 2018-19. If anyone is interested in filling the position, please contact the Club Presidents.

Parent's Night Out coordinated this year by Jackie Mass, and will be on Thursday, Oct 10, at the Northstar Tavern. Please contact Jackie Maas, coordinator at Jackie_maas@msn.com if interested in future events.

USAFA Parents Club of Minnesota / AOG Heritage Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, 2020 at [Southview Country Club](#), 239 Mendota Rd E, West St Paul, MN 55118.

Mentor Program for New Parents -- please contact Bev if you would like a Mentor family or like to volunteer your family to be a Mentor family.

AOG Partnership – joint events, including AF-Navy viewing party. Other events as well, and a suggestion that USAFA parents consider attending AOG events in groups and let one another know they are attending, perhaps coordinating on the Facebook site for the parents club.

Bev then distributed the Minnesota Parent’s Club Class Reps and Officers Responsibilities, which can be found on the restricted part of the website, requiring a valid login and password.

Access to the USAFA Parents Club of Minnesota website is available all members who have paid dues. Please contact Karen Dunbar via email at kdunbar72@gmail.com to set up your access to this website and make sure to include your name, email address, and USAFA graduation year for your cadet.

AOG/Parent’s Club Conference – Mike Spangler spoke about this conference, which takes place on the Thursday of Parents Weekend week prior to Labor Day. Mike recommended that anyone in the Club Leadership consider attending (not just Club Presidents). Events include:

- Endowment – Polaris Hall, Sports Facility, and other key projects funded by the endowment, raised through private funds. 501(c)(3) eligible. Many student clubs are also financed by the endowment.
- Webguy updated, including value after BCT / Doolie year
- Fundraising best practices
- Review of proper Logo usage
- Introduction to the Academy Families Travel Network -- email: academyfamilestravelnetwork@gmail.com – and its purpose which is as a network of families to help support your cadet or graduates traveling around the country. If interested, parents were encouraged to contact them via email for additional information.
- Liaison page for Club Presidents
- Information on the Rando Fund (<https://www2.usafa.org/Give/rando>), which provides the means for cadets travel to represent the Academy at services of their fallen colleagues.
- Cadet pay schedule was discussed

Club members are encouraged to use the Amazon SMILE program and designate the “United States Air Force Academy Parents Club of Minnesota” as the organization you support. For more information, please visit: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=201365360>

The Club then participated in Cadet sharing with each attendee speaking.

Finally, everyone was reminded that the next meeting is scheduled for November 9th. But stay tuned for a possible change in the date.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58am.

Respectfully submitted,

A.R. Weiler,
Club Secretary

October 13, 2019