

AAFM
Board of Director Meeting Minutes
11 December 2022
11:00AM – 12:00PM (MDT)

Board Membership:

Linda Aldrich
Don Alston
John Baker
Tony Bales
Tom Cullen
Shane Finders
Bob Kelchner

Michael Kenderes
Lance Lord (President)
Bob Parker
Mark Silliman
Jim Warner (Executive Director)
Monte Watts

Absent:

Lance Lord
Bob Parker
Monte Watts

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

- Meeting ID: 879 2873 4612

Executive Director Remarks:

- Welcome

Agenda:

AGENDA

- Newsletter Update
- Post Meeting analysis
- National Meeting Survey Results
- 2024 National Meeting Location
- 2022 Museum Grant Approval
- 2023 Sponsorships
- 2023 Scholarships
- Membership Changes
- Upcoming Projects
- Closing Comments

AF Missileers: Extraordinary people. Unmatched responsibility. Overwhelming capabilities.

- Jim Warner provided a synopsis of the topics to be discussed:
 - Newsletter Update
 - Post Meeting analysis
 - National Meeting Survey Results
 - 2024 National Meeting Location
 - 2022 Museum Grant Approval
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- Upcoming Projects
- Closing Comments

Action Item Review from:

ACTION ITEMS

- Jim Warner:
 - Distribute new AAFM SWAG - [complete](#)
 - Create and distribute survey on 2022 AAFM National meeting - [complete](#)
 - Engage in effort to have a full-time social media POC for Twitter and Facebook – [continue to advertise](#)
 - Obtain and assess membership growth ideas from other organizations and piggyback off them – [in process](#)
 - Consider providing an AAFM scholarship opportunity to high school students - [tabled](#)
 - Reach out to 20th AF/CV for a list of ICBM ROTC cadets and ICBM personnel teaching ROTC around the country – [in hand, emailing now](#)
 - Update the trifold and get it out along with a link for it with a QR code back to the website – [updates made, ready for next printing](#)
 - Shane Finders to provide MSgt Castro's contact info to Jim Warner
 - Linda Aldrich will work with her committee to update and post a new Recognition OI. – [gathering edits from board](#)
-

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Discussion:

- Jim reviewed each of the action items
 - Shane clarified MSgt Castro's contribution of a daily post on linked in pertaining to the history of ICBMs
 - Linda Aldrich reviewed her progress of the ICBM Hall of Fame Operating Instruction
 - Clarified her recommendation on the bi-annually vs. biennial
 - Recommends induction be every two years
 - Jim Warrner also recommended every two years

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NEWSLETTER UPDATE

- Our front cover has been redesigned thanks to Bob Kelchner has his graphic artist
 - Building on the colors of our new logo
 - Adding our new QR code to the cover

- Lt Col (ret) Mark Nemish has volunteered to take over Newsletter editor responsibilities
 - Working with Charlie to put out this month's edition

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Discussion:

- Mark Nemish has volunteered to put out the Newsletter
- Bob Kelchner provided a new cover of the newsletter through his graphic artist (included below)
 - A QR code will be included and the sponsors will be updated



Post National Meeting Analysis:

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POST NATIONAL MEETING ANALYSIS

- Site location
 - Many comments about not having a bar in the restaurant (1st choice had one, will plan for the future)
- Bus transportation was spot on
- Caterer was flexible with great food
- Although relatively last minute, Speakers were well received
- Swag was promised early and delivered late —another lesson learned
- Budget over run due to low numbers —all expenses were prorated for 200
 - Using NG sponsorship to cover the “loss”
- Last minute withdrawal of active duty participants by 20 AF/JA was disappointing
 - Conversations with Cols Nemish and Konowicz gave us insight into wording for future requests
- Other comments?

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Discussion:

- Desire of attendees to have availability of a Bar for socializing before and following formal events
 - The challenge in UT surrounded steps hotels emplaced to deal with Covid
- Bus Transportation
- Speakers
- How to order Coins and other items in time
- AAFM 2022 operated at a loss because the cost was compiled on 200 people attending, and actual attendance was only 100 people
 - NG contribution off-set the loss
- Disappointed in 20th AF Legal not allowing active duty to participate
 - AAFM received feedback from Cols Konowicz and Nemish on correct wording

National Meeting Survey:

NATIONAL MEETING SURVEY

- 308 members responded
- Results trended towards keeping the format in place
 - Fall meeting
 - Continue with speakers and base visits
 - Allow time for smaller reunions
- Confirmation of many items we have discussed
 - Need to recruit younger members
 - Need to be seen/heard by the active force
 - Social media is critical

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Discussion:

- Survey confirmed beliefs
 - Top 3 choices
 - People chose more than one choice so the numbers exceed 100%

Location for 2024 National Meeting:

LOCATION FOR 2024

- Vandenberg – 45%
- Omaha – 38 %
- Cheyenne – 35%
- Albuquerque – 25%

- Responses selected Top 3 choices so percentages are greater than 100%

Request Board approval of Vandenberg as 2024 location

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Discussion:

- Jim Warner requested the Board approval to have meeting at VSFB
 - Tom Cullen motioned for VSFB as the location of our next meeting in 2024
 - Don Alston seconded the motion, and it was approved by the Board
- Jim requested date for Sentinel Launch from Shane
 - Shane suggested we not plan the 2024 meeting around Sentinel due to the fluidity of the program
 - Tom Cullen suggested we take the entire MM 5-year test schedule into account for opportunities
 - Jim Waner asked for a copy of the test schedule
 - Shane Finders provided the schedule to Jim prior to the conclusion of the meeting

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2022 Museum Grant Program:

2022 MUSEUM GRANT PROGRAM

- We received five applications for 2022
- **Recommend approval to fund four grants for a total of \$11,200 :**
 - AF Space and Missile Museum - \$2,000 to improve Jupiter display
 - National Museum of Nuclear Science and History - \$2,200 for the restoration and preservation of their SM -62 Snark exhibit
 - Minuteman Missile NHS - \$4,000 for improved interpretation panels and to develop youth oriented interactive display panels
 - Hill Aerospace Museum - \$3,000 to assist in phase 2 showing Utah and its ICBM history.
- Fifth request was from the Pima Air museum for \$3,000

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Discussion:

- Jim Warner reviewed the grant committee selections and requested board approval for the grants as listed on the slide
- The Board approved and Jim will distribute funds

Sponsorships:

SPONSORSHIPS

- 2022 sponsorships:
 - Atlas \$1,000
 - BAE Systems
 - Aero Thermo Technology
 - Titan \$2,500
 - Lockheed Martin
 - STS
 - Jacobs
 - Sentinel \$15,000
 - Northrop Grumman
- Plan is to send out requests in December for 2023 sponsorships
- We have opened discussions with the Strategic Deterrent Coalition to support their efforts

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Discussion:

- Jim Warner working with SDC executive Director, Joe Connell, to see how Strategic Deterrent Coalition and AAFM can mutually work with each other
- Jim will provide and update at the next board meeting

Scholarships:

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SCHOLARSHIPS

- 8 scholarships awarded in Spring 22
- One scholarship awarded in Fall 22 (problem with getting the word out)
- New solicitation sent out on 9 December
 - We have secured support from 90, 91 (5 BW), and 341 MW PAs to use their base wide channels for the announcement
 - Working on Hill and Vandenberg PA contacts

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Discussion:

- Sent out a request through public affairs
- PAs will use First Sergeants and education offices to get the word out
- Bases no longer publish a newspaper

Membership:

MEMBERSHIP - A PATH FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

- Award free 3 year membership to all ICBM school grads
 - Present new AAFM grad coin to each graduate
 - Expense to be paid with sponsorship funds, all newsletters by email
- Free membership for all Enlisted and Company Grade missilers and all Students designated for 13N
 - Developing a shorter membership application with a QR code
 - 3 years periods, all newsletters by email
- Increase cost for Field Grade and Flag Officers:
 - Three Year - \$14.00 (USD) 3 years, no automatically recurring payments (up from \$12)
 - Annual - \$5.00 (USD) 1 year, no automatically recurring payments (remains the same)
 - All newsletters by email
- Former/Retired Missilers, Friends of Missilers, or Organizations
 - Annual - \$20.00 (USD) Subscription period: 1 year, no automatically recurring payments
 - Three Year - \$50.00 (USD) Subscription period: 3 years, no automatically recurring payments
 - Life - \$300.00 (USD) Subscription period: as implied
 - Newsletter printed option available for these categories

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Discussion:

- Jim Warner is working with 582nd CC at the schoolhouse
 - Monte Watts and Jim Warner developed a 3x5 card with our message to all Ops and Maintenance graduates
- Jim Warner indicated he'd like to purchase a coin to be presented by AAFM for graduation
- Jim Warner proposing free membership for company grade and enlisted
 - Field grade would pay
 - Opened those two items to discussion
 - Budget will support it
- Don Alston:

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- Not moved by idea there would be no dues for enlisted folks as an end state
- Mike Kenderes
 - Arees with Don
 - Upon graduation (both enlisted and officer) that first year is free...from then on you're charged
- Don Alston:
 - Could we establish enlisted pay based out on rank structure?
- Shane:
 - Asking anyone below NCO level is probably cumbersome
 - 1 year in is still a one or two striper
 - Maybe at the Master level
 - \$12 to \$15 a year may be the right way to go
- Linda Aldrich:
 - Do we have an administrative process by which we'd systematically engage personnel for payment?
- Jim Warner:
 - We'd send a notice every three years and expect those who are at the appropriate pay grade to exercise their integrity
- John Baker:
 - Agree
- Mark Silliman:
 - Can we add a reminder that indicates cost annually based upon paygrade?
- Jim Warner:
 - We can clarify that in the email that goes out
 - It comes down to the member paying when they are eligible
 - Motion for free membership for enlisted up to Master Sergeant and Major
 - There was silence by the board on the motion
- Bob Kelchner
 - Stated this might work
- Don Alston:
 - Silence on the motion indicates some degree of unsettledness
 - Made a general motion for membership committee to modify current dues policy (free vs paid)
 - 30 days to come back to the board for proposed way ahead
- Tom Cullen
 - Seconded motion

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2023 Budget:

2023 BUDGET

- Small variations to 2022 Budget
 - \$3,500 of scholarship funds were not obligated
 - Museum grants exceeded budget by \$1,200
 - Additional expenses for graphics support
- Small changes proposed for 2023 Budget
 - Graduation coins
 - Additional marketing swag (Ready room poster, Museum poster, etc.)
 - Graphic artist
- Need to plan for Hall of Fame costs (first class will be ?)

Request Board approve using '22 budget as guidelines for '23

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Discussion:

- Jim Warner provided an overview of the 2022 budget and some recommendations for the 2023 budget
 - Budget is on track
 - Only additional expense may be some funding used for graphics
 - Don't see major changes to 2023 budget
 - Recommended 2022 budget be used as the baseline for 2023
 - Suggested AAFM provide coins for TRS graduations
 - Shane brought up concerns over cost of coins to the budget
 - Cullen provided opportunity for RWB missile pins
 - John suggested AAFM Pins as well

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Section 106 Programmatic Agreement - Sentinel:

SECTION 106 PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT - SENTINEL

- WHEREAS, the Alliance for Historic Wyoming, Association of Air Force Missileers, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Lewis and Clark Trust, and Oregon California Trail Association accepted the invitation to consult and consulted with AFGSC and AFMC on development of this Agreement and they are invited to sign this Agreement as Concurring Parties (36 C.F.R. § 800.6(c)(3));
- I have been working with Air Force Civil Engineer Center Historians as they prepare the PA as part of the Environmental Impact Study
- AAFM's focus was on ensuring ICBM heritage was retained and there were opportunities to claim items as part of decommissioning
- Virtual Formal signing ceremony Friday, December 16th

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Discussion:

- No actions for this item
- AAFM has been engaged in this effort

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Secure 2023 sponsors
- Develop partnership with the Strategic Deterrent Symposium
- Develop partnership with the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site
- Engage ROTC units for talks and membership - list provided by Col Konowicz
- Marketing
 - Ready room posters
 - Squadron item sales on our third party site
 - Museum posters
 - New membership pin
- Commemorate Vandenberg LF 04 as early MM site
- Develop wing liaisons
- Monitor Grand Forks Missile
- Ellsworth TLF as a national historic site
- Missile badge on VA headstones
- Missile Art book

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Upcoming Projects:

Discussion:

- Jim Warner continues to work on 2023 Sponsors
 - Working with SDC, Joe Connell, SDC Executive Director
 - Working with MM Missile National Historic Sight
- Engaging ROTC sinstructors
- Marketing:

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- Trying to get smaller version of AAFM that we had at the National meeting as a poster for use in ICBM squadrons with bar code
- Made offer to squadrons to have their paraphernalia to place contact points on our site
- 2 Squadrons already taken up on this
- Tom Cullen:
 - Suggested Jim Warner reach out to the 564th entities to commemorate the site
- Shane Finders:
 - Warned against LF 24 due to extensive work being accomplished
- Bob Kelchner:
 - LF04 was on alert during the Cuban Missile Crisis
- John Parker
 - Suggested we work with the Wing/Delta historian
- Jim Warner:
 - Will meet with Historian when he begins efforts for the 2024 National Meeting
- Looking for Wing Liaisons
- Tom Cullen:
 - Conveyed he continue to see if industry could provide Sentinel Missile shapes at missile wings, AFGSC, USSTRATCOM, VSFB, and USAFA
- Jim Warner:
 - Continuing to work on having ICBM badge on VA Cemetery Headstones, similar to aviators

Closing Comments:

CLOSING COMMENTS

- Around the room
- Comments from the President

AFM is here: Extraordinary people. Unmatched responsibility. Overwhelming capabilities.

Discussion:

Don Alston:

- Thanks to Jim for your efforts
- We continue to be different and continue to build
- Article for NPR
 - Welcomes any comments
 - There are echoes in the Biden NPR from the Obama NPR
 - Still robust in supporting deterrence

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- Will italicize and bold quotes with in the article

Bob Kelchner:

- Likes choice for VSFB
 - There are a lot of people out in CA
 - Can lean on him and Mike for help
- Taking A/I on working on dues etc.
 - There is a mixed evaluation on the issue
 - Need to keep this simple
 - Linda Aldrich brings up a valid point indicating management for this could be monumental

John Baker:

- Interesting topics
- Membership is the Achilles for this effort

Mike Kenderes:

- Could not provide comments due to technical difficulties

Shane Finders:

- Great meeting
- Sent forecast for launches (A/I closed)
 - 6 Nov is a possible launch in 24
- Recommend we consider how we'll do a true MM Museum and where's the right place to do that?
 - There is an opportunity, with deactivation there is a real opportunity to capture this
 - VSFB might be the right place
 - Too much goodness not to capture it
- Merry Christmas

Tony Bales:

- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
- Stay Safe

Linda Aldrich:

- Will engage with Jim Warner to finalize plan for ICBM Hall of Fame Recognition efforts

Tom Cullen:

Merry Christmas

Mark Silliman:

- Thanks for the inputs
- Jim Warner, please share the efforts with the board so that we may help
- Requested a schedule of graduations so that we could take advantage of travel in the VSFB area
- Have a great Holiday Season
- Merry Christmas

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Jim Warner:

- Thanks All for the time
- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

New Action Items:

- Jim Warner to provide update at next Board meeting on efforts with SDC executive Director, Joe Connell, to see how Strategic Deterrent Coalition and AAFM can mutually work with each other
- Bob Kelchner will work with the Membership Committee to modify current dues policy (free vs paid)
- Jim Warner: Meet with VSFB Historian when he begins efforts for the 2024 National Meeting