



Air & Space Forces Association Leadership Meeting
Tuesday, 9 January 2024, 5:00 – 6:00pm (Mountain)
Location: DoubleTree Hotel, 1775 East Cheyenne Mountain Blvd, CS, CO
Second Location: TEAMS

Attendees: Caty Rozema, Aaron Prupas, Jennifer Miller, Allie Darling, Gayle Divine, Linda Aldrich

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting agenda presented by Caty with the focus on the Chapter's Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote dominant U.S. Air & Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense; to honor and support our Airmen, Guardians, and their Families; and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage.

Caty welcomed our newest Community Partner Mark Richardson with The Double Tree Hotel. Mark introduced himself and spoke for a few minutes about the hotel. Happy to have him on board!

Previous Meeting Action Items status and New Action items.

- Action Item - Caty: Jennifer requested an AFA email account to store newsletters and folders on Teams. Caty sent a second request to national but has yet to get a response.
- Action Item - Caty/Coen: Submit July – Dec 2023 Activity and Financial plans by 31 Dec. Completed
- Action item - Caty/Coen: Submit 2024 Activity and Financial reports by 31 Jan. Activity report completed. Financial report in the works.
- Action Item – Gayle: Contact USPS to set up online mail arrival notifications. Completed – USPS said our box cannot be set up for notifications at this time but to keep checking if that option is available for our box. Gayle will continue to check and try to set it up online.
- New Action Item – Caty: Compile a volunteer position description list.
- New Action Item – Caty: Track down old gift cards to distribute to outreach program.
- New Action Item – Caty: Call Mitchell HS regarding requested sponsorship for the drill meet and judges needed.
- New Action Item – All: VP of Veterans Affairs needed.

Officer updates:

President: Caty reported she and Aaron attended the Joint Holiday Party. They had the opportunity to speak to the group about Sijan comeback, starting with focusing on relationships and getting the chapter's name back out there.

Caty reached out to multiple entities regarding Sijan's participation and collaboration. She met with previous board members and organizations. She set up a meeting and campus tour at UCCS with the veterans' support organization. She emailed Captain Lance Sijan's sister Janine Sijan-Rozina and requested a meeting- virtual or in person. Caty suggests asking Janine to come out to speak at one of our events this year.



Caty sent out a chapter budget inquiry to multiple successful chapters in OK, AK, VA, MI, etc. to ensure our chapter is focusing on proper budget procedures. She will meet with Coen to discuss the chapter budget and finances tomorrow.

Caty reported that Allie Darling will be the new VP of Community Partners.

Vice President: Aaron reported he is now an executive committee member of the Military Affairs Council (MAC). He is forming relationships and proposed the need to contact State, County, Lt Governor's office and Mayor's office. Aaron plans to meet with General Miller in the near future to discuss the Sijan chapter. He has relationships at Peterson and will work to meet with Sr leaders at the Academy. From his conversations he noted people are excited for things to come and want to support the chapter.

Communications: Jennifer proposed more frequent (monthly?) but shorter newsletters versus the previous model of a lengthier quarterly one. Jennifer is looking for a less expensive alternative to Constant Contact.

It was noted that Bruce Hall does not wish to continue supporting in the VP of Gov't relations role. Caty will reach out to confirm his level of desired engagement/support with the chapter.

CRITICAL NEEDS

Caty emphasized that a calendar of events and engagement opportunities throughout the year is critical to success of the chapter and asked that the board provide ideas and support. Specific items addressed during the meeting were:

- Schedule four quarterly events with focus on families and young military members: suggested activities were: Vietnam veterans/active-duty engagement by way of an ice cream sundae event or other social in March.
- Schedule leadership meetings/briefings in 1st quarter
- VP of Aerospace Education: All successful chapters that have been rebuilt did so through a focus on STEM/education. Caty indicated that we need to be actively searching for a VP of Aero Ed.

BATTLE RHYTHM

- **Weekly Events:**
 - Check PO Box: now that Gayle is back, she'll check the box. Caty gave a key to Jennifer, as she is in the area from time to time and offered to check it if needed.
 - Check all elected officer email accounts- important messages go to the AFA accounts and should be kept up to date.
- **Monthly Events:**
 - We've got to be deliberate and consistent in our monthly outreach and communications. Caty asks for help in establishing a pattern of contact.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

The following are upcoming activities in which AFA can be involved. Caty asked for volunteers to support each one and asked that the board let her know if they were available.

- Sat, 27 Jan 0800-1500: Request for sponsorship of Mitchel HS ROTC Drill Meet. Caty will speak with the commander to get specifics and request approval to support. \$500 or so was



suggested based on last year's support level. The board agreed that the money should be put to cadet support (vs. food for judges, etc.).

- Harrison District 2 events: Attendance at Amateur Radio on the ISS (ARIS). Caty asked for volunteers for the following:
29 Jan: Gen Kevin Chilton and Lt. Gen Susan Helms share their experiences in space.
Tues, 30 January at noon. Back-up times: Thurs, 01 February around noon
Fri, 02 February around 11 am. This event will be at Stratton Meadows Elementary, 610 Brookshire Ave.
- 21-23 Feb: 31st Annual National Character and Leadership Symposium (NCLS)
- CO State TOY field trip for students to explore Aero Ed opportunities (Reach out to our partner, Space ISAC, others?)
- March is the first month to host an in-person activity. Caty presented three options to consider:
 - Something focused on Vietnam Veterans (29 March 2024: Vietnam Veterans Day)
 - Family hike in Garden of the Gods (Dog walk party?)
 - Trivia Night (Either at local brewery or on base)
- 17-18 August: Pikes Peak Regional Air Show (Volunteer). Caty to reach out to determine what is needed and how we can support.
- 15 Sept -15 Oct: 5th grade space/rocket day (Volunteer/support): more information to come

WRAP UP

The board noted that meetings were rushed due to extensive topics. They agreed to extend the meeting by 15 minutes in the coming months to allow sufficient time to address all agenda items.