



## Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes



When: August 16, 2012 at 09:00

Location: First Baptist Church, Independence Blvd, Wilmington, North Carolina

### Coastal Carolina Base Meeting

**Call to order:** Base Commander Terry Kuhn called the meeting to order promptly at 19:00.

**Attendees:** Terry Kuhn (Base Commander), Charlie Backes (Vice Commander), Barry Turano (Base Treasurer), Bill Underwood (Base Secretary), Bill Dixon (Base Chaplain), Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper), Jim Brincefield, Jerry Hawks, Michael King, Jim Simon were in attendance and George Barber attended as a guest.

**Invocation:** Bill Dixon, Butterbean, gave the invocation.

**Tolling of the Boats:** Charlie Backes (Base Vice Commander) and Jerry Hawks lead the attendees in the "Tolling of the Boats" ceremony recognizing the sacrifice of the sailors and submarines lost in the months of July and August.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Base Commander Terry Kuhn led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Recognition of World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance:** There were no World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance for this meeting.

**Introductions:** Each attendee introduced himself and gave a little background on their submarine experience. George Barber introduced himself as a guest referred to our base by George Bass of the Nathanael Greene Base and is considering joining our Base.

**Holland Club Presentations:** Base Commander Terry has 3 Holland Club Awards to issue, but none were in attendance at this meeting for the presentation.

**Treasurers Report:** Barry Turano (Base Treasurer) reported that the Base bank account has \$1,043.11 in it. He also reported that since the last meeting we took in \$150.00 and had an expense of \$214.93 (\$110.00 to National and \$104.93 on two magnetic signs to be used on vehicles in parades).

**Storekeeper Report:** Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper) reported that he took in \$95.00 from the sale of patches, etc. Frank also reported that the improved Storekeeper page on the National website is online now and

he advised the attendees to visit the site and shop for merchandise. Some of the items generate royalty back to the Base of the purchaser.

Frank also invited attendees to visit the Queensboro.com site for shirts, hats, embroidered towels, pins, mugs, etc. The site has a good reputation and for many of the items, a royalty comes back to the Base of the purchaser.

**Recruiting:** Butterbean reported that the Base membership currently stands at 55 members and that he has a very large list of potential members and asked for help in following up on contacting those potential members. The Coastal Carolina Base was on a rapid growth rate for the first half of the year, but the rate has slowed in July and August. He encouraged members to actively pursue leads on subvets in southeast North Carolina and give him the contact information to follow-up.

**Southport 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade:** Charlie Backes, Base Vice Commander, reported that four members, Jim Brincefield, Brian Craig, Barry Turano and Charlie attended the Southport 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. The magnetic signs, authorized at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, were procured and used on a truck they used in the Parade. Charlie said that the reception was heartwarming. "As soon as parade attendees saw the signs, they stood and/or applauded very respectfully and made the subvets feel very welcome".

Charlie also said that our presence could have been much better. He said that we should have had more members attending and we should have had American Flags displayed on the vehicle. A general discussion then began regarding the need for the Coastal Carolina Base to have a stronger visibility in southeastern North Carolina by participating more aggressively in events such as the parade. Commander Terry stated his desire to make the Southport 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and the Azalea Festival parades regular CCB events. A suggestion was strongly made that the officers of CCB officially request a float from the NC Subvets for the 2015 Southport 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Commander Terry agreed to submit the official request. The suggestion was also made to construct our own parade vehicle. Barry Turano volunteered his 30ft boat trailer as a base to construct a larger float for next year's parade. We discussed having a weekend work day for Member volunteers to help construct the float. Michael King volunteered his 16ft utility trailer for the same purpose. A spirited discussion ensued with ideas about the construction and then moved toward procuring a torpedo or some submarine related artifact as the centerpiece for the float. Butterbean and Barry Turano agreed to explore the idea more and establish an exploratory committee to investigate the feasibility of finding a float centerpiece and constructing a float.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Event at the Battleship July 14th:** The state has a 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday program at the battleship to celebrate some part of the country's military heritage. July 14<sup>th</sup> the Base was invited to host a tribute to the submarine service. Four Members, Commander Terry, Secretary Bill Underwood, COB Kevin Kesterson, and Richard Schrum manned the event for the CCB. The Base display was set up in the auditorium at the entrance to the Battleship museum. Every person visiting the Battleship passed by the open doors to the auditorium as they entered the museum. The Base display consisted of memorabilia from the submarine service days of the base members, two scrolling laptop presentations, one about nuclear propulsion and the other about fleet boat life, and a DVD that Kevin brought that was produced for the children of boomer sailors to explain what their life was like while on patrol. The DVD was a big hit and a draw to many as they entered the battleship museum. Richard manned the USS North Carolina SSN 777 permanent display and talked to all the visitors about submarine service life. The four of us manned the display areas from 10:00 to 16:00.



Commander Terry describing surfacing through the ice pack. Submarine life video in the background.

**National Convention:** The national convention for the USSVI will be held in Norfolk, Virginia from Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> to Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Base Commander Terry reported that we now have the volunteers needed to cover the registration desk for the assigned periods. Butterbean mentioned that the meeting is setting up to be a very good meeting and encouraged attendees to register to attend if possible.

**National USSVI Election:** The polls are open for the National USSVI Elections! Butterbean explained that you can now vote online and that it is a very user friendly 5 minute process to vote. Base Commander Terry reiterated Butterbeans assessment of how easy voting online is. But, for the computer averse, he also brought hard copy ballots which can be filled out and mailed in individually or turned in to the Base to submit. Terry also had hard copies of the background on each issue and candidate for consideration in the election. Commander Terry reported that the Coastal Carolina Base was currently at 51% membership voting. **Attendees were encouraged to make a maximum effort to participate in the election. Maximum participation is important to the issues and candidates under consideration and it is also important to the Base.** National tracks Base participation in elections very closely and rewards highly participative Bases.

**Bylaws Committee Report:** At the June meeting Base Commander Terry Kuhn announced that he set up a Bylaws Committee to review the Bylaws and make recommendations to modify the Base Bylaws to be aligned with the National and State Bylaws. Vice Commander Charlie Backes reported that the committee had solicited

input from the membership on the Bylaws and discussed several suggestions. Charlie recommended the following changes to align the CCB Bylaws with National and State Bylaws:

1. Formatting
  - a. All articles are titled similarly. The previous revision had different types (some bold, the others not)
  - b. Titles of the various articles were shortened so they are more uniform
  - c. All Sections and articles were reformatted so they are uniform
  - d. The net result is that they are slightly longer, but they are more readable
  - e. Date format was changed so they were uniform in the body of the bylaws
2. A provision was added to permit the Base with a vote to remit or defer a Member's dues in case of health or other extenuating circumstances
3. A provision was added to clarify that submarine veterans from other countries may join the Coastal Carolina Base as an Associate Member
4. The prescribed meeting order was modified to include Tolling of the Lost Boats
5. Term of office for elected Officers was changed to two years instead of one
6. The Election Section was modified for the timing to fit with the National, State and District elections and installation of new officers in April at the District meeting
7. Section 2 of Article XIII Amendments was modified to allow by laws to be amended by a majority vote at a regular meeting
8. An approval block was added at the end to be signed by the Base Commander

Attached to these minutes is a copy of a comparison of the original Base Bylaws to the proposed Bylaws with the recommended changes. Please review and if you have comments email comments to Vice Commander Charlie Backes at [backestc@charter.net](mailto:backestc@charter.net) or Base Secretary Bill Underwood at [bunder343@aol.com](mailto:bunder343@aol.com). We intend to vote on acceptance of the modifications to the bylaws at the October 20, 2012 meeting.

**Base Support of Veterans Government Initiatives:** At the last meeting Base Commander Terry Kuhn relayed a discussion between NC SubVet Base Commanders to support State and Federal government initiatives for the benefit of Veterans. Terry recommended that CCB commit to support these State and Federal efforts on behalf of Veterans with \$20 per year. For this level of contribution, the CCB will be recognized as a supporter of veteran's benefits. Commander Terry made a MOTION that the CCB allocate \$20.00 per year for the support of veteran's benefits on the State and Federal level. Vice Commander Charlie Backes SECONDED the motion and the motion was CARRIED by a unanimous vote of the attendees.

Subsequent to the last meeting, other Bases did not get the votes to support the Veterans Government Initiatives and, consequently, CCB did not allocate the \$20.00 to support the Veterans Government Initiatives. This is now a dead issue.

**Deceased Member Recognition:** At the June 16<sup>th</sup> Base meeting, Vice Commander Charlie Backes brought up a suggestion to create an album with a picture and a write up detailing each deceased member's service in the submarine service. Currently deceased members are recognized by putting their name in a book. Charlie expressed his feeling that we, as a Base, are missing an opportunity to record a unique part of a fellow submariner's life. Charlie pointed out that eventually all of us will be in the album and we should consider writing down what we would like to be remembered about our years in the submarine service. Charlie's recommendation was followed by an active discussion and subsequently, a Motion, a Second and unanimous vote to commission an album dedicated to the lost members of the Base in the manner he described.

At this meeting Charlie showed the album he started to honor the deceased members of the Base. He requested help from the Members to get a photograph of Larry Dunn and Jim Tobin. He has contacted the Tobin family to get more information about Jim's time in the Submarine Service. After it was pointed out that some Bases have pictures of each Member on the Base website, we agreed that Base Secretary Bill would bring a camera to the October meeting and start collecting pictures of each Member to have on hand for various purposes. Charlie also suggested that Members consider writing up a few paragraphs about their experiences and adventures while in the submarine service. This might be the only place those memories can be captured, understood, revered and memorialized.

**Scholarship:** Vice Commander Charlie reported that there was no action to report for this meeting.

**Potential Golf Tournament Fund Raiser:** Jim Brincefield addressed the potential of a Base sponsored Golf Tournament as a Base fund raising event. Jim suggested that a golf tournament can be a good fund raiser. His thoughts on organization were the following:

1. Target spring of 2013 to give enough time to get organized
2. Suggested using the Wilmington Municipal Golf Course because he has connections there and could get help in organizing
3. We would need Hole Sponsors for 18 holes (suggested businesses like Sam's Club, Walmart, Lowes, etc. sponsor holes for \$100 per hole)
4. Suggested Structure – 3 flights, 4 person Captains Choice
5. Would need Door Prizes and Goody Bags ( filled with donated materials from businesses)
6. Would need to declare a charity (suggested Wounded Warriors or Step Up for Soldiers)
7. Would need to procure catering perhaps as a donation (Chick Filet has done in past for others)

Storekeeper Frank Blackmon informed the attendees that he puts on a memorial Golf Tournament each year and offered his help and experience. He also suggested we consider an insurance-backed Grand Prize like a car or \$1 million for a hole in one.

Jim will report on any new actions on the idea at the October meeting.

**Base Library:** Vice Commander Charlie Backes reported that there was no action to report for this meeting.

**New Business:**

**Support of NC Subvets Web site:** Commander Terry informed the attendees that he was sending a check for \$9 to support the Coastal Carolina Base portion of the North Carolina Submarine Veterans Web site.

**USSVI Web site Security:** Commander Terry relayed that recently someone had tried to hack into the USSVI National Web site. Apparently, no damage was done and no personal information was accessed, but the incident did inspire the USSVI to review and improve the security to the national website. As a result some Base Officer access to the site was disrupted while the new security systems were put in place.

**Open Discussion:**

Vice Commander Charlie Backes informed the attendees of the “Patriotic Pops - *A Salute to Veterans*” concert by the Wilmington Symphony Orchestra scheduled for Kenan Auditorium on the UNCW campus on November 11, 2012 at 4:00 pm.

**Adjournment: Base Vice Commander Charlie Backes made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Base Storekeeper Frank Blackmon SECONDED the motion and the motion CARRIED by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned.**

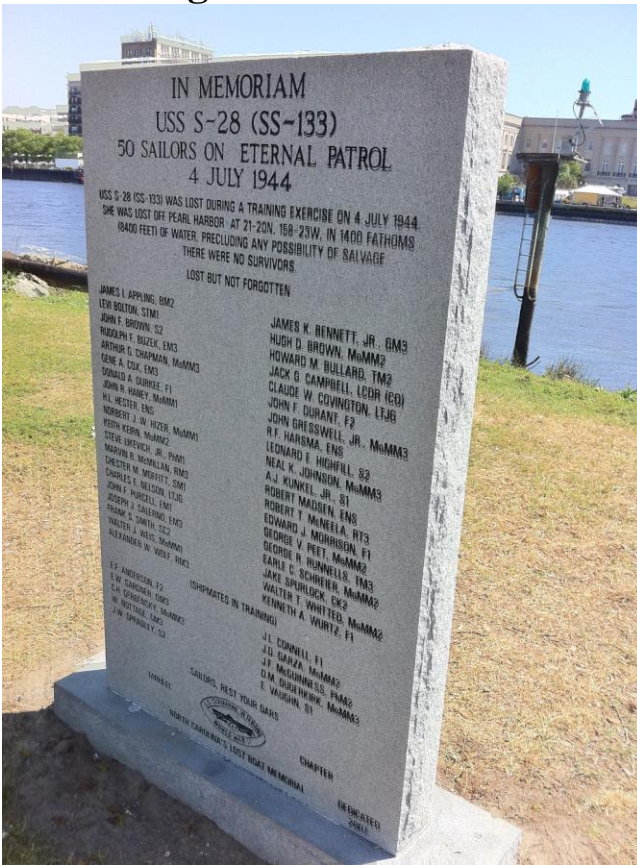
**Next Scheduled Base Meeting:**

**The next Coastal Carolina Base meeting will be on Saturday morning October 20. The meeting will convene at the Golden Coral on New Center Drive in Wilmington at 09:00 with breakfast at 08:30.**

If you have any comments or suggestions on these meeting minute’s format please provide them to Base Secretary Bill Underwood at [bunder343@aol.com](mailto:bunder343@aol.com).

Thank you,  
Base Secretary

# Never Forget!





## Coastal Carolina Base Base Bylaws

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INCORPORATED

### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this Base of United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated shall be THE COASTAL CAROLINA BASE of the UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INCORPORATED. The term "Base" shall be synonymous with The "Coastal Carolina" Base of United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated."

### ARTICLE II - ~~STATEMENT OF~~ PURPOSE:

Section 1: ~~The purpose of the Base is to~~ perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. ~~That so that~~ their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice will be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. We Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

Section 2: The ~~Statement of~~ Purpose for the Base shall also be known as the **CREED**.

### ARTICLE III - POLICY

The Base shall adopt no policy in conflict with the laws and practices of the United States of America or with the Constitution and Bylaws of "United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated."

### ARTICLE IV - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Base shall be the same as the fiscal year for United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated (1 January through 31 December.)



## ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1: GENERAL

- a.—A. The Base is a chartered unit of the National Organization. To be a member of the Base, membership in good standing with "United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated" is required.
- b.—B. A member is considered "in good standing" if both National and Local Base dues have been paid for the current year.
- e.—C. Dues are due and payable effective the last day of December each year. Beginning on ~~Jan. 1st~~ 1 January a non-renewed member is considered in arrears. Members shall have through 31 January to bring their status up to date. After the above listed dates, members who have not become current in status will be dropped from the rolls of the organization. National Life members whose Base dues have not been paid by 31 January will be dropped from the Base—. The Base membership may vote to remit or defer a member's dues in case of health or other reason.
- d.—D. Members may join any number of Bases. One Base shall be selected as primary Base and all others as dual Base(s). Members may only vote from their primary Base in the District, Regional and National elections of the organization.

### Section 2: REGULAR MEMBERS.-

Regular membership is restricted to U.S. United States personnel who have been designated "Qualified in Submarines" by the U.S. United State Navy, or anyone who is a regular member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII. Any person from another country may join as an Associate member.

### Section 3: ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

- a.—A. Qualification for Associate Membership is as defined in the National Constitution of the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated.
- b.—B. Associate members may vote on Base matters but may **only** hold Secretary and/or Treasurer of the Base as an elected office.
- e.—C. In the event an associate member's sponsor can no longer sponsor the associate member (such as transfer or call to eternal patrol) the Base may assume sponsorship of the associate member.

## ARTICLE VI - ~~BASE MEMBERSHIP~~ DUES:

Base Membership Dues will be ten dollars (\$10.00) per fiscal year. Dues are due and payable effective the ~~last day of~~31 December each year. Beginning on 1 January ~~1st~~ a non-renewed member is considered in arrears. Members shall have through ~~31 January~~31 January to bring their status up to date. After the above listed dates, members who have not become current in status will be dropped from the rolls of the base. A paid up national member whose base dues are not paid by 31 January will be dropped by the base. A member's dues may be remitted by a vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting.

## ARTICLE VII-OFFICES

### Section 1: BASE OFFICERS

~~a.~~

A. Elected officers of the base will be: Commander, Vice-Commander, Secretary and Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same individual and these two positions may be filled by either ~~be~~ a Regular or an Associate ~~members~~member. The other positions must be filled with regular ~~member~~members.

~~b.~~

B. The term of office for all officers will be ~~one year~~two years, or until their successors have been elected.

~~c.~~

C. All officers may succeed themselves in office.

~~d.~~

D. The term of office for elected officers will begin immediately after the business meeting at which the elections were conducted.

~~e.~~

E. Appointed officers may include, but not limited to the following: Chaplain, Historian, Parliamentarian, Legal Officer, ~~Editor of the~~ Newsletter Editor, Committee Chairmanships, Chief of the Boat, and Storekeeper.

~~f.~~

F. The term of office for appointed offices will begin immediately after confirmation and notification by the Base Board of Directors. No officer shall be paid any salary for services tendered on behalf of the Base.

### Section 2: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. The Board of Directors shall have the control and general management of the affairs and business of the Base.

- B. The Board of Directors will be comprised ~~by~~of the elected officers and the ~~duty~~duly appointed officers of the Base.

- C. Each duly elected officer will have one vote; in the event of a tie vote the Base Commander's vote will carry the decision.-

- D. The Base Board of Directors will develop an annual plan (calendar) and budget for the Base    each October for the next fiscal year.

- E. The Board of Directors will submit the annual plan and budget to the Base membership for approval each November.

ARTICLE VIII -- OFFICER DUTIES ~~OF OFFICERS.~~

Section 1: BASE COMMANDER

- a
  - A. Preside at all Base meetings
- b
  - B. Preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors.
- e
  - C. Act as "Ex-Officio" of all committees.
- d
  - D. Appoint all committees, committee chairmen and appointed officers  
subject to membership approval \_\_\_ at the next regularly scheduled business  
meeting.
- e
  - E. Represent the Base at official functions.
- f
  - F. Oversee the performance of all committees and Base Officers.
- g. prepare
  - G. Prepare a "turn over" package for his relief, containing all information  
and correspondence relative to \_\_\_\_\_ the office.

Section 2: BASE VICE COMMANDER

- a
  - A. Assist the Base Commander in the performance of his duties.
- b
  - B. Preside over meetings in the Base Commander's absence.
- e
  - C. Serve on the Board of Directors.
- d
  - D. Perform all the duties of the Base Commander should he become incapacitated.
- e
  - E. Serve as the Membership Chairman of the Base.
- f. prepare
  - F. Prepare a "turn over" package for his relief; containing all information  
and correspondence relative to the office.

Section 3: SECRETARY

- a
  - A. Keep the minutes of all Base regularly scheduled meetings and meetings of the Board of Directors.
- b

B. Answer and keep a record of all Base correspondence.

\_\_\_\_\_e

C. Serve as Newsletter Chairman.

\_\_\_\_\_d.

D Maintain the Membership Roll of the Base.

\_\_\_\_\_e

E. Serve on the Board of Directors.

\_\_\_\_\_f

F. Conduct Base Elections.

\_\_\_\_\_g

G. Prepare a "turn over" package for his relief, containing all information and correspondence relative to the office.

#### Section 4: TREASURER:

-a

\_\_\_\_\_A. Accept, and keep a record of all monies and Base assets.

-b

\_\_\_\_\_B. Disburse such monies as may be approved by a majority vote of the members.

-c

\_\_\_\_\_C. Keep complete and accurate financial reports.

-d

\_\_\_\_\_D. If the base is not using the internet based online member management system, submit the Base "Monthly Control Report" and membership monies to the National Office, monthly. If no change in base membership, state so in an E-mail to the National Office. If the Base is using the internet based online member management system, submit to the National Office at least monthly the membership monies due along with a listing of the members affected and the amounts paid.

e

E. Prepare and submit a financial End of Year (EOY) Report to the National Treasurer no later than March 1st for the Preceding year. The format for this report will be provided by the ~~Nat~~National Treasurer.

f

F. Prepare a "turn over" package for ~~Base Treasurer,~~his relief containing all information and correspondence relative to the office.

#### ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS:

Section 1: Meetings of the Base shall be in keeping with the normal parliamentary procedures set down by "Robert's Rules of Order, Revised."

Section 2: The Base will conduct ~~monthly~~regularly scheduled meetings, at a time and place announced by the Board of Directors at a prior ~~meeting~~meaning meeting and published in the newsletter or announce via E-mail or other means deemed appropriate.

Section 3: The agenda for regularly scheduled meetings shall be:

4 A. \_\_\_\_\_ Call to Order.

~~a. Moment of Silence in memory of our departed shipmates.~~

B. Invocation

C. Tolling of the Bell

~~2.~~ D. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

~~3.~~ E. Introduction of National Officers, Regional Officers, Guests, and New Members.

~~4.~~ F. Minutes of Previous Meetings.

~~5.~~ G. Treasurer's Report.

~~6.~~ H. Board of Directors Report.

~~7.~~ I. Old Business.

~~8.~~ J. New Business.

~~9.~~ K. Good of the Order.

~~10.~~ L. Announcement of upcoming meetings and events.

~~11.~~ M. Adjournment.

#### ARTICLE X – QUORUM

Section 1: The members present and at least two elected officers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 2: Three members of the Board of Directors, two of which are elected officers, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at a ~~duty~~duly called meeting for the Board of Directors.

Section 3: Once a quorum has been established, no member absenting himself shall destroy the quorum.

Section 4: In the event of a quorum not being present, a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to some future time and date.

#### ARTICLE XI - ~~VOTING~~VOTING

Section 1: Each member or associate member in good standing shall be entitled to vote in person at any meeting of the Base: provided however, that the member's name appeared on the membership roll at least fifteen days prior to such meeting.

Section 2: There shall be no voting by proxy; any member in good standing not voting will be considered as abstaining.

## ARTICLE XII - ~~ELECTION~~ ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1: The Commander, Vice-Commander, Secretary, and Treasurer will be elected by a majority vote of the members in good standing at the regular meeting held in the month of ~~April~~February.

Section 2: A nominating committee will be appointed in the month of ~~March~~January to solicit nominations and will present the slate of nominees to the membership at the ~~month of April~~February meeting.

Section 3: Additional nominations may be made by any member on the floor of the ~~April~~ February meeting prior to the election.

Section 4: Any vacancy in office shall be filled by the Base Commander's appointment, with approval of the Board of Directors, to complete an unfulfilled term.

Section 5. Officers are to be instilled and sworn in at the Base or Regional meeting held in April.

## ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Any member in good standing may submit recommendations to amend these bylaws by forwarding a proposed change to an elected officer of the Base. The proposed change/s or recommendations must:

~~Bylaws by forwarding a proposed change to an elected officer of the Base. Proposed Change recommendations must:~~

- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ a \_\_\_\_\_
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ A. Be complete statements which stand on their own merit,
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ b
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ B. Clearly state the intent of the author and the section of organization policy \_\_\_\_\_ affected.
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ c.
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ C. Reflect the estimated or actual cost, if any, involved.
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ d
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ D. Be signed and dated by the author.

Section 2: These Bylaws shall be amended by a majority vote of the votes cast at a regularly schedule ~~Meeting~~meeting of the Base; provided that the proposed changes have been distributed to all members in good standing at their last known address at least two weeks prior to such meeting.

Section 3: Amendments which are passed will become effective at the close of the meeting.

## ARTICLE XIV - STANDING RULES

Section 1: Standing Rules relating to the administration (nor parliamentary) of the Base shall be made as attachment to these Bylaws.

