

USNA Class of 1980
Class Council Meeting Minutes
5 June 2024

Attendees: Tony Verducci, Janie Mines, Barbara Geraghty, Stef Goebel, Bill Personius, Dale Lumme, Tom O’Keefe (Note: Joe Grace and Beth Gordon were unable to attend). Larry DiRita, 45th Reunion, Curt Coughlin, Home Game Tailgating, and Tim Kobosko, Another Link in the Chain, attended the initial part of the meeting for the purpose of discussing their committee activity.

Meeting Started at 1930 EST with a Council Quorum

1. Rollcall / Opening Remarks

Tony

Tony introduced and thanked Barb as the MC for the meeting since Joe was away on travel. He then welcomed the Council and invited Committee Chairs, reviewed the proposed items for this meeting to include: Committee Reports (45th Class Reunion, Home Game Tailgating, and Another Link in the Chain), review and approve 24 April 24 Council Minutes, Old Business (staggering Council elections, Strategic Plan, and DG / Thriving as Leaders Awards, and New Business (Fundraising and any items from the Council).

2. Committee Report – 45th Class Reunion

Larry DiRita

Larry thanked Tony and the Council for the opportunity to return with a confirmation of selecting an “away” football game weekend, specifically, November 8, 2025. While there is more work to be done in getting ready for the 45th Reunion, Larry did seek approval for November 8th, 2025. After short discussion on other alternative opportunities for the 45th Reunion weekend, a motion was offered to hold the Class of 1980 45th Class Reunion on November 8, 2025, the motion was seconded, the vote was unanimous. Larry then offered he would return to the Council with a working budget and a framework for the venues and hotels now that the date was set. He recommended that the Class Council meet with the Company Representatives to get input and assist with the “rollout” / communications.

Decision: Decision to hold 45th Class Reunion weekend of November 8, 2025.

Action Item: Reunion Committee Chair to provide Council a working framework for event.

3. Committee Report - Another Link in the Chain (ALiTC)

Tim Kobosko

Tim thanked the Council for the opportunity to discuss the information gathering phase on the Committee. He thanked Dale for providing information from other Classes that have participated in this activity. Tim reviewed by Class year Plebe to First Class the opportunities for the Class of 1980 to participate and support the Class of 2030 and their families. Then there was a more wide-ranging discussion on support beyond the time in The Yard to include NAPS and send-offs across the United States. Tim shared that the Program is run through the Office of the Superintendent with Instruction 1531.48c. He plans to begin discussion with the Sup’s Office soon. Barb offered to share recent Class survey information in order to gather workers for this large effort.

Summary Note: The Class is at the beginning of this many years program. Tim is the focal point. He is gathering Class help.

4. Committee Report – Home Tailgating

Curt Coughlin

Curt thanked the Committee for the opportunity to discuss alternatives to hosting our Class and guests at Home Football games. The current approach is to load up a few vehicles with the necessary infrastructure including, tents, tables, chairs, coolers, and satellite TV. For the approximately 30 Classmates with another 30 family and friends the approach has been working. Curt offered that the cost to rent a tent is \$730 per event and that on average there are 6 events. While Curt is all for moving to a standard process for setup and take down, for 2024 it seems best to keep the existing process in place and he will be the Chairman. Looking forward as the Class looks to “link” with the Class of 2030, we can expect more guests and the setup crew will need help. There was discussion about partnering with another Class that is on the “waiting list” for a spot for their Class, the possibility of a “Go Fund Me” campaign to raise funds for tailgate events, and access to the current location for those not as mobile.

Action Item: Committee Chair to provide the Council with a proposal to address the tailgating needs of our Class, the opportunity for growth with the Class of 2030 getting ready to come aboard, and partnering opportunities.

5. Council Minutes from Meeting held 24 April 2024

Tony

The minutes of the 24 April 2024 Class Council Meeting were reviewed and discussed. A few revisions were accepted then the minutes were approved by vote without opposition.

The topic of a Recording Secretary was introduced as part of the Minutes discussion. A motion was made after discussion to appoint a Recording Secretary, separate from the Meeting Host to record the discussion and decisions of the Council and seconded.

Decision: The Class Council will have a Recording Secretary. Tom was designated.

6. Old Business

- a. Elections – plan to stagger and form a Nominating Committee. Janie

This item was discussed on 24 April. Janie sought Council approval to form a NOMCOM and move forward with staggering two positions – Vice President and Treasurer so that Council knowledge is retained through elected Officer transitions going forward. This is a one-time activity.

Action Item: Tony, Janie, and Barb to work together to develop a timeline and approach to getting a NOMCOM and electing the Officers of VP and Treasurer.

- b. Strategic Plan Janie / Tom

The Class Strategic Plan is near approval ready status. There was discussion on a few points in the plan.

Action Item: Tom will provide an approval ready Class Strategic Plan and seek Council approval using email

- c. DG / Thriving as a Leader Awards Janie / Tony

Discussion on the upcoming cycle for these prestigious awards. Tony shared that the Thriving as a Leader is a new award and not tied to service to the Academy. There was agreement that Tony should move forward in getting our Class nominations together through a small Team of Class volunteers. In addition, Tony and Janie agreed to send an email to apprise the Class of the Thriving as

Leader Awards, of the deadline for nominations, and explain that any classmate could nominate another classmate.

Action item: Tony and Janie to get together to discuss DGA plan and send an email to the Class about the Thriving as Leader Awards.

7. New Business

Tony

- a. Class Fund Raising. Rich Carlquist has agreed to lead the effort to secure a 50th Reunion gift for the Academy.

8. Tony proposed a Company Rep meeting on July 17, 2024, with Class Council coordination via email ahead of that date. He thanked the Council for staying together for the lengthy meeting, then closed the Council Meeting.

Action Item: Joe to send an email announcing the Company Rep meeting on 17 July 2024 at 1930 Est as soon as possible.

Meeting ended at 2130EST.