



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Call to Order

- CDR Morrissa Rice, BCOAG Chair, called the May 10, 2012 BCOAG meeting to order at 1100 EST.

Roll Call & Introductions

- LT Natalie Gibson, BCOAG Executive Secretary, conducted a roll call of voting members - a quorum was present.
- All non-voting members participating via teleconference were asked to submit their information via the online non-voting member roster.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes from the April 2012 BCOAG meetings were approved.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards Committee:

The nomination period for the 2012 BCOAG awards closed on April 26, 2012. We received nominations for all three BCOAG awards. Awardees have been selected for each award and the officers nomination packets have been sent to the Office of the Surgeon General for approval. All nominators and officers will be contacted regarding their status in a week or so. The awards will be presented at the MOLC Awards Breakfast during the COF Symposium.

The next Awards Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2012 from 1:30-2:30pm. We plan to discuss the development of new award activities.

If you would like to attend the meeting please contact LCDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor at goodrichdoctoaj@niaid.nih.gov.

Career & Professional Development Committee:

I. Committee Overview

The Committee's goal for 2012 is to serve as a resource to BCOAG members to help manage their careers by utilizing a team centered approach which includes:



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

- sharing career development & training information
- identifying opportunities for mentorship
- strengthening recruitment and retention activities

II. TEAM Reports

1. Career and Professional Development

The Career and Professional Development Team will be reviewing proposed award write-ups for BCOAG Officers. All Officers interested in having the team review a proposed award write-up are asked to submit write-ups to CDR Celia Gabrel, Team Chair, via email at celia.gabrel@fda.hhs.gov.

Please submit all award write-ups between May 1- 31, 2012. The subcommittee will review all write-ups and provide comments back to officers no later than June 30, 2012. The Career and Professional Development Team looks forward to reviewing a wide assortment of write-ups reflecting the numerous accomplishments and achievements of BCOAG Officers. An announcement will be posted in the BCOAG weekly announcements.

Officers interested in working with the team, should contact CDR Celia Gabrel, Interim Chair, at celia.gabrel@fda.hhs.gov or at 301-796-3304 for additional information.

2. Mentoring

- The Mentoring Team has developed a factsheet which outlines the BCOAG Mentoring Program for disseminated at the OBC Open House.
- There are currently 27 mentor-mentee pairings and an additional 9 senior officers available to serve as Mentors.
- Please, contact the BCOAG Mentoring Team if you are a senior level officers (O5 and O6) interested in becoming a mentor or a junior officer O4 and below in need of a mentor.
- Mentoring is now part of the 2012 Promotion Precepts under Professional Contributions and Services to the PHS Commissioned Corps (Officership)
- Mentoring Team is seeking volunteers to join the team to assist with program development and to support future mentoring events.
- Next Mentoring Team Meeting is June 7, 2012 at 1:00pm

Point of Contact:



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

If anyone is interested in joining the BCOAG Mentoring Team or becoming a mentor or mentee, please contact CDR Robert Windom at 301-443-1607 or via email at rwindom@hrsa.gov

3. Recruitment

The Recruitment Team meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm ET. We welcome all officers interested in recruiting new professionals as well as those interested in increasing awareness of BCOAG among current officers. As the academic year comes to a close, we are brainstorming ideas to engage colleges and universities this fall. All ideas are welcome! Please feel free to contact CDR Aisha Mix amix@hrsa.gov and LCDR Kami Cooper kcooper@hrsa.gov.

Region 3/ DC Metro: Members of the OBC recruitment team, along with three additional BCOAG officers, from FDA, HRSA, and FOH, represented and promoted BCOAG at the annual FDA PHS Awareness Day on Tuesday, April 17, 2012. About 10 second-year pharmacy students from Howard University who attended PHS Awareness Day were informed about the Commission Corps and career opportunities for pharmacists in the Public Health Service. During the PHS Awareness Day event, an officer who currently works at FDA was also recruited into BCOAG and his name has been added to the list serve as well.

Region 4/ North Carolina: In partnership with BOP, BCOAG was represented at the Triangle Nurses Association meeting on 5/10 in Durham, NC.

OBC Group (OBC Open House & Graduation Activities)

The OBC recruitment team attended the OBC open house on April 12, 2012, and recruited seven new officers into BCOAG. These new officers have already been added to the BCOAG listserv. The OBC recruitment team also attended the graduation ceremony on April 20, 2012.

The OBC recruitment team will attend the May 17, 2012 OBC open house and the May 25, 2012 OBC graduation ceremony at the Holiday Inn in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The open house is from 18:00 to 19:00. The graduation ceremony is from 10:30 to 12:00. The recruitment team seeks the participation of BCOAG officers in these events to promote BCOAG and recruit new officers into BCOAG.

Please, see the BCOAG listserv call for volunteers or contact LCDR Hamet Toure via email at hamet.toure@fda.hhs.gov or LTJG Timothy at timothy.onserio@fda.hhs.gov for more information.

4. Retention



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Planned Activities Update

- 1) Post 9/11 GI Bill Seminar – Tuesday, May 15th at 2 PM
- 2) Engaging with retired BCOAG officers “Legacy Series” – Fall 2012
- 3) Engaging agency liaison to present webinars (September and October)
- 4) Bi-annual report “Faces of the Corps” – Fall 2012

- 5) Topics for the 2012 Financial Series
 - June 26 - Refinancing: A Framework for Evaluating the Opportunity
 - July 24 - Building Your Investment Portfolio in Uncertain Times
 - August 28 - Are You Properly Insured?

Presentations will be 20-30 minutes followed by 15 minute Q&A.

Officers interested in working with the Retention Team should contact LT Lamar Henderson (Chair) at lamar.henderson@samhsa.hhs.gov and/or CDR Delia Jones-McHorgh (Co-Chair) at delia.jones-mchorgh@cms.hhs.gov.

Health Disparities Committee:

No report submitted.

Communications and Public Relations Committee:

Website (www.bcoag.org) is continually updated as needed.

Facebook page updated with BCOAG events and announcements as they occur; BCOAG pictures posted to Facebook as submitted.

Community Outreach Committee:

No BCOAG Outreach Meeting for the month of April 2012.

The next scheduled meeting is May 25, 2012.

COA Pre-Conference Outreach Activity

BCOAG Outreach continues to be actively involved in the COA Pre-Conference Outreach Activity



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Please see last meeting minutes below:

COF Preconference Community Service Project Planning Committee
- a joint effort between BCOAG, JOAG and DC COA

Meeting Minutes May 29, 2012

Call to order: 1530

Attendees:

CAPT Sheila Merriweather-
CDR Postelle Birch-Smith -
CDR Vicky Borders-Hemphill - present
LCDR Samantha Fontenelle -
LCDR Latonia Ford -
LCDR Todd Johnson-
LCDR Danielle Mills-
LT Ashlee Januszewicz -
LT Filita Moore-

Project sites (Prince George's County):

1. New Hope Academy, 7009 Varnum Street, Landover Hills, MD 20784 (Principal Joy Morrow)
2. Charles Carroll Middle School, 6130 Lamont Drive, New Carrollton, Maryland 20784
(Guidance counselor Mrs. Yelva Washington)

Action Item: Contact schools

Background: Both schools have secured the date of Monday June 18th and have provided general descriptions of the outdoor/indoor and alternate projects. CDR Vicky Borders-Hemphill/LCDR Todd Johnson will be contacts for Principal Morrow from New Hope Academy who has shown interest in obtaining 20-30 volunteers to help with beautification of the Nature Outdoor Playground and/or to paint and clean inside/outside the building; materials will be provided. CDR Birch-Smith and LCDR Ford will be the site leaders for the Charles Carroll Middle School (Mrs. Yelva Washington – contact). The alternate project for Charles Carroll Middle School is to prepare books for next year and paint doors and walls; materials will be provided.

Discussion: CDR Borders-Hemphill and LCDR Todd Johnson conducted a site visit May 18th. Principal Morrow expressed interest in officers helping both indoors and outdoors. Principal Morrow envisions 6-8 officers helping to build a stepping stone labyrinth placing grasses between stones with the rest of the officers working to clean/paint the school indoors. The uniform of the day will be the black BDU t-shirt with jeans/shorts. Officers will be given the option to bring a smock or other cover to prevent paint adherence to the clothing if needed.



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Status: Report from site visit pending for Charles Carroll Middle School; site visit set for June 8th, 3:30PM.

Action Item: Call for volunteers

Background: LCDR Natalie Gibson developed the registration/call for volunteer's survey. The registration/survey will be set to expire two weeks prior to June 18th with the option to extend the deadline as needed until we get the optimal number of volunteers. Tim O'Neill posted the announcement with registration link on the symposium website. It has been posted on the DC COA website as well. The following committee members are responsible for sending to each PHS entity: CDR Borders-Hemphill - DC COA; CDR Birch-Smith - MOLC; LCDR Latonia Ford – Nurse PAC and JOAG; LCDR Todd Johnson – BCOAG and Social worker PAC; LT Ashlee Januszewicz – PharmPAC.

Discussion: LT Ashlee Januszewicz agreed to serve as the Survey data manager to report on how many people volunteered and how many at each site.

Status: LT Ashlee Januszewicz provided volunteer data from the survey. A total of 28 people have signed up to volunteer for the projects. Below is a breakdown of the numbers based on Project and time slot:

Registration numbers for

Project A (8-12:30)	5	Project A (12-4)	3	
Project B (8-12:30)	8	Project B (12-4)	9	Project B (11-2) 1
Project B (Full Day)	1	Project B (2-5)	1	

There were a few people from Project B (5) who have commented that they speak Spanish and are available for translation. Also another person said they would be interested in Project B as well as A, but only if they can wear their Service Khaki to the event. (Currently Project B's dress is the whites)

Action Item: Health fair at the Community Ministry of Prince George's County

Background: Dr Sandra Crouse Quinn, Associate Dean for Public Health Initiatives at the school of Public Health, University of Maryland, partnering with the Community Ministry who expressed interest in partnering with the Maryland Center for Health Equity (MCHE) in the School of Public Health and the Commissioned Officers Association to expand the café Monday, June 18th, to include a health fair. LCDR Fontenelle meets weekly with Dr. Quinn, and Community Ministries of PG County (Jimmie Slade and Dr. Thomas) to plan the event. The health fair was changed from occurring at two locations to one location - the Community Place Cafe in Hyattsville. The Community Place serves mostly men; some are homeless and some are working with low-income and most are Hispanic and Spanish interpreters are needed. The health fair at the cafe would be open to others in the community as well. Services include BMI and blood pressure screenings, health education (nutrition class, fact



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

sheets from BCOAG and brochures from various agencies on various topics, etc). LCDR Fontenelle recruited LT Christina Collins to assist with logistics.

Discussion: LCDR Fontenelle went for a site visit. Draft flyers and announcements have been developed. The Governor's Wellness mobile unit, PG county dept of public health, and Howard University's Oral Health Mobile unit will be on site for referral services. U of Maryland will prepare a press release and contact local radio station MAGIC 102.3 to simulcast the event. Seniors from the Senior Center (population of ~ 223 seniors) in Capital Heights, MD will be bused over to First United Methodist Church (Community Place Café).

Status: When final versions of the flyers are available, then DC COA (CDR Borders-Hemphill) and BCOAG (CDR Birch-Smith) Facebook pages and email distribution lists (BCOAG – LCDR Todd Johnson) will receive them. Recruitment of volunteers from various disciplines (nurses that deal with diabetic patients, dieticians for nutrition lecture, pharmacists for medication review and consultation) are needed for shifts 12-3 and 2-5 or 12-5.

Next meeting:
June 5h 1530

NOLA Mission

BCOAG Outreach Committee continues to be actively involved in the planning of the NOLA Mission Completed BCOAG Outreach Activities

Patriots Technology Training

Activity Lead/LT Garman Williams

Patriots Technology Training Bio-medical Competition was held on April 18, 2012. Seven officers provided support for the judges during the competition and one officer served as a judge. The competition consisted of 7 high school teams and each of them presented a science fair project on various Institutes/Centers at the NIH. BCOAG has supported this event every year since the inaugural one in 2009. Thank you to the following officers for supporting this event.

1. CAPT Beverly Dandridge
2. LT June Germain
3. LT Natalie Gibson
4. LCDR Shannon Hill
5. CDR Aisha Mix
6. LCDR Reggi Parker
7. LCDR Kimberly Rains
8. LT Garman (Will) Williams



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Laurel High School Career Day Fair was held on April 27. Three officers presented on their path to a successful career in the USPHS. Laurel HS was very happy to have us join them again for the second year in a row. Thank you to the following officers for supporting this event.

1. CDR Celia Gabrel
2. CDR Daisy Mitchell
3. LT Garman (Will) Williams

Patriots Technology Training Annual Youth Summit was held on May 4-5. Eight officers were present. On May 4, two officers participated in discussions with parents, students, and other partnering organizations on how to increase students' interest in the STEM field and cybersecurity. On May 5, four officers conducted two student workshops on "The Roadmap to a Successful Public Health Career". Two officers staffed an exhibit booth with information on USPHS and provided some giveaways. One officer also served as a judge for the flight simulation competition. This is Patriots Technology Training Center's signature event and this year's theme was "On the Right Road to STEM". A special thanks to all of these volunteers for stepping up and supporting this event. BCOAG has supported this event since 2009.

1. CDR Morrissa Rice
2. CDR Daisy Mitchell
3. LCDR Todd Johnson
4. LCDR Eduardo Lim
5. LCDR W. Phil Tonkins
6. LCDR Hope Lampkin
7. LT Justin Belk
8. LT Garman (Will) Williams

Upcoming BCOAG Outreach Activities

Susan G Komen for the Cure – Race in Washington, DC

What: Volunteers Needed for Susan G Komen for the Cure – Race in Washington, DC

When: Saturday, June 2, 2012, 5:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Where: On the Mall in Washington, DC (exact location TBD)

Details: Details regarding where volunteers will be staffed will be forthcoming. Volunteer opportunities will include (but are not limited to):

- Late Registration and Event Kit Pick-Up: Support walkers and runners that still need to register for the event as well as provide pre-registrants with their bib numbers, T-Shirts, etc.



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

- Pre-Race Site Set-Up on the National Mall: Heavy lifters needed to assist Race staff with the set up of the Race site and route.
- Information Services: Staff various information station locations on the Race site.
- I AM THE CURE®. Outreach Fair: Support Komen Global Race sponsors and vendors in the post-Race area.
- Green Team: Support the Race's sustainability efforts by leading the recycling program on the Race site.
- Start Areas: Assist the Race staff with creating smooth Race starts for runners and walkers at their respective Start Lines.
- Course Marshals: Assist Race participants on the route at intersections or other areas that need flow support to ensure safety.

Attire: PHS ball cap. You are free to wear what you like clothing wise. Volunteers will also be given a volunteer shirt to wear and keep.

POC: CDR Kimberly McIntosh-Little via kimberly.mcintosh@fda.hhs.gov or 301-796-6812

Career Day at South Lake Elementary – in Gaithersburg, MD

Who: South Lake Elementary – in Gaithersburg, MD

What: Volunteers needed to share their PHS experiences with 95 4th grader elementary school children in Gaithersburg, MD (please see attached letter for details). We will present on a rotation so the presentation should be 20-25 minutes each. The rotation plan is so that classes will be able to visit several career presentations throughout the morning. Once we determine who can volunteer, then we can decide on what the role of each officer will be. If you are willing to donate giveaways reflecting your agency or any items to the children, it would be great.

When: Friday, May 18, 2012, 9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Where: 18291 Contour Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Details: South Lake is a Title I school (Title I, Part A is a federal program that provides financial assistance to local school systems and schools with high percentages of poor children to support the academic achievement of disadvantaged students.) that is predominately African-American &



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Hispanic. The school fights issues like kids who are coming to school hungry, tired because they share a room with their parents, personal hygiene and illness.

The objectives for the South Lake Career Program are:

- Students will explore a variety of career clusters.
- Students will identify a variety of skills necessary for a variety of careers.
- Students will understand the importance of goal-setting.

In addition, the following questions they want us to consider while preparing our presentation:

- How did you get started in this career field? What helped you decide on this career?
- What kinds of things interested you that led to this career?
- What schooling is necessary for your career?
- What subjects in school are the students studying now that will help them be successful in that career in the future?
- What do you like best about your career?
- What is your work environment like?
- What are the fringe benefits of your job?
- What are the most rewarding aspects of your job?
- What are the least rewarding aspects of your job?
- What kind of personal and social skills do you need for your work?

Attire: Uniform of the day or SDB. It is good to show the various uniforms of our service.

POC: CDR Kimberly McIntosh-Little via kimberly.mcintosh@fda.hhs.gov or 301-796-6812

The Tree of Life Christian Ministries Community Day and Health Fair

Event: Tree of Life Christian Ministries Community Day and Health Fair

Where: 9109 Piscataway Rd, Clinton, Maryland 20735, June 9, 2012, 10 AM – 4 PM

What: Provide healthcare screening and referral services

- Medical screening
- Dental screening
- BMI calculation
- Blood pressure screening
- Medication review and consultation
- Healthy Lifestyles for Kids presentation
- Syndrome X presentation
- Provide healthcare information to attendees (pamphlets, brochures)



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

When: Saturday, June 9, 2012 (shift volunteers)

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM - 3 officers

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM - 3 officers

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - 3 officers

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM - 2 officers

Target Audience: Clinton and Southern Maryland Community residents

Dress Code: The uniform of the day: PHS ball cap without rank; black PHS T-shirt

POC: CAPT Jo Ann Spearmon; email-joann.spearmon@fda.hhs.gov or 301-796-8423

Membership:

1. Completed review and revisions to the 2012 Voting Membership Application, Review Tool, and Announcement and submitted these documents to the Executive Committee for final review and approval.
2. Will release Call for Nominations for Voting Membership on May 13. The application deadline is June 30, 2012. The voting membership term will be from Jan 1, 2013 to Dec 31, 2015. Details will be available weekly in the BCOAG Announcements disseminated via the Listserv. All interested officers are strongly encouraged to apply.
3. Will publish the BCOAG Networking Spreadsheet in May to facilitate collaboration among members.
4. Will provide a presentation to the General Body on the "Benefits of Becoming a BCOAG Voting Member."

- The next meeting will be: Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Ad Hoc Committees:

Social Committee:

· [BCOAG Social Committee Meetings](#) will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month for 2012 from 2-3 pm EST.

Planned Social Events- Social Lead Reports



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Locations for upcoming social events will be determined close to the date of the event, announced at the social committee meetings and sent out on the BCOAG Listserv.

- Activity Leads for DC/Virginia/Maryland: LCDRs Danielle Russell and Maria Cowan

The DMV Social committee had a meet and greet on April 27th at Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel Lobby Lounge/Bar. There were 16 officers in attendance to include:

1. CAPT Leslie Cooper
2. CAPT Beverly Dandridge
3. CDR Postelle Birch-Smith (2012 MOLC Chair)
4. CDR Chekesha Clingman
5. CDR Aisha Mix
6. CDR Morrisa Rice (2012 BCOAG Chair)
7. CDR Terry Harrison (2012 BCOAG Voting Member)
8. LCDR Kofi Ansah
9. LCDR Tarsha Cavanaugh (2012 BCOAG Voting Member)
10. LCDR Kami Cooper
11. LCDR Keisha Johnson
12. LCDR Todd Johnson (2012 BCOAG Voting Member)
13. LCDR Charlene Sydnor (2013 BCOAG Chair Elect)
14. LT Natalie Gibson (2012 BCOAG Executive Secretary)
15. LT Tanya Grandison
16. LT Nadra Tyus.

Officers enjoyed fellowship and had an opportunity to learn more about each other. CAPT Cooper shared her experiences as an officer and with BCOAG and encouraged officers to remain active in PHS activities including BCOAG, JOAG, and their PACs. CAPT Dandridge shared words of wisdom and all officers had an opportunity to network. We are currently trying to plan for a June BCOAG social event and also soliciting any officers interested in being on the DMV social committee.

- Activity Leads for NC: LT Indira Harris and LCDR Brian Parker
 - No update provided. Officers were not present on the call
- Activity Leads for South NJ/Philadelphia: LTs Enoch Boateng and Elizabeth Moham
 - No activities to report in this area at this time. Inactive site.
- Activity Lead for Northern NJ/New York: CDR Deborah Nixon (Excused)
 - Due to low responses, the first BCOAG social for 2012 was not held on Saturday, April 28th at 4:00 pm at Cara Mia in Manhattan, NY. Some officers never responded. Out of the 7-8 officers that were invited, only 2 responded and



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

suggested that the social be held at a later date to have more officers in attendance. The social committee will work with CDR Nixon in sending out a survey to gather when officers would be willing to meet.

BCOAG is actively seeking activity leads throughout various areas/duty stations to encourage officer camaraderie. If interested, please email one of the social committee chairs.

- BCOAG needs volunteers to serve on the following planning committees:
 - Speed Mentoring social held in April 2012 (if EOY is held in October, if not October 2012)
 - Planning Committee Members are:
 - LCDR Paula Washington
 - LCDR Melanie Ross
 - LCDR LaTonya Jiggetts

The Speed Mentoring Committee will now be lead by LCDR Paula Washington. The committee would like to thank LT Toscha Stanley for all of her hard work and dedication. It has been proposed that the Speed Mentoring event be combined with the End of the Year (EOY) Social activity in October. The two committees are still in discussion regarding the logistics. The committee is also requesting additional officers to volunteer.

- COF BCOAG social held in June 2012
 - Planning Committee Members are:
 - LT Avena Russell
 - LT Jamila Davis
 - LCDR David Wright
 - LCDR Zewditu Demissie

§ 4 locations have been identified and submitted to CDR Rice for approval and final selection. 2 of the locations are in Hyattsville, 2 locations are in College Park. All locations are easily accessible and can be transported to by via cab, or metro. The College Park locations are within walking distance from COF. There will be prizes and activities; however, based on the location that is chosen there may be additional activities as part of the agenda, to emphasize the importance of networking and team work as officers. BCOAG Voting Members will be reviewing the recommendations brought forth by LT Avena Russell on Friday, May 11, 2012 and a Save the Date will be sent out during the week of May 14, 2012.

- “A Family Affair” Social to be held in August 2012
 - Planning Committee Members are:
 - LCDR Sylvera Demas
 - LCDR Latasha Allen
 - LCDR Jemekia Thornton



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

- LCDR Malaika Washington
 - No Information to share. LCDRs Thornton and Washington are currently out on maternity leave. Information should be forthcoming in June 2012. An email was sent to CAPT Wanda Barfield who hosted this event last year at her to home to determine if she would be interested in hosting it again this year. Waiting for her response. May 10, 2012.
 - End of the Year (EOY) proposed to be held in October 2012. The BCOAG Executive Committee (EC) has decided to host the EOY social in October 2012. A planning committee for this event will be discussed at the next social committee meeting in May 2012. Possible sites include Dobbins Air Reserve Base and Paschals.
 - LT Carla Burch
 - LCDR Jabal Chase
 - LCDR Jamar Barnes
 - LT Nicole Bell
 - LCDR Karen Forbes
 - LT Katrina Mosley

Note: DC area Officers have not started planning for EOY.

Two Meetings with committee:

- Meeting call to order @ 1500 by LCDR Eubanks on April 17, 2012
 - LCDR Eubanks calls meeting to order to discuss plans for October 2012 End of Year Social. Also in attendance are LT Carla Bunch and LT Nicole Bell.
 - As we are in the very early planning stages, initial preparations include:
 - a) Selecting at Date/Time (weekday? weekend?)
 - b) Selecting a venue:
 - Dobbins ARB, Marietta (no cost to rent space)
 - Paschal's (would require a charge to each officer in attendance)
 - is families invited?
 - c) Planning ceremony:
 - certificates for BCOAG participation during the year
 - d) Speed mentoring?
- Proposed to have prior to ceremony as a cocktail hour/ ice breaker
Meeting adjourned at 1510.

- Second meeting was called to order by LCDR Eubanks at 14:01 pm and adjourned at 14:17 pm on April 19, 2012
- Attendees: LCDRs Jabal Chase, Karen Forbes and CDR Abnah Forbes
- Notes to be shared with LCDR Jamar Barnes and LT Katrina Mosley



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

- Thoughts of having a paper survey distributed at the COF Symposium at the BCOAG table or event would be helpful to determine how much officers would like to spend and ideas of where to have the EOY social in their respective areas
- Selecting venue – Need to find a venue within the next few months
- Secure participants funding as early as possible for event.
- Possible survey to gauge level of officers who would participation in EOY Social and get an approximate number of attendees

Planned Social Events

- Atlanta- None for May or June in Atlanta. The social event in June in College Park, MD for the COF Symposium will have several Atlanta officers to attend. **Atlanta social events will be held every other month on the 3rd Thursday of that month from 5:30-8:00 pm.**
- North Carolina-None for May
- South New Jersey/Philadelphia-None for May
- New York/New Jersey- The first BCOAG social for 2012 will be held on Saturday, April 28th at 4:00 pm at Cara Mia in Manhattan, NY. Cancelled due to low response.
- D/M/V- The first social for 2012 will be held on Friday, April 27, 2012 at 6:00 pm at Washington Marriott Wardman Park Lobby Lounge/Bar (2660 Woodley Road, NW, Washington, DC 20008. Social event was well attended. Activity leads would like to have socials on a bimonthly, if not monthly event at various locations throughout the DMV area.
- If officers would like to help with these committees, please reach out to them or email LCDR Zanethia Eubanks at zae0@cdc.gov.

Social Committee Participation

• The SOP states that you must participate in 3+ Social Committee meetings to be an active participant and receive a participation certificate. Calls count, attending socials does not. LCDRs Eubanks and Washington will send you an email if you made the requirement. The Social Committee thanks everyone for their participation on both calls and at events even if you did not make the active participant requirement.

Reminder/Requirements for Social Events

- Activity leads are responsible for providing the following during any planned social event: (1) agenda (2) after action report (3) sign- in (Excel) sheet to inform BCOAG's database.
- Please send copies to LCDR Zanethia Eubanks at zae0@cdc.gov or LT Chinyelum "Chi Chi" Olele at cumejei@yahoo.com, Co-Chair for Membership Committee.
 - Pictures from events should be sent to LCDR Eubanks and LCDR Danielle Russell (Danielle.Russell@dc.gov) to be uploaded to the BCOAG Facebook page.

BCOAG Social Events and Facebook



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

· Pictures from BCOAG events can be viewed on BCOAG's Facebook page at:
<http://www.facebook.com/media/albums/?id=154902697911674>.

· If you have any pictures of any BCOAG events, please submit them to LCDR Danielle Russell at danielle.russell@dc.gov.

Web Page

· The BCOAG Social Committee's webpage is now live. Please visit us at
<http://bcoag.org/committees/social.html>

BCOAG's Listserv

- If you would like to become a member of the BCOAG listserv to stay abreast of weekly announcements, please email: LT Chinyelum (Chi-Chi) Olele at cumejei@yahoo.com.

Articles

· If members of the committee would like to submit an article to the JOAG journal, please contact LCDR David Wright at Wright, David david.wright2@fema.dhs.gov.

Other

- BCOAG lapel pins and challenge coins: These are currently for sale and will help to identify BCOAG officers during social events. Please contact LCDR Zanethia Eubanks at zae0@cdc.gov for pricing and further details.

BCOAG artistic interpretation-Last year, 2011, Tommy Thornton drew an interpretation of what BCOAG means which was presented to CAPT Barfield and also included on the cake for the "A Family Affair" picnic. BCOAG Voting Membership will meet on Friday, May 11, 2012 where the social committee will ask where we are with this decision as we would like to have this be a t-shirt idea for the "A Family Affair" social in August 2012.

- BCOAG collaborating with other PHS organizations to co-host social/networking events. If you have any ideas please contact CDR Abnah Forbes at hka2@cdc.gov.

Charter and Bylaws Committee:

The Revised Charter from the EC was submitted to the Voting Members in February with comments and updates. Minor updates and comments were received and those were submitted in March to the EC for their review. We are now awaiting the EC's review of the recent comments to further revise the charter.



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Office of Force Readiness Deployment:

Current Events

Arctic Shield:

Support for the US Coast guard in Alaska. Arctic Shield is a multi-mission deployment in the Arctic and Northwest region of Alaska between March and November 2012. Cumulatively, these deployments serve to broaden the Coast Guard's functional capability in the Arctic and will increase our responsiveness to a myriad of new challenges in this remote area of responsibility. OFRD will provide clinical and veterinary support April through mid June.

Texas UAC Mission:

Team 1: May 1st through May 13th.

Team 2: May 12th through May 25th.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response and the Administration for Children and Families Office of Resettlement (ORR) have asked the Office of Force Readiness and Deployment to deploy officers from the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps to provide disaster case management services in support of Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) apprehended by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Disaster Case Management team will assist the ORR in San Antonio, Texas and at Lackland Airforce Base to implement placement decisions in the best interest of the UAC and ensure placement in the least restrictive settings possible while in federal custody. ORR will provide "Just in Time" training for the team.

The specific request is for a total of 15 officers x 1 rotations to fill the following positions:

1. Case Manager Supervisors (MSW/MSN required)
2. Disaster Case Managers (Any category/discipline however strong Spanish language skill required)- you must be able to converse in conversational Spanish

Upcoming Events

Peace Officer Memorial:

On 15 May 2012, the 30th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Day Service will be held in Washington, DC. The U.S. Capitol Police (USCP) Board, through the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Office of Preparedness and Emergency Response (OPEO), has asked the Office of Force Readiness and Deployment to deploy officers of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

The specific request is for twenty officers (physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and registered nurses) to provide care for Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

incidents at medical stations around the U.S. Capitol, with at least one physician, nurse practitioner and/or physician assistant staffing each station. An additional ten officers were requested to support the Incident Response Coordination Team and the Emergency Management Group. The operational period is Saturday, 12 May 2012 to Wednesday, 16 May 2012. POTUS will be in attendance.

NATO Summit:

The Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Office of Preparedness and Emergency Response (OPEO), has asked the Office of Force Readiness and Deployment to deploy officers of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, to augment hospital surge teams at the 2012 NATO Summit in Chicago. The operational period is Saturday, 17 May 2012 to Wednesday, 22 May 2012. We will be providing Medical, Nursing and Pharmacy support.

CDC Polio Eradication Mission:

The CDC is assisting the governments of several West African nations in the development of polio vaccination programs to improve management and accountability of polio eradication programs at national and sub-national levels. CDC has asked OFRD to deploy officers of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps to support CDC Field Activities Support Teams (FAST) and Management and Accountability Support Teams (MAST). Specifically, the request is for USPHS officers skilled in public health management and field epidemiology to assist with the development, organization, initiation and management of operational projects aimed at improving polio vaccination coverage and polio surveillance in priority countries. Travel will be funded by CDC and travel logistics will be managed by the CDC Emergency Operations Center (DEOC).

Dates to be announced.

FMRB Run:

Awards to eOPF by end of June.

Minority Officer's Liaison Council:

- All CMAG websites have been converted to the new PHS format
- MOLC will not require MOLC members to attend the monthly OBC open houses and graduation ceremonies, however will continue to support the CMAGs in their efforts to provide representation
- 2012 MOLC Awards Event during the COF Scientific Symposium will be held on Wednesday, June 20th from 0730 to 0900 a.m. in the Atrium. The agenda for the program has been set and will include opening comments from the Surgeon General's office, award presentations and a cultural diversity presentation



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

COF Liaison:

COF Liaison Report (May 2012)

1. Account information:

BCOAG COA account balance as of 6/12/12 is \$3,364.27, which does not include the following pending items:

*Withdrawal(s):

-\$150 MOLC Transfer
-\$42.80 Reimbursement to CDR Rice
Total: \$192.80

*Deposits:

- \$35 BCOAG Pins
- \$22.55 BCOAG Coins
- \$12.20 BCOAG Coin
Total: \$69.75

Balance once transactions above are processed: \$3,241.22 (*subject to change based on additional orders/requests made*)

**Petty cash: \$210.00 is being held by the Chair and not included in the above calculations*

2. Coins/Lapel Pin Sales:

BCOAG rank and challenge coins are now available --\$10.00 each.

BCOAG lapel pins are available for purchase--\$5.00 each.

Rank coins are available for purchase at the following locations and by mail order:

Parklawn
POC, LCDR Tracy Pace tpace@hrsa.gov

FDA White Oak
POC, LCDR Hamet Toure hamet.toure@fda.hhs.gov

CDC Atlanta



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

POC, LCDR Zanethia Eubanks zae0@cdc.gov

BOP Butner

POC, CDR Robin Hunter Buskey bibihunter@earthlink.net

LT Alicia Sherrell- alternate for COF Liaison.

If anyone else is interested in becoming a POC, please contact COF Liaison LCDR Julia Bryan at jbryan@hrsa.gov.

Old Business/New Business/Open Floor

- NOLA Mission Update
 - To date, 34 responses have been received by BCOAG General Membership in regards to interest for the NOLA Mission. BCOAG officers from across the nation – CA, NY, GA and the Metropolitan Washington DC Area are represented. Additional information will be forthcoming in future announcements and direct notifications to the respondents.
- LCDR Jennifer Jones completed a Masters in Nursing.
- LCDR Zanethia Eubanks received a promotion.
- The meeting was adjourned at 1204 EST.
- Officers whose duty station is outside of HHS (i.e. BOP/DHS) may send an email to bcoag.org@gmail.com to record their attendance. This exception is due to access/firewall barriers. All others will need to complete the sign-in roster. Attendance must be submitted within 24 hours of the meeting.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 14th, 2012 at 1100 EST.

BCOAG meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month from 11:00 – 12:30 (EST).

If you are unable to attend and wish to participate via teleconferencing, please call:

Dial: 1-877-798-6354

PIN: 129733



**BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS
ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)**



**General Meeting
May 2012 Minutes**

Respectfully Submitted,

LT Natalie Gibson
Executive Secretary

CDR Morrissa Rice
Chairperson



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)



General Meeting May 2012 Minutes

Attendance for 10 May 2012

Voting Members

CDR Karen Beckham
CDR Lynda Lee Bishop
CDR Morrisa Rice
CDR Postelle Birch-Smith*
CDR Terry Harrison
LCDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor
LCDR Charlene Sydnor*
LCDR Jemekia Thornton
LCDR Jennifer Jones
LCDR Julia Bryan

LCDR Michelle Haamid (excused)
LCDR Pilgrim Spikes
LCDR Shary Jones
LCDR Tarsha Cavanaugh (excused)
LCDR Todd Johnson
LCDR Zanethia Eubanks
LCDR Zewditu Demissie
LT Chinyelum (Chi Chi) Olele
LT Natalie Gibson

* Represented by alternate

Non-Voting Members

CAPT Beverly Dandridge
CAPT Michaele R. Smith
CAPT Twanda Scales
CDR Delia Jones-McHorgh
CDR Aisha Mix
CDR Diahann Williams
CDR Felicia Duffy
CDR Kimberly McIntosh-Little
CDR Kofi Ansah
CDR Paula Bridges
CDR Robert Windom
CDR SanYvette Williams
CDR Stacy Barley
CDR Stephanie Burrell
CDR Trellis Adams
LCDR Antoinette Percy-Laurry
LCDR Bethanie Parrish
LCDR Candice Clarke
LCDR Deveonne Hamilton-Stokes
LCDR Erika Odom
LCDR Glendolynn Johnson
LCDR Hamet Toure
LCDR Ieshia K. Jones
LCDR Jyl Woolfolk
LCDR Kami Cooper

LCDR Kimberley Hawkins
LCDR Latasha Allen
LCDR Lisa Patterson
LCDR Sylvester Smith
LT Ayana Rowley
LT Chandra Jolley
LT June Germain
LT Kendra Bishop
LT Nadra Tyus
LT Niketta Womack
LT Tanya Grandison
LT Uruaku Obasi
LTJG Mekeshia Bates
LTJG Timothy Onserio
N/A Allison Adams-McLean