



**AFA Wright Memorial Chapter  
Board Meeting Minutes  
May 17, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE:**

ATTENDED *	NOT IN ATTENDANCE
Dave Babcock	Jim Yankel
Colin Ballein	Joni Ahlers
Mark Sobota	Rafi Rodriguez
Vita Eonta	Christina Combs
Jill Willingham	Adrianna Templeton
Mike Evans	Ronda Roberts
	Betty Shellhorn
	Richard Hughes
	Carl "Shof" Shofner
	Anna Schulte
	Brenda Baker
* Based on Zoom Call Attendance Roster	

**PRESIDENT: Dave Babcock**

- Expressed his Thanks to all who supported our May AFA luncheon/advocating event!
- Advised the Board we now have a [AFA WMC LinkedIn](#) social media page
  - He requested all Board members advertise our new [AFA WMC LinkedIn](#) page across their networks
- Advised we're presenting five AFIT-AFA Awards on 23 May during the Chancellor's (Dr. Walter Jones') All-Call Meeting
  - Note: Since these minutes are distributed after that date, the AFIT Awards ceremony went very well, and Dr. Jones thanked AFA WMC publicly and privately for supporting these awards, and we spoke at the ceremony for about 3 minutes.
- Informed the Board AFA WMC will have a 'sponsor' table at Rafi's Amigos Golf Outing on June 2 at the Beaver Creek Golf Course
  - Vita suggested we provide/display old AFA magazines as an example of one of the benefits of AFA membership
  - Ronda will provide AFA application forms
  - Dave will have some swag (pens with our name and web site address on it) to pass out
- Asked if any Board members were attending 88ABW/CC's (Col Meeker's) 'Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Spring Community Open House' event?
  - Vita said she was attending
- Informed the Board that 88ABW/CV Colonel Charles Barkhurst's Farewell luncheon is on 5 Jun at 1100 at the Wright-Patterson Club. (Since then, Vita distributed the formal registration URL for the event)
- Advised the Board that due to a promotion and more work commitments, we made a switch in our VP for Sponsorships/Community Partners
  - Katherine Ballein will assume the primary VP role and Jill Willingham-Allen will serve as the Deputy
- Asked attending members whether we need monthly Exec Board meetings, as less than 50% of the Board attends them?
  - If so, he asked why do you believe this is value added?



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- If so, he asked whether the 3rd Wednesday of the month was an acceptable date to schedule them?
  - Most attending members expressed their opinion there is value added to conduct Chapter business, to include discussion on upcoming events/schedules/budgeting info so every remains current about what's going on
    - » Dave didn't disagree this is a true benefit of meetings, but did express his concerns these benefits didn't apply to our Board as so few people attend
    - » Dave also said AFA WMC depends on people who said they will perform certain Chapter responsibilities as a volunteer. He understands things can change, or maybe people don't fully understand the resource commitment of their volunteerism, but it is a commitment. If volunteering, and doing the job as it needs to be done, can't be a priority to them, then they are doing themselves and the Chapter a disservice.
  - Others attendings stated if we don't hold the meetings monthly, then certainly quarterly and especially right before the Airshow and AF Ball
    - » Dave agreed we could do that, but quarterly meetings didn't sync with the rationale for holding meeting to remain current about what's going on
  - Dave informed the Board that for the remainder of his term as President, we'll hold AFA WMC Board meetings the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month, and asks the Secretary to schedule them from 1130-1230
- Asked attending members whether we should continue monthly Networking Luncheon events?
  - If not, why not; since our mission is to Advocate, Educate & Support
    - Vita expressed several points, such as:
      1. Depends on how successful they have been for our members
      2. It is sometimes hard to get speakers
      3. Work schedules make is hard to get full participation
    - Dave's reply was:
      - » Our sponsors, in part, contribute to AFA WMC for access to senior leaders impacting Air Force missions and contracts. This is what they asked for, so if giving them what they asked for is a measure of success, then "Yes" – they've been successful.
      - » Yes – it can be difficult to get speakers, but that is typically the role of the President or Vice-President, but anyone is welcome to nominate and coordinate speakers who our sponsors and members would find interesting as part of our Advocate and Educate role. With AFA, AFCEA, DaytonDefense, EEMG, NDIA, Old Crows, and other military NPOs all looking for speakers as well – sometimes it can look like a revolving door. However, as a leader, because it is difficult is not a reason to stop trying.
      - » Work schedules are clearly a factor which can adversely impact attendance - from a Board member perspective, from an AFA member perspective, and from a Sponsor perspective. Again, this is 1.5-2.5 hours a month for people to learn, to network, and to grow in their knowledge and support of the Air Force and their companies. Few people can make 100% of all events, but if you believe in the mission and vision of AFA and AFA WMC, people will do their best to make it a priority.
    - Colin mentioned he and Joni discussed having a 'social' in June – and that is being worked by them.



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**VICE PRESIDENT: Colin Ballein**

- Provided an update on AFA’s Emerging Leader Program (ELP) activities
  - Informed the Board AFA HQ Staff is holding meetings to improve the on-line application process
  - Advised it’s the 10<sup>th</sup> ELP Anniversary and ADA HQ is making plans for a special celebration of that event
- Update on Mission/Vision Statement
  - Colin stated they were provided in the last month’s Board meeting, and Dave thought they were a Draft. Vita mentioned they didn’t capture the essence of AFA WMC’s involvement in the community and wouldn’t excite people about what we do; but she couldn’t put into words what she felt best described out Chapter
  - While Dave will work with Colin and others on refining these statements, AFTER the meeting, he wrote an ‘overview’ of the Chapter, which is now available on our website and LinkedIn pages which Vita found more acceptable

**TREASURER’S REPORT: Mark Sobota / Dave Babcock**

- Advised the Board:
  - He is reentering all 2022 and 2023 financial data, as our previous Treasurer did not keep a financial register or log of income and expenses which can be linked to financial statements or IRS forms
  - Mark and Dave developed a form capturing both and Mark is working on that now
  - Once complete, they will work on the 2022 IRS Form 990 (the tax form for Non-Profits)
  - Informed the Board we submitted our 2021 & 2022 State of Ohio registration and general finance overviews and are in good standing with the State
  - We have two of four ROTC scholarship checks not cashed
  - Checks from our sponsors are still coming in
- This is an overview of our financials as they stood on 17 May 2023

Checking Account Balance – EOM April	\$ 35,403.85
Checking Account Balance – a/o 17 May	\$ 39,444.41
Anticipated Income Sponsorships and Air Show (Already Invoiced)	26,800.00
Outstanding Checks Scholarships (ROTC AND JROTC)	3,000.00
Money Market Balance	\$ 117,005.86

**SECRETARY’S REPORT: Vita Eonta**

- Vita asked to be advised of the date, time, and details of any AFA WMC activities planned for June so she could distribute that information to key stakeholders. Dave will distribute to all AFA WMC members.
- Dave coordinated a networking event with a speaker for Aug 9. Dr. Cassie Barlow will be the guest speaker, as she enlightens attendees about the new Southwest Ohio Information Technology Industry Sector Partnership, a collaboration which leverages strong partnerships among employers, educators, workforce development agencies, and community organizations, to better understand the evolving skill demands of Ohio’s industries (government and private sector) and prepare Ohioans for the high-demand jobs of the future.

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- Vita asked for the status of our unique AFA WMC logo. With Joni on vacation, Dave said he would contact her when she returns (giving her time to catch up first). However, we need something for our table at Rafi’s Golf Tournament, so Dave make the following graphic and we’ll use this until a better one is developed and approved.



- Vita asked if we have a format for business cards/name tags?
  - Dave answered No – and stated we don’t need one; *standardization is not that critical*. Ronda took care of getting business cards in the past and that format was fine; but other formats are authorized. Additionally, Colin offered to share his business card format with Vita and Dave, which he did.
  - Colin ordered his through VistaPrint. 100 cards cost ~\$45; they are professional, raised print and two-sided, as depicted below. He can order for others if they like this format. Otherwise, Board members may devise a format that works for them, or uses Ronda’s format, as long as we use the new AFA logo.



- Regarding name tags, the same *standardization* rationale mentioned above for business cards applies to name tags as well. The Base Hobby Shop makes brushed silver back name tags for \$9. Dave used the format depicted below and others can use it, too. Dave prefers all Board members – if they have a name tag – have their preferred name on it. Yes – it will cost the Chapter more due to turnover, but it’s an expense that’s worth it.



- Vita asked whether we were going to get new banners before the Airshow? Colin advised the attendees AFA HQ does not want the old logo used. Dave will order the new banners and/or flags.

### ADVOCATE UPDATES

- Mike Evans and Vita Eonta provided Center Point Energy Dayton Airshow updates, to include:
  - Purchased flowers and potting soil for chalet- \$38 & \$12



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- 24 tickets have been purchased (to date) from our AFA Eventbrite Site
- 2023 CenterPoint Energy Dayton Air Show Chalet/Flight Line Hangar Meeting has been scheduled for 21 June for the chalets
- AFA Ticket distribution to Sponsors will be scheduled for likely 22 June (TBD)
- Jim has been busy with work; Mike meeting with new Airshow staff
- Air Force Ball: Joni Ahlers / Dave Babcock
  - Vita asked if we have a picture of the AF Ball coin. Dave responded the tribute 50<sup>th</sup> Viet Nam – 76 AF Anniversary coin is currently in design by Joni and will be coordinated soon.
  - Based on a conversation Amber Begley (Dayton Development Coalition) had with 88ABW personnel on another event, she questioned AFA's co-sponsorship with the 88<sup>th</sup> ABW for the AF Anniversary Ball. That resulted in a separate conversation between Jeff Hoagland and Dave on our role in the AF Ball and sponsorships. We need to get clarity on this at the next AF Ball meeting.

### SUPPORT PROGRAM UPDATES

- **Aerospace Education: Carl 'Shof' Shofner (Written Input provided)**
  - Four schools have finally accepted our offer of STEM funding! And they are all very excited about it as their STEM funding is extremely tight.
    - The four schools are: Northridge, Fairborn, Stebbins and Belmont.
    - They are more than pleased to take a picture of us presenting the check at either a board meeting or in their offices.
  - I propose that we offer to our top tier sponsors to join me and/or Dave in presenting the check and the photo op (Jill, I will get with you on this.).
  - This still leaves \$2000 available and I'll let it rest for a little bit before I try calling a few more schools just in case it takes time for them to get back to me.
  - Also, all the schools are willing to help us advertise the ToY program, which is great.
    - We've missed the window for this year but having this kind of access into the schools should really increase our chances of having one or multiple Chapter ToY, of which one we could nominate for state.
  - Anna and Shof reviewed the applications we've received for CAP and JROTC (only received JROTC applications). Both were deemed worthy and have or will receive a \$1000 check as agreed in our last meeting.
  - Finally, you have probably seen Anna out and active in the JROTC units.
    - Thanks to Anna for representing the chapter so well and for recognizing these cadets.
- **JROTC: Anna Schulte (Written Input provided)**
  - Last week was pretty much the end of presentations, to include the AFA Scholarship to Cadet Ethan Bui.
  - I do have one more CAP presentation at the end of this month.
  - I have attached the pictures of those presented
    - 🚩 Miami Valley High School AFJROTC AFA Award Winner
    - 🚩 Bellbrook High School AFA Award Winner
    - 🚩 Bellbrook High School AFA Scholarship Winner
  - I am now working with 3 JROTC units to support Rafi's Amigos Golf Outing



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- They will be rewarded with 40 of them attending a special One Day at Air Camp.
- I am also working the support of the August German Club German fest with support by Bellbrook, Beavercreek, and Tecumseh JROTC cadets and parents.
- I continue to provide uniforms and accessories from the Airman’s Attic, to Xenia HS JROTC, Kentucky CAP, Indianapolis CAP, Logan HS JROTC.
- At the Miami Valley HS Awards Ceremony, ran into the Mr. Pfaff, the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor (SASI) of Edgewood HS AFJROTC.
  - He wants to get active with AFA, I passed his information to Mr. Babcock.
- Regarding any request for a AFA WMC logo or business card format, there were addressed under the Secretary’s section.

● **ROTC: Richard Hughes**

- AFA WMC awarded four \$1,000 scholarship to the following AFROTC Detachment 643 Cadets

Cadet’s Name	School	Degree	Year Group
Thaddeus Krueger	Cedarville	Mechanical Engineering	Senior
Jared Beasley	Univ. of Dayton	Mechanical Engineering	Junior
Ashely Daniels	Wright State Univ.	Int’l Business	Sophomore
Ian Butner	Univ. of Dayton	General Aerospace Studies	Freshman

● **Sponsorships: Katherine Ballein/Jill Willingham-Allen**

- AFSA-AFA WMC VA Event on 2 Jun - no funding necessary

● **Membership: Ronda Roberts / Betty Shellhorn - No report**

● **Events: Christina Combs / Adrianna Templeton – No report**

● **Veterans: Vita Eonta**

- AFSA-AFA WMC VA Event on 2 Jun – no funding necessary
- Will look into another form of veteran support for this quarter
- VA Student volunteers – objective is to better acquaint young people with veterans
- 2023 Veterans Day Parade - Saturday, November 11,2023 11:00 AM
  - Entry Application DEADLINE October 7, 2023
  - [Entry Application](#) link
  - For additional information contact Tina Fields
  - Email: Tina.fields1@va.gov/Phone: 937-268-6511 ext. 3840