



Tampa Bay Defense Alliance

P.O. Box 172925 • Tampa, Florida 33672 • www.tampabaydefensealliance.org

Minutes from the Board of
Directors Annual Meeting

9/23/2014 from 5pm- 6pm

Tampa Club

John Schueler presiding.

Attendees: John Schueler, Chip Diehl, Rich McClain, Ken Coppedge, Jim Sampey, Tim Jones, Barry Alpert, GEN (R) Art Lichte, MG (R) Karl Horst, Mike Meidel, Commissioner Al Higginbotham, Walt McCracken, Rob Brooks, Linda O'Rourke

- Ø The meeting was called to order by the President at 5:10 p.m.
- Ø A quorum of Directors was present at the meeting.
- Ø The minutes from the 6/24 BOD meeting was adopted by unanimous vote.

1) Accomplishments 2014

John opened the meeting with some overarching comments about the positive achievements of the Alliance over the past year and asked Chip to cover some specifics.

Chip's Recap

a) Business Plan and Governance Documents:

The creation, adoption (by the BOD), and early stage execution of certain elements of a TBDA business plan along with the creation and vetting by counsel of a set of governance documents were cited as solid cornerstones of the Alliance.

b) "My MacDill" video:

A contract has been signed with John Konkus to shoot a video, tentatively entitled "My MacDill" and is scheduled for completion before the end of Q4, 2014. The video will be approximately 4 minutes long and will address why MacDill is important to the region. The video will be episodic in nature and will be created in components that can be used for other purposes on the TBDA website, in presentations and other venues where discussing the importance of MacDill will take place.

c) MacDill 2025:

A contract has been signed with Deloitte Consulting to deliver phase I of "MacDill 2025" before the end of the calendar year. Jim Soligan will lead the Deloitte team. Jim is a former Air Wing Commander stationed at MacDill and is uniquely qualified to lead Deloitte's efforts. The purpose of MacDill 2025 is to develop a strategic campaign championing MacDill Air Force Base; reaffirming its capacity/capability today; while, more importantly highlighting its enormous value to our national security for decades to come. The goal is to change perceptions, generate respect, and to recommit our Defense leaders to the importance that MacDill serves geographically, operationally and logistically to our nation, the State of Florida and to our war-fighting Commanders of US Central Command (CENTCOM), US Special Operations Command (SOCOM) and US Southern Command

(SOUTHCOM). Important to note that Deloitte is contributing a significant Gift in Kind component on this project and that the entire project will be funded from grants already obtained as well as Phase II and Phase III for 2015 which will be funded from grants currently under review for approval.

d) Legislation Influenced:

The Alliance was instrumental in working “behind” the scenes on the Florida GI bill over the past year, one of the main components of which was the purchase of the Florida Rock Parcel outside the gates of MacDill. There is a grant application currently under review that requests monies to develop a plan for the use of the Florida Rock Parcel, the deed for which will be signed over by the state to the DoD, bringing the parcel effectively under the control of MacDill AFB.

The Alliance has developed good relationships with local legislators who are interacting with the Alliance on a more regular basis every month. The “Influencers” events will continue to be used as a vehicle to create linkage and open lines of communication with our local legislators. The next “Influencers” event is scheduled for a breakfast meeting on 10/7. Invitations were passed out to the meeting attendees. A list of invitees, primarily comprised of companies in the defense industry was compiled by Tim Jones and invitations will be sent out.

e) AMC, ATA and Washington DC Trips:

The Alliance needs more support and participation from Directors and Advisers for all three upcoming trips. Suggestions for attendees for the ATA and AMC trips are to be sent to John before the end of this week.

The ATA convention is considered a priority. General Lichte has arranged for the TBDA to make a presentation at the upcoming convention in Nashville in late October. General Lichte strongly recommended that the Alliance consider having a booth at next year’s convention in Orlando. General Lichte mentioned how effective it can be for “branding”, relationship building, and keeping the TBDA top of mind, to not only attend, but to exhibit at this convention as ALL of the key players in the Military, the Government and the Defense Industry attend this convention. Suggestions for attendees are to be sent to John by the end of this week. Our Grant monies provide for all expenses to be paid for up to four attendees.

The AMC trip is scheduled for November 20th, but can be moved into December if there are too many scheduling conflicts to send a strong group in November. The Alliance has built a strong relationship with AMC by sending quarterly letters to AMC command, detailing the “happenings” in the region. The Alliance has received very positive feedback about the quarterly letters, which are being circulated by Senior Staff to appropriate members of their Commands.

The Washington DC trip will take place after the first of the year and is intended to capitalize on the relationships mentioned previously. An agenda and potential attendees for this trip will be developed over the next 6 weeks.

f) Workforce Initiatives:

Jim Sampey gave a recap on this area. Jim and Walter McCracken have been active in this area all year. They have been working with Ed Peachey, the President and CEO of Worknet Pinellas and the Tampa Bay Workforce Alliance and spoke highly of Ed’s efforts. They are working to identify the skills gap that exists in Tampa between the workforce and employers. The objective is to market to areas that have vets that can fill the local skills gap to attract candidates to the region.

Jim was appointed to the Florida is for Veterans Inc. Board of Directors and now is well placed to continue his efforts on behalf of the TBDA workforce initiatives. More than almost any other initiative, there is a need for coordination and cooperation with regional organizations as most have workforce initiatives that benefit veterans and their families. Our Mantra of One Team/One

Voice is particularly relevant to this issue. The priority is two fold. Help retiring vets and or their families find jobs and stay in the area. Create opportunities for vets to move into the area from out of state. John Schuler also updated the Board on the Tampa Bay Partnership's efforts to create an interactive online database between employers, employees and academia.

g) Website Redesign:

The TBDA website is in the final stages of a complete redesign. Mock ups of the new site were shown to the attendees and a live link was provided for them to view sample pages online. The site will be a vehicle to address issues of concern and interest for and about the defense community. It will also be used as a platform for the Alliance's community partners to speak on issues of importance concerning their work in, with and for the defense community.

2) Administration:

a) Grants:

Rich updated the group on the TBDA grant status as part of his overall financial update.

The Alliance has successfully partnered with the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce and The Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation to obtain grant funding from Enterprise Florida. The actual grant award and specific amounts will be announced within the next 60 days.

Additionally, the Alliance has just presented their grant application to the Florida Defense Support Task Force within the last week. While no announcement of awards has yet been made, all indications are positive as the TBDA was identified once again as a "gold standard" of applicants.

The Alliance has slightly over \$320,000 dollars of available grant money to access for their initiatives over the next 6 months before the current grant year expires. Most of that money will be spent on the MacDill 2025 initiative.

b) Audit and Financial SOP's:

The first TBDA audit has been successfully completed. One suggestion was made by the auditor for a change in procedure which is being implemented. O'Rourke & Associates has completed a financial SOP manual which accommodates the auditor's recommendation. The SOP manual is being edited and will be given to the two outside firms handling the TBDA finances, taxes and accounting needs.

c) Current Funding:

The TBDA has approximately 30K of cash on hand. Barry Alpert requested that a monthly closing statement be reviewed at all subsequent BOD meetings. A monthly "close" has not only been written into the financial SOP but is now part of the Bylaws adopted by the BOD, and will be presented at each BOD meeting from now on.

3) Executive Session:

As this was the annual meeting, the Bylaws require an election of Officers to take place. The following Officers were elected by unanimous vote of the Directors present.

- Ø John Schueler- President
- Ø Chip Diehl- Vice President
- Ø Jim Sampey- Secretary
- Ø Ken Coppedge- Treasurer

The next BOD meeting was scheduled for 11/4 but due to the election, will now be held on 11/18 at the Amalie Arena Boardroom

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm.