

USSVI Bremerton Base Executive Board Meeting

Executive Summary – July 14, 2026

The USSVI Bremerton Base Executive Board met to review the organization's financial condition, membership, upcoming events, and administrative matters. The meeting reflected a financially stable organization with continued membership growth, several successful recent events, and ongoing efforts to improve operations and fundraising opportunities.

Membership increased to **268 members**, a gain of one over the previous month. The base now includes **197 USSVI Life Members**, **147 Holland Club members**, and **244 military veterans**, with 255 members receiving communications by email. Forty-eight members currently owe both National and Base dues.

Treasurer Dan Inman reported that the base remains financially sound. June closed with an ending balance of **\$51,864.82**, reflecting a monthly surplus of **\$289.74** after receiving **\$1,752.64** in income and paying **\$1,462.90** in expenses. Although the General Fund shows a **year-to-date operating loss of \$10,441.39**, the base continues to maintain a healthy cash position while investing heavily in fundraising activities expected to generate future revenue. The Treasurer also noted that fundraising expenses currently exceed budget while direct donations remain well below projected levels, making future fundraising initiatives increasingly important.

Several event reports highlighted strong member participation. The recent Fujiyama dinner attracted approximately 26 attendees, while the Kingston Parade was widely praised as a successful community event despite ongoing safety concerns involving children entering the parade route for candy. The Board discussed keeping parade walkers closer to the float to improve safety at future events. Planning continues for TTF Family Day and the annual Base Picnic, with approximately 30 adults already registered. The Board unanimously approved a **\$300 donation to the VFW** in appreciation for use of its facilities during the picnic.

The Board also approved a significant organizational transition within the Storekeeper program. Angela Chamness was unanimously appointed as the primary Storekeeper, with Jason serving as secondary, allowing for continuity as previous responsibilities are transferred over the coming months. Additional coordination will ensure inventory management and recordkeeping continue without interruption.

A substantial discussion focused on whether Bremerton Base should establish a dedicated **501(c)(3) charitable account through the USSVI Charitable Foundation**. Supporters believe the arrangement would allow the Base to accept larger tax-deductible donations and participate in fundraising programs currently unavailable to non-profit organizations lacking charitable status. Questions remain regarding accounting requirements, reporting responsibilities, reimbursement

procedures, and whether the administrative benefits outweigh the added complexity. No formal action was taken, and additional clarification will be sought before the Board revisits the proposal.

Additional business included reminders that National elections are underway, website training opportunities remain available for officers and committee chairs, bylaw revisions continue in preparation for future presentation, and the Base's website and social media efforts continue to expand. The meeting concluded with routine announcements and preparations for upcoming summer activities.

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. Bremerton Base
Executive Board Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Date: July 14, 2026

Time: 1800 Hours

Location: Zoom Video Conference

Presiding: Base Commander Ileene Davis

Present: Ileene Davis, David Pittman, Dan Inman, Bob Hickman, Dave Bowman, Angela Chamness, Jason Chamness, Robyn Weimer, and Thelma Ruiz

Call to Order

Commander Ileene Davis called the July Executive Board meeting to order at 1800 hours and welcomed those in attendance. A quorum was present.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the June 16, 2026 Executive Board meeting were reviewed. Bob Hickman moved to approve the minutes as written. David Pittman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer/Membership

Treasurer Dan Inman reported membership at **268 members**, an increase of one member from the previous month.

Financial Report:

- Beginning Balance: **\$51,575.08**
- Total Receipts: **\$1,752.64**
- Total Expenses: **\$1,462.90**
- Net Increase: **\$289.74**
- Ending Balance: **\$51,864.82**

No questions were raised, and the report was accepted.

Chaplain

Commander Davis reported that preparations continue for the memorial services for Joe, with assistance being provided to the family regarding funeral arrangements and military honors.

Dave Bowman reported locating Tommy Robinson, who is doing well and plans to attend the Base picnic.

Bob Hickman also reported that Don Quinn has recovered sufficiently to resume duties as campground host at Fort Flagler.

Soupdowns

Commander Davis reported an excellent turnout at the recent Fujiyama Soupdown, with approximately twenty-six attendees. Discussion centered on improving RSVP procedures and determining future responsibility for coordinating Soupdowns.

TTF Family Day

Members were reminded of the upcoming Trident Training Facility Family Day on July 17 and encouraged to participate.

Float and Parades

Members reported that the Kingston Parade was highly successful, drawing large crowds and providing excellent public exposure for the Base.

Discussion focused on parade safety, particularly children entering the parade route to collect candy. Members recommended positioning parade walkers closer to the vehicle to improve crowd control during future events.

Bob Hickman commended the outstanding parade video produced by Dave Bowman.

Deterrent Park

No significant update was presented other than pending installation of previously ordered memorial bricks.

Charitable Foundation Ambassador

Commander Davis announced that Fred will serve as the secondary Charitable Foundation Ambassador alongside Mike. Training materials have been provided to ensure continuity of support for members seeking Foundation assistance.

Holland Club

No report.

Storekeeper

Jason Chamness announced that work commitments will significantly reduce his availability.

Jason moved that Angela Chamness assume primary Storekeeper responsibilities, with Jason serving as secondary. David Pittman seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Commander Davis stated appointment letters would be prepared, and transition activities will continue over the coming months.

Western District Four

Commander Davis reminded members that National elections are underway using the ElectionBuddy online voting system and encouraged all eligible members to vote.

Members were also reminded of upcoming National website training scheduled for July 17.

Past Base Commander

Dave Bowman reported ongoing email delivery issues affecting Hotmail accounts due to Microsoft blocking messages from his ISP.

He also reported continued progress on the Base Bylaw revision project and expects to present a draft to the Executive Board at a future meeting.

Webmaster / Historian / Social Media

Dave Bowman reported continued growth of the National USSVI Facebook Group, now exceeding **6,600 members**, while noting the increasing workload required to screen fraudulent membership requests.

Vice Commander

Vice Commander David Pittman reported preparations for the annual Base Picnic continue.

Approximately thirty adults have registered.

Mr. Pittman moved that the Base donate **\$300** to the VFW in appreciation for use of its facilities for the picnic. Dan Inman seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

National Elections

Commander Davis reminded members that National elections remain open until September 5 and encouraged participation.

501(c)(3) Charitable Foundation Discussion

The Board conducted an extensive discussion regarding participation in the USSVI Charitable Foundation's 501(c)(3) umbrella program.

Discussion included:

- Ability to receive tax-deductible donations designated specifically for Bremerton Base.
- Opportunities for participation in fundraising programs unavailable to non-charitable organizations.
- Accounting, reporting, and audit requirements.
- Management of restricted funds.
- Potential administrative delays associated with National oversight.
- Questions concerning overall benefits versus additional administrative requirements.

No motion was presented. The Board agreed additional clarification from the Charitable Foundation is needed before further consideration.

Good of the Order

Members briefly discussed ongoing communications, website training opportunities, and upcoming/future Base activities. No additional business requiring Board action was presented.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hickman

Base Secretary

USSVI Bremerton Base