



Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 71 N. Elm Street Westfield, MA 01085-1619 Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850

Meetings 2nd Monday of every month www.mclwrv141.com

Minutes of Monthly Meeting 09 December 2024

OPENING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1900 hours, posted the Colors and led the detachment in the Pledge of Allegiance; the Chaplain read the opening prayer after which the Sergeant-at-Arms declared the meeting open for official business. nine regular members, eight associate members were present.

Membership: A possible member reached out to use the barracks for a funeral reception. She graduated from Westfield High School and plays the horn for the Marine Corps band. She lives in the DC area but was hoping to join our detachment and visit when she is in the area. Dan Bishop motioned for acceptance of the new member, second by Brian Dupee and I's approved the membership for Kristin Dubois.

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted unanimously. Motion made by Joe Delany, seconded by Keith Buckhout

Correspondence: Dan Bishop Jr. applied for a charitable donation through Flex Charitable Fund for the detachment. We received a check for \$500.00. We received a Thank You from Brandon Cekovsky for help on the flag incinerator project. Thank you from the VA was received for the food donations and the donut and coffee breakfasts.

Sick or In Distress: Henry Scarborough's legs are bothering him and his wife just came home from the hospital from cancer treatments. Stanley Lactera said Merry Christmas and his legs are also bad so he cannot attend meetings.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS (those not listed had nothing to report or were absent or excused):

Commandant: Please turn in rosters or even a piece of paper with your time on it under the Marine Corps cover so we can get an accurate number of hours and actions done by the detachment to state. The paperwork is due in January so please get it to the Commandant as soon as possible. Skate party is now December 30th when Commandant can not attend so please help if you can. It will be 13:30-15:30 with ice time in between at Amelia Park in Westfield. Scouts (any troop) Young Marines and boys and girls club of Westfield are invited to this time at Amelia Park. We are hoping to get a bigger turn out in the future.

Jr. Vice Commandant: Date for the Golf Tournament has changed to August 9th. Young Marines know the information already so hoping for more help this coming year. Construction contractor is set to give bid and we need to get a committee together to help agree on repairs. Please let Dan know if you are



interested in helping.

Paymaster: We sold all of the calendar cards so those were pulled and checks were sent out (if the recipient wanted the money) at the end of December. Chuck motioned for the financial report be accepted subject to audit. Keith second and the motion was accepted unanimously.

Sergeant at Arms: Wreaths across America is stopping in Agawam. The Route is set to Bethany church on Main Street. Jersey Mikes will be helping with the food.

Armorer: 2 guns are out for cleaning and the rest are all set upstairs.

Ceremonial: December 7th is Pearl Harbor day. Thank you to everyone who came. Marine Corps League was well represented. There was time to go to Westfield and Easthampton events. Colleen Cekovsky took 13-15 bags of nylon to Worcester to be destroyed properly. Every quarter there will be burns in hope of keeping the amount of flags down.

Historian: The book is almost prepared. It should be ready in February.

Photographer/Web Sergeant: Thank you for the photos sent to CarrieAnne. The scholarship application was emailed out and will be on the website soon.

Quartermaster: Please let Chris know if you need something. There are tons of things upstairs please take a look and see if any will fit you for uniforms.

Scholarship: The applications are out now for the next round of scholarships to be due in March.

VAWS: Please bring food for the VA food bank in Leeds. They need food terribly. If you leave food on the bench in the barracks during breakfast or any time Brian Dupee will deliver to the VA as soon as possible. Santa will visit on December 20th to deliver presents.

Easthampton VC: Meets again in January. Grave marker cleaning is happening at the last cemetery.

Holyoke Veteran Home: Lots of activities planned. Only openings are on Wednesdays. Joe would like to pick a night for Bingo or another activity. He will try to reserve January 15th for the Marine Corps League to go up for a game night at 18:30. Activity will be decided at the next meeting and a date will be definite then.

New Business:

Patches of the new and accepted detachment patch are \$8.00 each. Then we will have some at the barracks to sell. There is a minimum of 20 patches that need to be bought. Joe motions for the detachment to buy 20 patches for \$160.00 (\$8/patch) to sell, Keith seconds and unanimously accepted.

Dan motions for donations for local area groups. Westfield police is doing Toys for Tot Drive. Motion is for \$500.00 to Lynn and Brian Dupee to buy that amount worth of toys to be delivered to the Westfield Police station on December 16th. National Toys for tots received our \$141.00 so this would be additional. Dan motions for \$150.00 be paid to the VA, Agawam and Westfield food banks to help them during this season. These motions were second by Joe and unanimously accepted.

Good of the League:

November 20th the Marine Corps birthday was celebrated at Holyoke veteran home. The veterans loved it. An email was sent to the Commandant. A small business owner wanted to know if she could spearhead an



event in the Westfield area and give all proceeds to the barracks. We would only need to have a table at the event for recruiting but she would get vendors and advertise the event herself. Marissa Callihane would like to help us a few times a year with these events. Unanimously accepted to have her start this process. There is a 40/8th raffle of a basket of cheer. Tickets will be on sale with the 40/8th members until the drawing on Superbowl Sunday.

January 26th in Easthampton at the American Legion there will be a chili cookoff. It is at 13:00, \$5.00 to get in and helps fund the Four Chaplains event at Leeds VA every year.

Certificates Awarded:

Associate of the year 2024: Brianna Torrey voted by Commandant, Carrieanne and Lynn.

Marine of the year 2024: Dan Bishop voted by Commandant, Keith, Joe, Brian, Rene, Fran and Chuck.

New plaques made for the barracks. Marine of the year is updated and more will be added to it. Associate of the year needs to find a place in the barracks and is up to date.

CLOSING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 20:30 hours and the Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The closing statement was read and the proceedings were declared adjourned until the next scheduled detachment meeting, on January 13, 2024.

Brianna Torrey, Adjutant

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Marine Corps League