



DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
Membership Meeting January 2024
MCLPA HQ Building 3-95
Ft. Indiantown Gap, PA

20 Jan 2024

1109 - Commandant Henry introducing a VVS Chair, and report with papers to distribute.

New VVS Chair Jacob Burton. Took program over in October. 8 detachments participated, only 12 percent of MCL of PA. Check forms and send in December 2023 forms (up to date). Presenting checks to detachment.

Recess at 1128, return at 1300.

1312 - Opening Ceremony -Meeting was called to order at 1312 by Commandant Henry, Sergeant at Arms Sundling led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, Chaplain Jim Schreiber led us in prayer.

Past Department Commandants: PDC Brady, PDC Ziltz

National Staff on Board:

Northeast Division Vice Commandant- Mike Waluk

Thanks to the National Staff on board that were acknowledged this morning.

All past Department Marines of the Year acknowledged from this morning and thanked for staying

2023 Department Marines of the Year and Associate Marine of the Year recognized -

Howard Schaeffer

Carol McIntosh

Northeast Division Marine of the Year and 2023 Associate of the Year

Victoria McCoy

Carol McIntosh

Roll Call of the Officers - Chief of Staff Carol McIntosh

All Officers present or accounted for with excused absence. Several DVC vacancies today. D7 has no representation today. D6 is appointing Carol McIntosh as representation (non-voting member). Lisa



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Solarczyk is representing for D4 VC. D2 is appointing Bob Sundling as representation for VC. D1 has no representation on board for this meeting.

Motion by Paymaster Smalley and second by JV Jim Diamond on meeting appointments. Motion carried. Reimbursement allowances made.

Sick or in Distress - Commandant Mike Mastriana is beginning treatment for colon cancer. Dean VanZanardi undergoing surgery this next Tuesday. SVC McCoy has RSV. Auxiliary member Karen Mastriana undergoes surgery Monday for breast cancer. Sign cards to be mailed out.

Dedication of Meeting:

- Commandant Henry dedicated meeting to Marine Gary McAnn. Passed away recently and was a very active member.
- Sergeant at Arms Bob Sundling dedicated meeting to Joe, Vietnam Veteran, Detachment member and agent orange survivor.
- PDC Dave Brady dedicated meeting to Charles McEvoy, one of many inactive members, life member, offers support when needed, recently passed away.
- Marine Joe Midia dedicated meeting to Associate Member Federal Court Judge Edward Smith, Retired US Navy, who recently passed away.
- JVC Jim Diamond dedicated meeting to Ray Topoliski, Black Diamond detachment member, who passed away.
- Susquehanna Valley Det. 308 dedicated meeting to Mike Guyer, a charter member.

Elected Officers Reports - All officer reports were written, submitted and posted on the Dept. website. JVC Diamond added to his report - thanked members who helped purchase tickets and calendars. Commandant Henry - asked for motion to receive all elected officer reports as presented. Motion by D5 Gary Anspach and Second by D3 Colyer James. Motion carried.

Appointed Officers Reports:

All officer reports were written, submitted and posted to the Dept. website.

Paymaster Smalley advised new forms are out as discussed this morning, Detachment Officers need to check forms and make sure they are proper and up to date.

Sgt. at Arms asked for members to sign in upon entering the upper deck room for the meetings. Also notate when leaving the building on the downstairs sheet.

Adjutant Cook asked for all quarterly reports to be submitted using a letterhead PDF, if you do not know how to do this then ask.

Chaplain Schreiber reported sick and distressed as noted in that section.

Quartermaster report not submitted due to health issues. Thanks to Colyer James for filling in.

Newsletter Editor - nothing to add to report. Commandant Henry would appreciate more input from the membership for the newsletter. Only SVC and Commandant submitted information to the newsletter.

Asking Board members and detachments to submit information for the newsletter.

Commandant Henry - asked for motion to receive all appointed officer reports as presented. Motion by JVC Diamond and Second by D10 VC Matt Popovich. Motion carried.

Standing and Program Committees Reports:

- Commandant's Council - JVC Diamond- gave brief on this morning's meeting and thanked those for attending.



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- PDC Council - JRPC PDC Dave Brady - NSTR. Commandant made official request for PDC Council to assist and take point in examining re-districting Dept. of PA. Issues with DVC detachment representation. Some districts have over 11 and some have less than 3 detachments.
- Marine of the Year - President Victoria McCoy - excused absence. Met at the end of lunch and selected Dept. of PA nominees. Submitting recommendations as required. Detachments start thinking about who to nominate and submit for Dept. Marine of the Year. Remember Associates to nominate as well.
- Convention Committee - Acting Chair - Victoria McCoy - excused absence. Commandant Henry discussed 3 proposals for 2025 convention location. First hotel eliminated due to inadequate handicap accessibility. Second bid - kitchen closed - so inaccurate bid. One contender left, will be at Hilton in Scranton, PA. This will be 250th anniversary. Still in negotiations on room rates etc. Negotiated parking cost and got it waived. More information to follow in the next few weeks. Convention Committee approved dates for forms, will be mailed out and posted to the website.
- Budget Committee - Chair - JRVC Diamond - met in the hospitality room, didn't see any big issues. One issue about trash dumpster charge being too high. Will investigate issue. Windows in bldg 396 will be repaired or looked at to be repaired. High cost on that bldg. Base maintenance tried to cover up broken windows.
- Audit Committee - Chair - JRVC Diamond - submitted report to the Adjutant for records.
- Awards and Citations - Chair - SVC McCoy- not present.
- Training - SVC McCoy - Leadership training - not present.
- Americanism - Chris Shaw - Sue Irvin - not present.
- Scholarships - Gene Irvin - Commandant Henry asked for forms to be carefully reviewed and information entered correctly. Around 67 scholarship submissions and only around 28 awarded. The students did not send in last information stating they were attending school even after repeated attempts to get the right information.
- Samuel Nicholas Memorial Committee - Doug Forsythe - not present.
- Marksmanship Committee - Jim Schreiber - presented Awards for Rifle and Pistol matches. Refer to the document posted to the website if you want to see the Awards and standings. Get the message out to show up and shoot. Use social media to promote matches. 36 awards given out this year, so the program is growing. Looking to be creative with matches and make competitions fun. Match dates will be coordinated and published.
- Medical Assistance Committee - Bonnie Shaw - not present today. Report was submitted.
- Toys for Tots - DVC VanZanardi - not present today due to surgery on Tuesday. If participated in T4T and not an LCO who files to National, get After Action report to Dean VanZanardi.
- Scouting - as of this week, a new Scouting Chair appointed - Greg Slaegle. Look for him to appoint a committee and get scouting program back on track. Detachments not reporting to Dept. of PA their



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scouting activities and Eagle Scout reports. National is asking for #s on Eagle Scout award handouts. Support Marine Sleagle moving forward.

- VVS -Marine Jacob Bertin stepped up and agreed to chair this committee and gave his report this morning. 8 checks distributed for 1st and 2nd quarter, out of 67 detachments.

Commandant Henry - asked for a motion to receive all Committee reports as presented. Motion by Paymaster Smalley and Second by DV 5 Anspach . Motion Carried.

Subordinate, Subsidiary and Independent Organization Reports:

- MODD PA PACK - did not meet due to weather. Pack Leader not present.
- Marine Corps League Auxiliary - President Ruth Moyse - not present, Auxiliary met via zoom.
- MCL of PA Foundation -President PDC Bob Ziltz. Foundation has same problems as the League- empty chairs, same people wearing multiple hats. Met with the Commandant and suggested the foundation funds used to help Marines in need, sitting on over half a million dollars. Have to follow mission. Took everyone off the list and starting from scratch. BOT approved new bylaws. In the past humanitarian assistance could only help Marines and not Associates, or help other 501c3 organizations. Now includes all members, Marine Veterans and their families. Look for Veteran shelter struggling in your community that needs Foundation funds. Foundation has 5 funds set up. BOT appointed more board members to the Foundation. Stay compliant with the law and get back to fundraising.

National Officer Reports:

- NEDIV VC - Mike Waluk - Housecleaning - TACOM Rifle reports due by end of year. DIV Conference in New Jersey this year April timeframe, look online for registration. If you can help support the Division please do so by taking an AD as this is only source of funding. Please attend if able. Department to submit nominees by 1 March for MoY and AoY. Was ready to step down as VC last year. Unwritten agreement between all 3 Divisions in the NE. NY stepped out for second time and caused a meeting with National BOT. NE DIV is unique and only one to do rotation. National BOT has to then make an appointment when rotation is off and someone steps out. Difficult time filling spots in any area of Detachment, Department and Division. Do we want to change the rotation process or keep using it? Each detachment and Department need to discuss this. In the process of putting an SOP together for Division. YPF - had BOT meeting a month ago - signed memorandum of understanding and accepted an SOP. Hitting a brick wall getting this program running. Scouting - got 2 of 3 departments moving. Detachments need to report Scouting certificates to Department and up. Use this as a recruiting tool. Charters- exhaust all means necessary to keep detachments afloat- then get the process moving rapidly to get those members transferred. Asking Commandant to keep him informed on detachments falling behind. 990s - complete and submit. We have the largest Div in the League. PLM- money for the detachment and department. Fill this out and submit. Make sure banking info is correct on PLMs. Scam emails - watch out for these. Asking who has downloaded MCL App. Encouraging members to use this App -uses Profile ID, not member ID. Newsletter - please participate. Looking for PA to receive award from National for Newsletter. Follow instructions on how to submit. Vacant positions in District - encourages members to step up and try these vacant positions. DV are liaisons directly to Dept. Commandants. 2024 - volatile year in politics. Charter prohibits us from any political affiliation while in MCL uniform. Be careful of politics on social media too.



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Unfinished Business:

- Closing detachments - reviewed during yesterday's BOT meeting.
 - Moving members from detachments must be current with dues. Black Diamond in process of turning in charter and transferring members. Tun Tavern detachment is struggling. Request for name change of a detachment is possible to keep their name. Cannot transfer any member not in good standing.
- Patriot cable was here this morning, updating wifi. Need someone with ethernet knowledge to "re-terminate" wires. PDC Ziltz offered to do this.
- Updating software for Dept. computers - still investigating which direction we want to take. There are many options.
- Revision of AP's- in process for Dept. of PA. Commandant and SVC working on these and will be ready by March meeting.
- YPF - Will be clearing outdated material from Bldg. 3-96.
- Replace AED battery - Cost will be between \$180-\$500. Depends on model of AED. More information coming in March.

New Business :

- Pennsylvania War Veterans Council - Marine Charles Trainor has agreed to stay on for reappointment to the Delaware Valley Veteran's Home.
- Attended State Veteran's Commission meeting last Friday. Conflicts with entry to post today. Will be back in touch with post police and Adjutant General's office to find correct procedure for March meeting.
- Robert E McHale from Detachment 1386 Leatherneck Square , asking for members that have children serving on active duty and if over the age of 18, they are eligible to become a member.
- Newsletter Editor Doug Graves discussed scam emails. Be aware and do not open suspicious emails.
- Greg Slaegle, Susquehanna detachment 308, discussed that MODD meets the same time as hospitality events. PACK can hold their growl when they choose per Commandant Henry.
- PDC Brady, website committee - please check website for detachment information. Verify meeting time, place, Officers and Paymaster etc. Info is taken from ROI, will be updated upon receipt of supplemental report. Indiantown Gap National Cemetery - volunteers collecting wreaths. In November took down the Avenue of Flags, 500 were designated for retirement. Need flags "internment" flags only that have been used for funerals. Do not burn internment flags, collect, separate them and bring to Dave Brady in a bin at the quarterly meeting. Cemetery is not gated. Information on the back table.

Good of the League :

- Forms - National and Department forms have been updated and sent out, including links. Make sure you are using updated forms. Most important is ROI, need name of Officer, Profile ID #, email address and phone number. Dues information changed at the bottom of form. What portion of dues does detachment keep. Department dues are \$5, most detachments are 2 or 5 dollars. Verify information on new forms. National is changing membership cards and removing member IDs and life member #s. Use Profile ID for MCL records. Listing detachment where voting rights are. No exact date on when cards are coming out.
- Ritual Book - copies going around saying revised in 2021. Information inside that cover is not up to date. Any reference to Navy personnel, ritual book is outdated. MCL voted to allow regular membership to ALL FMF Navy personnel. Change to oath of membership- one oath for regular and



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associate members. Ritual book still has both oaths listed. Shortened version in the library on the national website.

- Colyer James - two applications on National library. Webmaster needs to fix website for incorrect application.
- Social media - Florida detachment has page on facebook that links directly to MCL detachment website. National Public Relations Committee advised against posting this to a MCL page. Argument over personal page or detachment page. Two options - Remove reference to the detachment or give up their charter. National has final say on what is acceptable to post on MCL pages. Proper response is to comply and acknowledge.

Announcements:

- Next Dept. Meeting- 1300 on 16 March 2024 at Dept. HQ bldg.
- Mailing Preparation - Mid Feb.
- Quarterly Reports due to the Adjutant by 1 Mar 2024.
- Mission BBQ donated cornbread to go with chili today. Thank them.

Closing Ceremony: Meeting was adjourned at 1500 hours by Commandant Henry assisted by SAA Sundling, JVC Diamond and Chaplain James Schreiber.

Respectfully Submitted by Sarah Cook, Adjutant, MCLPA