

AGENDA

FOR DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON

January 14, 2023 at 11:00 AM at Post 414 (Dudley-Gendron) 156 Boston Road, Sutton MA 01590

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY DEPARTMENT COMMANDER **Sally Nay**

1. SALUTE TO THE COLORS
2. INVOCATION
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. POW/MIA EMPTY CHAIR CEREMONY **William Chisholm**
5. PREAMBLE TO CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION **EVERYONE**
6. ROLL CALL BY DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT **Milton K. Lashus**
7. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES of the DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING on November 26, 2022 at Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough MA
8. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES of The Detachment of Massachusetts Zoom Meeting on November 17, 2022
9. DEPARTMENT TREASURER'S REPORT **Steve Souza**
10. DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT **Sandra Davis**
11. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS
12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS 1. Cancellation of the Inactive SAL Charters. 2. Post 240 Charter to be turned in. (Certified letter mailed & returned receipt received.) Stamped 12/3/2022
13. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. CORRESPONDENCE
 - B. MOTIONS
 - C. COMMANDERS APPOINTMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS
14. GOOD OF THE LEGION
15. NO FURTHER BUSINESS – MOTION TO ADJOURN
16. CLOSING PRAYER
17. **RETIRE THE COLORS**

Meeting called to order by DC Sally Nay at 1:00 PM
SALUTE TO THE COLORS – Sgt. Robert Desrosiers
INVOCATION – Asst. Chaplain Kevin Hamel
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ALL
POW/MIA CHAIR – Bill Chisholm
PREAMBLE - All

Roll Call – by Adjutant Lashus

Present: CMDR Nay; DSVC Davis; DVC Blake; DVC Conner, DVC McPhee; ADJ Lashus; TRS Souza; ASST CHAP Hamel; HIST Jerdan; DECW Lacoste; PNC Comer; ALT NEC Pajak; PDC Dias; JA Fratolillo; AJA Brault; SGT Desrosiers; Lacoste; Hallene; Heisey; Doud; Aide Nay; D1C Lefebvre; D3C Howe; D4C Gallant; D5C Desrosiers; D7C Sinatra; D8C Cannon; D9C Bettencourt; D10C Connell; AD1C Oleen; AD3C Fontaine; AD4C Hallene; AD5C Blake; AD7C Scott; AD8C Manning; AD9C Mangels; AD10C Burke; PDC Chisholm; Connors; MacDonald; McKittrick; Starks
Excused: CHAP Salois; ASST CHAP Ryan; PNC Morin; AJA Atkins; HON SGT Lizotte; PHOTO Borges; D6C Lewis; AD2C White; AD6C Milot
Absent: D2C White

Minutes

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES of the DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING on January 14, 2023 as PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED

Motion made by SRVC Davis and 2nd DVC Blake Any discussion? Motion carried

ACCEPTANCE OT THE MINUTES of The Detachment of Massachusetts Meeting on November 17, 2022, Zoom meeting

Motion made by DSRV Davis and 2nd DVC Blake Any discussion? Motion carried

Treasurer Report

Treas. Steve Souza:

It's that time of year to start planning for our next fiscal year with a word of caution. As you all know a major portion of our income comes directly from membership, sales of raffle and yes some investments. With that said, as you hear of the reports of membership not being as frisk as in the past, we could experience a need to make cuts in our operating budget. With less members to pay dues, purchase raffles or other fund raising events we will be bringing in less revenue than in past years.

Just a note, to beware!

Budget 2023

Our budget of \$616,456.70, is entering its third quarter mark for FY '23 and is one that maintains continuity for all programs, services as well as our operational cost. As you know our fiscal budget continues to fund all programs for our veterans, their families, our communities and our children.

We are currently working on a number of programs that quick books (our accounting program) will be able to break down total incomes, expenses and balances, committee reports along with profits and losses compared to past dates. Training is being planned in the near future, waiting for our new Adjutant to come on board, making it a team effort.

Our overall financial condition remains solid.

Investments

Our investments, as of this past Thursday, 1.12.2023 are at \$3,980,259.44 up from previously reported at the last DEC meeting in November. We have had a gain of \$66,357.12, or roughly 17% increase.

As the financial market continues to fluctuate day to day I believe we are in good shape while holding our own.

All funds and accounts are closely monitored by our Legion Finance and Investment Committees, with meetings that take an effortful look at methods to maintain a sound portfolio, as we continue to move forward.

Overview of our investments;

Sep DEC meeting Nov DEC meeting

RBC Capital Wealth Mgt. \$2,857,341.13 to \$2,901,807.75

Boston Harbor Wealth Adv. \$1,056,561.19 to \$1,078,451.69

TD Bank Accounts (Restricted)

As of 1/12/23 we have \$1,822,819.45, up from the previous month of December, \$1,814,050.02 for a net gain of \$8,769.43.

This concludes my financial report as it continues to be one in progress.

Motion to accept report subject to audit by PDC Dias 2nd by ALT Pajak

Membership Report

DSVC Sandra Davis Membership Chairman

Department Population Report.

1. Let's start with Happy thoughts: The Posts that have already met their annual goal:

- a. From District 1: New Marlboro Post 350
 - b. From District 2: Granby Post 266
 - c. From District 4: Oxford Post 58
 - d. From District 5: Natick Post 107 & E. Chelmsford Post 366
 - e. From District 7: Oliver-Ames Post 117 & Penney Post 399
 - f. From District 8: Nahant Post 215 & East Lynn Post 291
 - g. From District 10: Kingston Post 108
2. Thank you to all the Districts and Posts that diligently make all of their target goals on time. Thank You for your dedication and hard work.
 3. Resources:
 - a. ZOOM roundtables: Thank you to all that participate. This is a good opportunity to get help with issues, share ideas, and talk with our Department subject matter experts. REMINDER: It is NOT acceptable to wait until in-person meeting day to get help. The next ZOOM Roundtable will take place on Monday, February 20th 7pm. A reminder will be emailed to District Leadership the week before the next meeting. For those districts that haven't jumped into 'monthly roundtable' pool yet, come on in the water's fine.
 - b. District Leadership is being sent periodic emails (~2 week) with reminders/FYI's about upcoming events and 'marked up' weekly metrics reports. This is to help identify and kick start solving issues with posts before they become problems.
 - c. Reach out if help is needed. There is a friendly, knowledgeable, helpful Department Representative assigned to each district listed at the top of every weekly metrics report.
 4. OK...Time for the touchy subjects:
 - a. And my least favorite topic, NUMBERS. It's not that I don't like numbers, it's that most people look at me like a deer in headlight. So here it goes: As a department we did NOT make the 75% target and we are well are not on target to make 80% target on 1/19. As of yesterday, according to National, we are NOT one of the top 50 departments. We aren't on the very bottom, however some serious elbow grease is needed to keep us from the very bottom of the list.
 - b. We went over all the numbers, actions already taken, and possible recovery plans during the last meeting with the same audience, so not going to spend time reinventing the wheel.
 5. Reminder: if you know of any Post holding on to any renewals, please have them transmitted ASAP.
 6. Fun factoid: Here are top 3 posts at adding traditional new people this year:
 - a. Berkley Post 121: 28 new traditional people
 - b. Somerset Post 221: 22 new traditional people
 - c. Westfield Post 124: 16 new traditional people
 - d. What do all of these posts have in common? Year-over-year growth!
 7. It's about being out there and MAKING IT PERSONAL in our communities. This is how we show personal value to prospective newbies and keep our current family members. If people see personal value, they will want to belong and stay in our Legion Family. Engaging our people is the key to retaining our people and growing. I think it's time to get off my soap box before the tomatoes start flying so REMEMBER: You can be the one to make a difference by Making It Personal!

Respectfully submitted as a report in progress.

Sandra Davis-Department Sr. Vice Commander (Membership Chairman by virtue of office)

Motion made by SRVC Davis and 2nd by NEC Davis Any discussion? Motion carried

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

ROTC

Shawn Ryan Howe Chairman

ROTC/JROTC meeting was held on Jan.10th, 2023 on zoom.

Districts 3, 4, 7 were in attendance

Before the meeting each District chair was emailed a list of questions.

We had discussed if the district chairs have been in contact with post that support a unit. It was brought by the district 3 chairman that now Post 430 is closing both High School of Commerce and High School of Science and Technology will need another post to support them. The district chairman said that they are going to be reaching out to Post 420 in Springfield to see if they would be willing to support those units. If not the district will be reaching out to different post within the district to see if they would be willing to support them.

Chicopee high JROTC has been active this in the community this year, some of the community events that they have help with are Wreaths Across America, The District 3 banquet, Veterans Day, they will be taking part in Vietnam Veterans Day event on March 29th, and Memorial Day.

District 4 has notified the committee that there are no post that take an active role with JROTC. Vernon Hill Post does work with the College units at Worcester Poly Tech and with College of the Holy Cross. District 4 notified the committee that a couple other veteran groups do support the JROTC units and help the different units cover their awards and ribbons.

District 7 did notify the committee that the Revere post takes an active role in 2 different units one at East Boston and the other Revere High School. The post sends a representative to their award Breakfast at the end of the school year. District 7 also notified the committee that both East Boston and Revere units are very active within their community and also take part in larger events like Veterans Day and Memorial Day.

The Committee is going to try and hold an in person meeting within the next month to see how we collectively want to move forward and see how we can improve the network between the American Legion and the different High Schools and Colleges within our Department.

Respectively submitted one in Progress,

Ryan Howe Chairman

Motion made by D3C Howe and 2nd by D7C Sinatra

Any discussion? Motion carried

CPR

Fred White Chairman read by Adjutant Lashus

The final figures for the 2021-2022 reporting year are in. The Department of Mass finished the year with 60.28% reporting percentage.

The figures can be broken down into different percentages.

30% -40%	40% - 50%	50% - 60%	60% - 70%	80% - 90%	90% - 100%
District 5	District 7	District 6	District 8	District 3	District 1
	District 10	District 4	District 9	District 2	

The percentage 60.28% after 3 years of probing, pushing, lecturing and begging that's the best the Department could accomplish.

Now that you can start working on the post's consolidated report, we should have at the end of the 2022-2023 reporting year, better than 90% for the Department of Mass.

You all should have a cop of the "CPR" for 2022-2023 and if you have already submitted your CPR, it can be updated when the Post has additional items to report.

We have almost 5 months to submit a completed CPR. Let's get it done. **CAN DO!!!!**

Submitted as a work in progress PDC Fred J. White Chairman

Motion made by DEPT. ADJT. Lashus and 2nd by PDC Starks Any discussion? Motion carried

BOYS STATE

Mark Avis Chairman report read by George Oleen

AS A REMINDER THE DATES FOR THIS YEAR'S BOYS STATE PROGRAM IS JUNE 17 – 23, 2023 AT STONEHILL COLLEGE.

THE BOYS STATE COMMITTEE/FOUNDATION MEMBERS HELD A ZOOM MEETING ON January 8, 2023 AT 10:30 A.M.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO EXPLAIN THE ON LINE PROCESS TO EVERYONE ATTENDING. WE ARE NOW TRYING TO GO ALL ELECTRONIC EVEN WITH THE SUBMISSION OF THE MEDICAL FORM. THE NEWLY DESIGNED PAMPHLET WAS SHOWN AND WILL BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE SCHOOLS WHEN ASKING FOR STUDENTS TO HELP EXPLAIN THE PROGRAM.

WE ALSO TALKED ABOUT MY STAFF COUNCILORS MAKING A SOLID PUSH TO GET THE INNER-CITY SCHOOLS (BOSTON AREA) INTO THE PROGRAM. AS WELL AS WILLING TO HELP ANYONE WITH RECRUITING IN THEIR AREA. I THINK WE FINALLY HAVE THE WHOLE WORCESTER AREA COVERED IN TERMS OF RECRUITING. STILL LOOKING FOR HELP IN THE BURNCOAT, NORTH AND SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL AREAS (THAT IS A PROJECTED AREA FOR NEXT YEAR IN OUR PLAN TO COVER THE COMMONWEALTH).

EARLY FEBRUARY I WILL BE SCHEDULING A MEETING OF THE BOYS STATE AND AMERICANISM COMMITTEE (AS ONE OF THE JOBS OF AMERICANISM IS TO PROMOTE THE PROGRAMS.

COMMANDER, I SUBMITTE THIS REPORT AS ONE OF PROGRESS.

MARK AVIS, BOYS STATE CHAIRMAN

Motion made by D1C Lefebvre and 2nd by DVC Blake

Any discussion? Motion carried

WOMENS VETERANS

Cindy Lacoste Chairman

Good afternoon, since our last DEC meeting in November, the Women Veterans Network met in December for their end of the year review of programs and schedule for 2023.

First off, the WVN is continuing to evolve their website to become a valuable tool that captures information and raises awareness of the Network. They also have a new database & tracking system called OnBase, by Hyland. Efforts have already begun: cleaning existing data, entering new women vets as they meet them, collecting more useful information from women veterans, and marketing awareness and understanding.

As of today, plans are in the works for some familiar programs from last year, and adding new and different ones as well. The first event of this year is the Woman Archery 2023, set for January 21st at Reedy's Archery, Inc. 121 Wood St, in Middleboro, MA. They are adding quarterly Town Hall meetings to access information on benefits, with the first to be held on March 8 on the North Shore in Salem, specifics TBD. Following ones will be early May in Western MA, Cape Cod in August, late November in Central MA and Boston TBD. These were noted to be beneficial for Q&A sessions which ran short during the June conference.

The WVN is looking to have a larger women veteran's presence in the 4 big parades in the State, St. Patrick's Day (Boston, Holyoke), Bunker Hill Day, Boston Veterans, and Thanksgiving Day. A new and fun day will be June 9th. Cmdr. Farrell and the USS Constitution will be doing a turnaround for women veterans and a guest. Followed on June 12 by the Women's Appreciation Day & Deborah Sampson Award at the State House, and June 17th for the Annual Conference on the South Shore.

Last year the first annual Family Day was held at Greenhill Park, Worcester and was a success; therefore, they are planning another Family day in September. Talks are surrounding a US Coast Guard sail out in Eastern MA, followed with food and activities at the event destination.

The PGA golf program will be held again in Winchester & adding West Springfield this year, having an East/West location and a possibly a joint dinner at the end. Runs once a month from May through October.

A new endeavor will be focusing on a woman-owned Small Business Workshop, with vendors and exhibitors, breakout sessions and a light lunch served. To be held in October in Eastern MA, using the slogan "Women Veterans Mean Business".

Checking in with the VA on va.gov/womenvet/ I found the following information which is a very big step forward for both men and women:

"Today's VA is focused on the needs of women Veterans and cultural transformation. We aim to provide an environment free from harassment. VA has introduced [White Ribbon](#), a national call to action to eliminate sexual harassment, sexual assault, and domestic violence. VA Secretary McDonough is making accountability of those who commit harassment or sexual assault an important part of creating a culture that is free from harassment and sexual assault, without fear of retaliation. White Ribbon VA is an awareness movement where ALL – regardless of their gender – can participate."

I believe we all have a part in this to ensure that those who serve after us or work in a VA or anywhere can have a life free from sexual harassment.

In closing, I would ask that anyone who sees information that they feel is important for veterans, both male and female, to make an effort to send it to me or someone in our organization so that we can all benefit and share these important ideas or events.

Thank you and always remember to Be the One to ask those around you how they are doing.

Regards,

Cindy Lacoste, DECW

Motion made by DECW Lacoste and 2nd by D3C Howe

Any discussion? Motion carried

TRAINING

Scott Connor Chairman

Since the last DEC: **Minuteman Monday** - 2nd Monday via Zoom, 7:00 pm - December - Understanding and Writing Resolutions January - How's your Post Meeting going **On the Horizon** February - Assessing your Post's Community Relevance April - TBD **Training Tuesday** - Last Tuesday of the month January 31, 7:00 pm Topic forth coming E-Legionnaire - Monthly insight to legion/dept. programs Dec - DVC - Lisa wrote about Media and Communications Jan - DEC - Yours truly wrote about the Consolidated Post Rpt Feb - DVC Nelson will be writing about the virtues of Americanism. Any Info, Programs, District Training, please let me know, we can develop training event for you. Legion College - Congratulations to Post 125 Cmdr. Mitch Kiel Training Report submitted as one in progress. Motion made by DVC Conner and 2nd by PDC Dias Any discussion? Motion carried

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Scott Conner Chairman

AI White Community Service awards have been selected for October and November. Looking for a submissions, please! Excerpt from AL White bio: The Department of Massachusetts George "AI" White Community Service Award recognizes the work of dedicated individuals who have invested themselves in their community and our country. Most Posts will be have community service events this time of the year, there are plenty of opportunities to take the time and submit for recognition, applications and requirements can be found at MassLegion.org - Programs - Community Service. Need help, e-mail or call me. Presentation of AI White Awards: October - Post 124 - Westfield for Entertaining our fellow veterans at the Holyoke Soldiers home with a "Casino Night" November - Post 373 - Baldwinville for the "Be the One" program and seminar at Narragansett Regional High School. Please start looking for: John Mulkern Award (Educator of the Year) Nominees John Mulkern was a 30 year educator in the Boston

School System, and a National Vice Commander, 1994-95. Joseph J. Conway Award - Community Service - Individual Claudius G. Pendill Award - Community Service - Post/Post Family Howard E. Schreiber Award - Runner-up of the Pendill Award. Start getting your "Books" together for the annual awards, they are presented at the Department Convention. Legionnaire of the Year. Community Service Report submitted as one in Progress. Motion made by PDC Dias and 2nd by D1C Lefebvre Any discussion? Motion carried

EMPLOYMENT & VETERANS PREFERENCE

Lawrence Connors Chairman

We have reached the deadline for the Employer of Veterans Award. This year we received only one nomination. A nomination from The Robert I Nickerson Post 382 of Squantum MA. M&S Auto Body of Dorchester MA in the small category. The application has been forwarded to National for review. Results of the will be announced at The Department Convention in June, submitted as one in progress.

Lawrence A. Connors Department Chairman Employment & Veteran's Preference.

Motion made by PNEC Connors and 2nd by DSVC Davis Any discussion? Motion carried

YOUTH CADET LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Louis Brault Chairman

A planning meeting was held at the MSP academy in New Braintree on Wed January 11, 2023 to discuss the upcoming class for 2023.

As of now the tentative dates are:

Thursday August 10th thru Sunday August 13th 2023. Thursday August 17th thru Sunday August 20th 2023.

We have a target date to send out the application by February 6th 2023 depending on administration changes at the state police.

Learning from last year the class size will be approximately 70 cadets.

And last but not least, the price will go back to the original price as its four days and the price of everything has increased. This is a work in progress.

Respectfully submitted, Louis E. Brault Chairman

Motion made by PNEC Brault and 2nd by D3C Howe Any discussion? Motion carried

Lashus what will the cost be for this year? Chairman Brault \$400.00 per cadet.

LIAISON TO LEGION RIDERS

Louis Brault Chairman

WE HAVE RECEIVED TWO CHARTER APPLICATIONS,

THE FIRST APPLICATION IS FROM POST 266, GRANBY MA.

ALL PAPERWORK IS IN ORDER AND WILL BE BROUGHT UP UNDER NEW BUSINESS.

THE SECOND APPLICATION IS FROM POST 204 IN WEST BOYLSTON MA.

ALL THE PAPERWORK IS IN ORDER AND WILL ALSO BE BROUGHT UP UNDER NEW BUSINESS.

THIS IS A WORK IN PROGRESS

LOUIS E. BRAULT –CHAIRMAN LEGION RIDERS

Motion made by PNEC Brault and 2nd by D3C Howe Any discussion? Motion carried

MARKETING REPORT

Michael Davis Chairman

The Winter Sweepstakes raffle will be held today after the Department Executive Committee meeting. Many thanks to all who contributed as your contribution helps support the department and its programs.

The Veteran of the Game "Challenge Accepted" partnership with the Springfield Thunderbirds of The American Hockey League continues to be a success in marketing what our organization is and what it does.

The committee has agreed upon the future purchase of plastic bags with The American Legion Emblem on one side and the POW-MIA emblem on the other side. These bags can be distributed at events and increase the brand awareness of The American Legion. Many thanks are due to Past Department Vice Commander and National Emblem Sales Chairman Robert Burke for presenting this idea to the committee. We are also still exploring the idea of American Legion lawn signs to be given to recipients of our scholarships. This idea was presented to the committee by Department Photographer Lisa Borges. Thanks are in order to Lisa for this idea.

The new Flag and Emblem catalog has been distributed by National Emblem Sales with updated items and prices. Please remember that purchases from Emblem Sales help support the national organization as well as the department which receives a royalty check each year based upon purchases shipped to Massachusetts. Also, wearing American Legion attire helps increase our exposure and brand awareness.

Respectfully submitted as a report in progress,

Mike Davis NEC-Marketing Chairman

Motion made by NEC Davis and 2nd by DSVC Davis

Any discussion? Motion carried

AMERICANISM

Mark Avis Director read by DVC Blake

THE NATIONAL AMERICANISM DIVISION IS GOING THROUGH AN EXTENSIVE REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMS AND COST TO ADMINISTER.

YOU ALWAYS HEAR MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, WELL LET ME SAY SINCE BECOMING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DIVISION, I CAN TELL YOU IT IS THE LIFE BLOOD OF THE AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAMS AND THE AMERICAN LEGION. THE COMMANDERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ASKING FOR THIS TO BE DONE. DURING THIS TIME HEADQUARTERS HAS TRIM/REALIGNED STAFF TO BARE BONES AND NOW IT IS TIME FOR THE AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TO LOOK OVER EVERYTHING FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. WITH A GOAL OF GETTING THINGS AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO REVENUE NEUTRAL.

BASEBALL HAS BEEN DECLINING FOR A PERIOD NOW AND I AM FINDING THAT IT IS JUST STATUS QUO WITH LITTLE OR NO CONCERNS ABOUT LOSING TEAMS. WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GET JUNIOR BASEBALL MOVING TOWARDS A CAPSTONE EVENT, THAT IS LOOKING FURTHER, (AND) FURTHER AND NOT LIKELY TO HAPPEN (UNLESS WE FIND A BIG SPONSOR). THE SAME GOES FOR THE LADIES SOFTBALL PROGRAM WE ARE PROMOTING WITH THE IDEA OF IT HAVING A CAPSTONE EVENT TOO. THIS GOES FOR ALL PROGRAMS WITH THE SORING COST OF AIRLINE TICKETS AND DECLINING MEMBERSHIP IT GETS HARDER AND HARDER TO KEEP THESE PROGRAMS AT THE STANDARDS WHICH HAVE BEEN SET BY OUR FOREFATHERS.

WE CAN NLY HOPE THE MEMBERSHIP SLIDE STOPS, WE BEGIN TO GROW AGAIN. AS A GRASS ROOTS ORGANIZATION WE NEED TO GET THINGS MOVING NOT ONLY TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIPS AND GET DEPARTMENTS MORE INVOLVED IN WHATS GOING ON AND PUT THE BS ASIDE.

COMMANDER THIS IS AN UPDATE OF THE NATIONAL AMERICANISM DIVISION AND I SUBMITT IT AS ONE OF PROGRESS.

MARK AVIS, DEPT AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN

Motion made by DSVC Davis and 2nd by D7C Sinatra

Any discussion? Motion carried

AMERICANISM COMMITTEE

Nelson Blake Chairman

The Americanism committee has had 2 meetings since the last DEC. American Born and Foreign Born were discussed both district 10 and district 3 have a candidate for both awards. District 8 has the Joseph Steen award to be given out this year.

Submitted as one in progress.

Nelson Blake Chairman

Motion made by DVC Blake and 2nd by D7C Sinatra Any discussion? Motion carried

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Nelson Blake Chairman

Discussion about the Children & Youth Excellence Award. And the auxiliary talked about the mini golf tournament to raise funds for their Children & Youth program. Stuff a pig at every meeting for the Children & Youth, leave a pig on your post bar to raise funds.

Submitted as one in progress

Nelson Blake Chairman

Motion made by DVC Blake and D2nd by D1C Lefebvre

BOY SCOUT

OC Chairman

The Scouting Committee has a huge milestone approaching this Father's Day Weekend. Does anyone know what it may be?

Our last committee meeting was held on October 22nd with coffee & donuts. I received a well-intended "KITA" regarding organizational prowess – our next meeting will be next week, Jan 21, 2023 10 AM to noon – we thank the Vernon Hill American Legion Post 435 for their long standing hosting of these meetings._

Has anyone been to TAL National Website?!! Thank you, PNC Morin, for getting the point across to HQ

Scouting is now listed under Americanism on the national site.

Eagle Scout of the Year applications (ESotY) are due NLT March 17, 2023 – a copy of the cover page for that online application is on your table – see URL/rules & regs. Some Department Chairs have asked to eliminate the need to earn the Eagle Scout's Religious award....What a mistake that would be – thank you to PNC Comer for his efforts to insist that incredibly vital requirement stays in place.

Opportunities for us to increase our Chartering or Sponsoring of Scout units in the Department – yet that can only be possible if we reach out to units on a local basis – at the post level. We are working on a program with the Spirit of Adventure Council (Greater Boston) to coordinate Scouting units that need new Chartering Organizations. There is a green two-page handout on your table of National' official list- sorted by District. Put those sheets in the hands of local Posts or Posts in the area to assist please.

What a perfect segue to introduce our milestone this Father's Day Weekend.....We'll be celebrating our 50th Department Camporee Anniversary !!!!!

Our attainable goal is to have fifty units (or more) be there to participate in our annual Camporee- there are 70 units listed on the green sheet – although about half are Cub Scout units. So we will need Ambassadors to spread the word! Last year only 25% of those units attended the Camporee.

Let's talk MEMBERSHIP _ what not again... there's a year plus symbiotic relationship between Scouting and the Armed Services – There's a year plus symbiotic relationship between Scouting and the Armed Services – there's a patriotic parallel with Scouting's ethos entailing "On My Honor...to do my best...to God and Country" and to serve in our Armed Forces.

Then there are those who continue to serve as members of the American Legion Family..... I guarantee you – there are male and female adult Scouting leaders out there who are Veterans- Veterans who would respond very favorably to learning more about our still serving American Legion Family.

So that's a win, win, win..... We win with new members, Scouting wins with community minded patriotic resources from Veterans, and MOST IMPORTANTLY the youth of tomorrow win.

This isn't your Father's Buick, or even your Father's Legion – we are learning to adapt to serve the current population of Vets. Scouting provides a proven system of timeless values. A survey of over 2,000 recent graduates revealed that 81% of them wish they were taught more life skills before graduation. Scouting's old motto: "Be Prepared" now declares "Prepared for Life".

Scouts start with Cub Scouts in 1st or 2nd grade – by the time a Scout Reaches 18 years old, they have been involved in a program that teaches patriotic respect, citizen ship, over 120 Merit badges, scouting skills for life, and dynamic leadership skills which are needed now more than ever,

Thank you to e the ALA, SAL (especially Detachment Commander Theroux), and TAL members who have continued to support this treasured program preparing for life – this is the best youth leadership development program out there.

Will you help get fifty unit to our 50th!???

For God and Country Jon "OC" OConnor Chairman

I submit this report as one in progress – **50 at the 50th !**

Motion made by PDC Dias and 2nd by DVC Blake Any discussion? Motion carried

Detachment Commander just to remind there are a lot of organization that support the Eagle Scout Award.

ORATORICAL

Lisa McPhee

Finals will be the Febuary 19 at 12:00 PM at the Bedford Post 221

District 10 finals on January 15 at Sandwich post 188

Central finals on January 28 at the Clinton Historial Building

No canidates for the Western

There is a total of 8 candiates and one person will be attending for the fourth time.

Submitted as one in progress

Lisa McPhee Chairman

Motion made by DSVC Davis and 2nd by D10C Connell Any discussion? Motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Cancellation of the Inactive SAL Charters.

Motion was made to turn in 15 inactive SAL charters by PNC Comer and 2nd by DVC Blake

Any discussion? Motion carried

2. Post 240 charter to be turned in

Motion made to bring before new business made by DSVC Davis and 2nd by D7C Sinatra

Any discussion? Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received a thank you from the helping hands for the \$500 donation
2. Received a thank you from Molly Castle for her scholarship she received

3. Received a thank you from The Brockton VA hospital for the 207 canteen books
4. Received a thank you from St. Joseph's Indian School for the \$100 donation
5. Received a thank you from Pine Street Inn for the \$100 donation
6. Received a thank you from the Brendan Grant Foundation for the \$300 donation
7. Received a thank you from the Blinded Veterans Association for the \$100 donation
8. Received a thank you from The Brockton VA for the \$500.00 in Gift Cards
9. Received District One November 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes & Service officer's reports
10. Received District Three November 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes
11. Received District Four November 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes
12. Received District Five Call to January Council Meeting
13. Received District Six November 16 2022 Meeting Minutes
14. Received District Ten call to Council, future meetings dates & upcoming Dept. Events

ENDORSEMENTS:

1. At a regularly scheduled Agawam Post 185 (Wilson-Thompson) meeting it was unanimously voted to endorse Past District 3 CMDR Andrew "Drew" Pajak for Department Vice Commander for 2023-2024
2. At the District Three Meeting on Sunday January 8, 2023 it was voted to endorse Past District 3 Commander Andrew "Drew" Pajak for Department Vice Commander for 2023-2024

LATE CORRESPONDENCE

Motion made to accept and file all correspondence DSVK Davis and 2nd by D7C Sinatra
 Any discussion? Motion carried

B. MOTIONS:

1. Turn in 15 charters from the SAL that are not active D3 SQ 337, D4 SQ 201, D5 SQ 63-74-90-165-213-235-388-447, D6 SQ 137, D7 SQ 17-30, D9 SQ 20, D10 SQ 108.
 Motion made by PNC Comer and 2nd by DVC Blake Any discussion? Motion carried
2. D8C John Cannon turn in Charter for Post 240 (Charles L. Carr) West Newbury
 Motion made by D8C Cannon and 2nd by D3C Howe Any discussion? Motion carried
3. William Hallene Vice Chairman Legion Riders - accept charter application for Legion Riders Chapters Post 204 West Boylston and Post 266 Granby.
 Motion made by AD4C Hallene and 2nd by DVC Blake Any discussion? Motion carried
4. Turn in the charter for post 367 Medway – District 6
 Motion made by PVC MacDonald and 2nd by PDC Dias
 Needs to be table until next meeting commander not in attendance. Any discussion? Motion carried
5. That Legion Softball be able to solicit post for funds for the program to get up and running
 Motion made by PDC Brault and 2nd by PDC Connors Any discussion? Motion carried
6. Comrade Commander, I have a technical motion. I move that the Department Adjutant be instructed to review the minutes of the DEC meeting, make any necessary correction without changing the intent of the DEC meeting, and proceed to edit and distribute these minutes.
 Motion made by NEC Davis and 2nd by DSVK Davis Any discussion? Motion carried

C. COMMANDERS APPOINTMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Assign a committee to follow up on issues from members concerning the Robert D. Pelletier Post 247 in Tyngsboro MA.

Chairman James Brehio

DSVC Sandra Davis

JA James Fratolillo

Treas. Steve Souza

D5C Robert Desrosiers

The letter that was sent to department and standing rules for the post will be given to the committee.

Motion to ratify appointments made by DSVC Davis and 2nd by DVC Blake Any discussion? Motion carried

GOOD OF THE LEGION

1 PNC Jake Comer it is the last DEC meeting for our Department Adjutant Milton let's give him a raising vote for a job well done.

2 Detachment Commander Gene Theroux has jackets for Veterans in need homeless sleeping at the Big E were drop off. Milton took two boxes of jackets to the New England Center and Home for Veterans 17 Court St, Boston MA

3 Milton presented Lisa with the gavel and said he would be there to help when needed. And had other items from previous Department Adjutants to show everyone.

4 Alt Jodie Pajak talk on Fast Pitch Softball cannot wait to get started have about a dozen team's line up.

5 Ernie Laberge VC East SAL has challenge coins for sale funds go towards Veterans & Children's fund

6 Steve Souza – Old Friends Bob Hicks passed away in December.

7 DVC Blake – Nelson Blake announced his candidacy for Department Senior Vice Commander (DSVC)

8 Andrew Pajak – announced his candidacy for Department Vice Commander (DVC)

No further business

Motion made by D7C Sinatra and 2nd by DVC Blake

Closing prayer- Asst. Chaplain Kevin Hamel

Salute the colors - Sgt. Robert Desrosiers

THE NEXT

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE MEETING

SATURDAY APRIL 1, 2023

**BEST WESTERN ROYAL PLAZA HOTEL
181 BOSTON POST ROAD WEST
MARLBOROUGH**

**MEMBERSHIP 10:00 AM
WITH THE DEC TO FOLLOW**