

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2023

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sandra Davis
Department Commander

Lisa A. McPhee
Department Adjutant

To be approved at the
Department Executive Committee Meeting
January 13, 2024
Zoom Meeting

AGENDA FOR DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON November 18, 2023. Starting at 11:00 AM

Meeting Called to order by Department Commander Sandra Davis

AGENDA

AGENDA FOR DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON
November 18, 2023 starting at 11:00 AM at Post 440 in Newton, Massachusetts
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY DEPARTMENT COMMANDER **Sandra Davis**

1. SALUTE TO THE COLORS-ALL
 2. INVOCATION
 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-ALL
 4. POW/MIA EMPTY CHAIR CEREMONY **William Chisholm**
 5. PREAMBLE TO CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION **ALL**
 6. ROLL CALL BY DEPARTMENT **Lisa McPhee**
 7. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF the DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE on
September 16, 2023 and at Post 4 Haverhill, Massachusetts
 8. DEPARTMENT TREASURER'S REPORT **Milton Lashus**
 9. DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT **Nelson Blake**
 10. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS
 11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 12. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. CORRESPONDENCE
 - B. MOTIONS
 - C. COMMANDERS APPOINTMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS
 13. GOOD OF THE LEGION
 14. NO FURTHER BUSINESS - MOTION TO ADJOURN
 15. CLOSING PRAYER
 16. RETIRE THE COLORS
-

Meeting called to order by DC Sandra Davis at 11:00 AM
SALUTE TO THE COLORS –Asst. Sgt. Adam Doud

INVOCATION – Asst. Chaplain Kevin Hamel
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ALL
POW/MIA CHAIR – Bob Desrosiers
PREAMBLE - All

Roll Call – by Adjutant McPhee

Present: CMDR Davis; DSVC Blake; DVC Conner; DVC Jerdan; DVC Pajak; ADJ McPhee, TRS Lashus; ASST CHAP Hamel; HIST Howe; DWEC Lacoste; NEC Pajak; ALT NEC Lenotte; PDC Nay; PNC Comer; PNC Morin; JA Brault; Asst JA Brehio Asst Sgt. Desrosiers; Lewis; Lacoste; Doud; Aide Favazza; D1C Keil; D2C Duffy; D3C Fontaine; D4C Hallene; D5C Desrosiers; D6C Lewis; D7C Scott; D8C Cannon; D9C Mangels; D10C Burke; AD1C St Pierre; AD3C White; AD5C Blake; AD8C Manning; AD10C Montelo; PDC Avis; Davis; Dias; MacDonald; McKittrick; Starks; White

Excused: Chap Salois; Sgt. Heisey; AD4C Gallant; AD7C Chisholm

Absent: AJA Atkins; AD2C Hall; AD6C Milot; AD9C Borges

Minutes

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES of the DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING on September 16 2023 as PRINTED/DISTRIBUTED and Emailed.

Motion made by D10C Burke and 2nd DVC Pajak Any discussion? Motion carried

Treasurers Report

PDC Lashus

Total Bank Accounts (10) which include restricted funds and (2) CD is \$1,786,808.41

9/28/2023 1 CD 5.25% 6-month Convention Ad Book account \$250,000.00

11/15/2023 1 cd 5.17% 6-month Revenue Enhancement \$250,000.00

- National Label program Total Profit \$27,188.25
 - Restricted Rehab Account
- Investments Accounts
 - RBC \$2,974,906.42 + \$34,909.34
 - Boston Harbor – Raymond James \$1,108,918.55 + \$58,940.60
 - Combined Total Accts \$4,083,824.97
 - Combined + \$93,850.00
- Sweepstakes 11/16/2023 Profit + \$3,396.74

Motion made by D2C Duffy and 2nd D10C Burke Any discussion? Motion carried

Membership Report

DSVC Nelson Blake Membership Chairman

Nelson Blake

DSVC/ Membership Chairman

Membership report as of the 15th of November on the national membership report the Department of Massachusetts is in 20th place with a total of 69.31% well above the goal of 65% but that doesn't mean we stop with membership we keep striving towards the next goal of 75%. I would also like to thank all districts that reached or exceed the 65% goal, I would like to thank my Vice Commanders for keeping one the districts that there assigned to work with and a Big thanks to all the Department headquarters office for all the hard work they do with membership that is sent in to them, on different note the detachment sits at 41 by the nationals list for membership with a total of 34.08% just under the 35% needed by the 15th of November, I would like to thank both of the Past National Commanders for allowing me to serve this outstanding

department as senior vice commander and I would also thank Commander Davis and the members of this Department to allow me to serve as your senior vice and membership chair.

Motion made by DSVC Blake and 2nd D4C Hallene

Any discussion? Motion carried

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Women's Membership

DECW Cindy Lacoste

Greeting Fellow Legionnaires, I wanted to update you on the Women Veterans Network (WVN) and what has been transpiring since this summer. As you may have heard during this past year the Department of Veterans Services was turned into its own cabinet position and is now the Executive Office of Veterans Services (EOVS), with Secretary Santiago reporting directly to the Governor. Because of this transition taking place the WVN has not met since August due to the restructuring and other timing issues. However, they are still busy putting out information to the women veterans in the state through their monthly newsletter and also posting upcoming events that you can sign up for through Eventbrite.

It is important that when we are visiting a Post that a sheet of information on the WVN be dropped off so we can encourage all our women vets to sign up directly with the WVN and get the updates directly to their emails. The WVN website and the Eventbrite websites are listed below to make it easier to direct women where to sign up for some information:

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-women-veterans-network>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/ma-women-veterans-network-45955773233>

This final website listed below is a central location to find resources, benefits and services in Massachusetts for all veterans, and at last view there are 334 of them listed alphabetically.

<https://www.mass.gov/collections/vets-advisor>

In other news, EOVS was tasked last year with reinstating both the Gov. Advisory Council on Women Veterans and the Gov. Advisory Council on Veterans Services. I am happy to report that both Councils have been filled and the members were sworn in on November 6th at the State House in Boston. Each is in the process of setting up their first meeting, most likely before the end of the year.

One last item that came across my desk which ties to our Be the One mission, is the Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans and Their Families. It is the creation of Focus Groups with female veterans to access and utilize peer services. I have placed flyers on the tables today. Please pass this on to all those you come in contact with to help spread the word.

Some statistics for those who enjoy numbers like me:

Number of Women Veterans in MA: 22,391 of 1,882,848 National (2017)

Percent of women Veterans in MA: 6.93% of 9.41% National

Percentage of women in the military: 17.3% of the total 231,741 (active duty) and
21.4% of the total 171,000 (National Guard)(2021)

Always feel free to reach out to me with any information or questions.

I called June about the women's luncheon and they will be having it in the spring.

Cindy Lacoste

Cindy Lacoste, DECW

Stronger Together

CHIDLREN & YOUTH

Drew Pajak Chairman

A meeting was held via Zoom on the 26th. Jesse Limanek was introduced as the Sons representative on the committee.

The order form for the Child Welfare foundation Polo Shirt Fundraiser has been released and is on the web site. Orders will be sent to the Department Office, and we will order in bulk for a better price.

Suki Blake advised about the Mini Golf tournament being held by the Auxiliary for Child Welfare the Sunday after the bowling tournament the sons are holding. 5 people per team and hole sponsorship is available. The auxiliary is focusing on Braille Press this year as they were child welfare grant recipients. Information is available on the Auxiliary website under events.

Jesse provided information on the bowling tournament the sons hold which will be on March 23rd (information has changed since our meeting location and date have changed.)

Brochures have been acquired from national and some have been passed out. The department has added a line item for marketing items and the adjutant advised she was after a printing line item also.

The Finance committee advised us that the programs for children that we support are running at a shortfall in most cases. The committee was asked to get the word out to get post to sponsor children to the programs whether they are from their own post or area.

The Adjutant was asking about working on a single fundraiser to support all the youth programs of the legion. We spoke about reaching out to some of the senators that have expressed interest in the programs and reaching out to maybe get sponsors for some of the programs. Example would be alumni and unions for law cadet and emergency equipment suppliers in the area to sponsor the program. On the Boys State side looking at talking to the house and senate. The Committee was asked to focus on finding funding for Law Cadet, Boys and Girls State and Oratorical for now.

The adjutant asked for Flyers for all youth programs so she can send out one mailing when she sends out Oratorical information.

Contact was made with Art Lobdell who is the Assistant Scout Executive for the Western mass Council of the Scouts. He asked to get together about more collaboration between the scouts and the legion beyond the Eagle Scout program. OC will be given his information to make contact. He also provided a list of all troops in western mass to see about getting them to the Legion Camporee.

A request was made to have all the mailings the department sends out sent direct to the district commanders to try and get the information out to more posts. It was mentioned that many posts don't look at the mailings and that at least the district commanders could put it out and the meetings if they got it directly.

Reminder was given about keeping track of the Donations made to Child welfare and getting those numbers to the Adjutant.

The committee was asked to advise programs in their districts about the Child Welfare Grants to see if they are eligible. This year Boston Pediatrics was a recipient.

Next meeting will be at the call of the Chair and will have all dates for Programs.

Respectfully submitted as one in progress

Drew Pajak, Chairman Children and Youth

SAL
Clifford Smith SAL PNC

Due to the closing of Union Lanes in Holbrook Bowling will now be moved to Timber Lanes in Abington. And they have 22 lanes so there will be 22 bowling teams with a cost of \$125 per team. The date is April 13, 2024 free pizza and a bottle of water for each bowler. They also have a lounge and restaurant where you can purchase food and drinks, I will be sending out flyers with all the details.

On the Detachment level will be getting a new server, we feel the need for more communication with our members. We have taken 2000 email addresses off of mylegion to help with donation and supporting our programs.

Please keep National Chaplain Ernie in your prayers as he has COVID and it has traveled to behind his eyes. Keep the healing hand of God upon him.

Respectfully submitted as one in progress

SAL PNC Clifford Smith

MARKETING REPORT

Michael Davis Chairman

Our next marketing fundraiser will be the winter sweepstakes drawn at the January Department Executive Committee Meeting. You should have all received your sweepstakes tickets in the mail by now. Please consider returning your tickets with the suggested donations as not only does your donation support your department and its programs but you can win cash prizes ranging from \$500 to \$3,000.

Our partnership with The Springfield Thunderbirds of The American Hockey League and the "Veteran of the Game" and "challenge accepted" campaign kicked off again this season when on opening night in Springfield Department Commander Sandra Davis and NEC Jodie Pajak presented the veteran of the game with the coin during one of the breaks in play. The department also had an information table at the game staffed by Department Executive Committeewoman Cindy Lacoste, Assistant Department Sergeant at Arms Adam Dowd and Westfield Post 124 Commander Eric Volk. Many thanks to them for staffing the table and answering any questions that anyone had about our organization.

The committee met via zoom and discussed some marketing programs. Two programs were brought to our attention during national convention. One was an oral history project of our department that had the potential to raise some money for our department. However due to negative feedback on this from other department adjutants whose department used this company, the committee decided not to move forward with this. The second was an online 50-50 raffle fundraiser in which the committee is interested and the department is exploring a way to facilitate this.

Lastly the committee has been approached by comedian Wayne Soares who some of you may remember performed at our pre convention get together some years ago. Wayne hosts a veterans and military cooking show The Mess Tent. NEC Jodie Pajak has been in contact with Wayne via email about a sponsorship with The Mess Hall which airs on NBC 10, NECN and Rally Point. The sponsorship would provide us exposure and would include such things as Wayne wearing American Legion attire, 3 show tapings at various posts, playing of 4 PSAs that we would provide the show, American Legion inclusion on social media posts, sponsor info slide at the beginning of the show and special recognition to one member each show as well as a "shout-out" from a Legion member on each show during the show's Mail Call segment. We were able to negotiate a discounted rate but it still does not come cheap and would cost \$5,000.

In conclusion as always I would ask you to support promoting our organization in any way you can whether it be wearing American Legion shirts, jackets, or hats or just talking about what we do to anyone who should ask. Any positive exposure helps. Also as always if you have any marketing ideas please bring them to our attention as any idea within our budget and capabilities will be considered.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Davis PNEC Marketing Chairman

ROTC

S Ryan Howe Chairman

The ROTC units have been busy this year with different competitions taking place and taking on roles within our local communities. Since the last DEC Haverhill High School JROTC took First place in one of their competitions. There were 67 schools that took part in this competition so a well done and Congratulations to Haverhill High School on taking first place. Along with taking first place Haverhill High School has all been designated "Naval Honor School" for the 4th year in a row.

Post 124 took part in a Veterans Day Ceremony at Westfield State University with their ROTC unit. Along with other community events that the City of Westfield has put on. On November 11th, Haverhill high school took part in their Veterans Day parade. While at the Haverhill Veterans Day parade Cadet Captain Lizeth Deferia received a scholastic award and a check for \$500.00 from Post 4.

The Brockton ROTC unit was at the Veteran expo on September 23rd at the Brockton VA and was part of the Veteran Day Parade in Brockton. They also were asked and presented our Nations colors at their Veterans Day Assembly.

Respectfully submitted as one in progress,
S. Ryan Howe, ROTC/JROTC Chairman

AMERICANISM

Robert Jerdan Chairman

Americanism Committee has not met yet

And only one submission for American born Citizen

No submission for Foreign Born Citizen

It is great to post promoting Americanism around the community and state.

That is my report one in progress.

In Comradeship

DVC Robert Jerdan

Boys State

PNVC Mark Avis

BOYS STATE STAFF HAS BEEN BUSY SETTING UP A MATCHING GROUP OF COUNCILORS TO ASSIST THE DISTRICT CHAIRMAN THIS YEAR. THE PURPOSE IS TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM AS THIS YEAR WE FELL UNDER THE 200 MARK. WITH THE DECLINING NUMBERS AND INCREASING COSTS, PROGRAMS SUCH AS BOYS STATE WILL NO LONGER EXIST. EMAILS WERE SENT TO ALL CHAIRMAN WITH THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE STAFF MEMBER ASSIGNED TO EACH DISTRICT. I HAVE AT LEAST 3 WHO HAVE NOT RESPONDED, I HAVE SENT A FOLLOW UP EMAIL TELLING THEM TO CHECK THEIR SPAM FOLDER IF THEY DID NOT RECEIVE AN EMAIL AND THEN HEAD OF STAFF BRANDON BONO SENT A FOLLOW UP EMAIL WITH THE CONTACT INFORMATION.

A SERVER WAS BOUGHT FOR BOYS STATE MANY YEARS AGO AND HAS NOW REACHED ITS END. WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING INTO BUYING SPACE ON THE CLOUD INSTEAD OF GETTING A NEW SERVER AT THIS TIME. THE COST TO START IS 1,000.00 FOR THE SET UP AND 1 YEARS USE. WE THEN WOULD LOOK INTO A MULTI YEAR DEAL OR A BETTER WAY TO STORE THE INFORMATION. I FEEL IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL BOYS STATE INFORMATION BE STORED ON SPACE OWNED BY THE AMERICAN LEGION "BOYS STATE" SO THAT ALL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REMAINS THE PROPERTY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION.

WE WILL BE ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL COUNCILORS ASSOCIATION. THEY HAVE A CIRCULATION OF ABOUT 6,000 SO THIS WILL BE WIDE SPREAD. THE INFORMATION WILL CONSIST OF INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROGRAM AND WILL HAVE A QR CODE THEY CAN FOLLOW TO THE WEB SITE WHERE THEY CAN EXPRESS INTEREST IN THE PROGRAM (ATTACHED WILL BE A PRINTABLE DOCUMENT THEY CAN POST ON THE BULLETIN BOARD).

IF OUR RESPONSE IS REASONABLE WE WILL WANT TO EXPAND IT TO OUR OTHER PROGRAMS TO EXPAND THEIR PROGRAMS WITH THE SAME TYPE OF DOCUMENT TO BE PRINTED AND POSTED.

WE ARE TRYING NEW THINGS AND NOW NEED YOUR HELP TO BRING THE NUMBERS BACK UP TO 300 AGAIN. REMEMBER THE DATES JUNE 15 – 21, 2024 AT STONEHILL COLLEGE.

LASTLY I PRESENT THE FINANCE OFFICER WITH A CHECK FOR 15,000.00 TO BRING THE 2023 BOYS STATE BILL OUT OF THE RED AND INTO THE POSITIVE I BELIEVE.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, MARK A. AVIS, BOYS STATE CHAIRMAN

CPR

Fred White Chairman

The American Legion's Consolidated Post report (CPR) was established nearly 40 years ago to assist departments in the documentation of activities that a specific post completed during the 12 month (June 1 – May 31) reporting period.

The CPR form can be downloaded, filled out and submitted by mail. When choosing to submit the paper form, send the original and one copy to your department headquarters by the date they specify. Keep the third copy for post records.

Post can fill out and submit CPR forms online at mylegion.org: the forms are located under "Post and Department" options. After completing the form online, click the submit button to send the report to National Headquarters, A copy will automatically be sent to your department headquarters.

On line submissions will be available at mylegion.org through July 1, the cutoff for receipt of forms at National Headquarters.

The Consolidated Post Report must be submitted by every post in all Departments of the American Legion. A few department submit a 100% CPR filling. But most Departments are below the 70% completion rate. The Department of MA, the past few reporting years has never exceeded 70% completion rate.

Let this be the year the Department of MA, exceeds the 90% rate. In order to accomplish this, there are a few Districts that need to be over the 90%. They are District 4, District 5 and District 10. That is assuming that all other Districts are over 90%.

The National Commander can only report what was submitted by the posts who reported, the other posts who didn't report their work for the year isn't reported anywhere. So the figures that the National Commander reports to Congress are not the true figures. There is still a lot of work done by various post's that is never reported.

I believe that if all posts submitted a Consolidated Post Report, the final figures would blow the elected officials minds as well as the general publics.

Which is the reason you should submit a Consolidated Post Report.

If you are having trouble filling out a Consolidated Post Report, contact one of the members of the CPR committee. All District Adjutants are members of the Consolidated Post Report Committee.

Respectfully submitted as one in progress,
PDC Fred White Chairman (CPR)

National Commanders Banquet

PNC Comer

1. National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer will be in MA on April 4th, 5th Constitution and then to Morrisette Post 294 Quincy MA, time 4 PM – 6 PM and 6th Banquet 1:00 PM. April 7th Rhode Island will be picking him up in Marlborough.
2. Contribution to Dan Wiley make checks out to Dan Wiley most everyone has sent their checks only have a few more to get. So we can present him in June.

Legislation

PNC Comer

1. H2954 – 100% Disabled Veterans no real estate taxes.
The Adjutant will send a letter giving our support.

2. Governor's new legislation – One part I do not know how to vote Veterans plates will be free. What happens to the funds from the cost of the plates \$100 – ½ to the general fund and ½ to the Veterans Home in Holyoke and Veterans Home in Chelsea. So how do they make up those funds for the Veterans Home?

FINANCE REPORT

Frank MacDonald Chairman

Report of the Finance Committee to the DEC

Finance Committee Request to Youth Law Cadet General Fund, Youth Law Cadet Restricted Fund, Boys State General Fund and Boys State Restricted Fund.

Motion by Lashus seconded by PNEC Lou Brault that Youth Law Cadet General and Finance Committee request a baseball revolving account be created and that \$21,979.36 be transferred from the general fund into baseball.

Copies of the 2024-2025 budget were distributed. The committee reviewed the programs section of the budget line by line.

Submitted as a report in progress.

Francis J. MacDonald Jr.
The American Legion
Department of Massachusetts
Finance Committee

TRAINING

Scott Connor Chairman

Department Training Committee

Minuteman Monday

Nov – How to prepare for Tax season. Especially the “Business Models”
One person attended – we are assessing the Minutemen Monday program.

Training Committee will be putting together a Fall Program, we will be holding training at the D10 meeting tomorrow.

Any Info, Programs. District Training. Please let me, or the 2023/2024 training chair know, we can develop training event for you. With Convention only 6 months away, and period designated to training, please let me know what you would be interested in.

Legion College – Dept. of Mass 2023 nomination is Gary Fontaine of District 3, Gary, are you in the house, come on up and give us a report. Considering NALC, feel free to reach out to any graduate for a brief description.

Training Report submitted as one in progress.

Chairman Scott Conner

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Scott Conner Chairman

Al White Community Service awards have been selected for May 2023 none for June, July, August and October.

Most posts have community service events and projects, there are plenty of opportunities to take the time and submit for recognition. Applications and requirements can be found at www.masslegion.org – Programs – Community service.

Need help, e-mail or call me.

Al White Award presented was to:

Dalton Legion Riders, Chapter 155 – for their commitment and support to bring the traveling “Wall” to Western Massachusetts and the community of Dalton. Great Job!

Pittsfield, Charles A. Persip , American Legion Post 68. For creating and establishing a POW/MIA event in the Town of Pittsfield, MA. Thusly committing to the Community relevance for veterans.

Conway Award – For outstanding Legionnaire, demonstrating commitment to the Community, continuously during the 2023/2024 year.

Pendill Award – For Exemplary Community Service by a Post during the 2023/2024 year.

Schreiber Award – For Outstanding Community Service by a Post during the 2023/2024 year.

The Annual Awards will be presented during convention.

Community Service Report submitted as one in progress.

Chairman Scott Conner

CONVENTIONS

PNC Morin

1. At the last DEC it was voted to pay all the Delegate fees for National Convention and banquet tickets to the National Commanders Banquet. So we will now add the Alternates for registration and banquet
2. After this meeting we will be having the closeout for Department Convention and establishing this years budget
 - \$5,000 – National Commanders fund
 - \$31,000 – Shelby three year promotion
 - \$50,000 – General fund if needed
 - \$100,000- Scholarship fund
 - \$5,000 – Wayne Soars
3. We got this week’s response from the Auxiliary so I will be putting together what is needed for convention we have three post interested in hosting the 2025-2030 Convention, Springfield, Marlborough and Plymouth.

Motion made by DVC Pajak to accept all reports 2nd by D\$C Hallene Any discussion? Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

A CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received a letter from Pine Street Inn looking for donation
2. Received a thank you from Massachusetts 4-H Foundation for donation of \$750.00
3. Received a thank you from Veterans Association of Bristol Co for \$500 AD in their event
4. Received a thank you from Volunteers of American Massachusetts for \$250 donation
5. Received District 1 Meeting Minutes for 09/17/2023,10/15/2023
6. Received District 2 Meeting Minutes none submitted
7. Received District 3 Meeting Minutes for 08/23/2023
8. Received District 4 Meeting Minutes for 09/24/2023
9. Received District 5 Meeting Minutes for 09/17/2023
10. Received District 6 Meeting Minutes undated
11. Received District 7 Meeting Minutes none submitted
12. Received District 8 Meeting Minutes for 09/17/2023
13. Received District 9 Meeting Minutes for 09/23/2023, 10/26/2023
14. Received District 10 Meeting Minutes for 09/17/2023
15. Received SAL DEC Meeting Minutes for 09/13/2023 & November 8, 2023 Agenda

ENDORSEMENTS

1. Received District 4 Worcester County Council endorsement for DVC Scott Conner for the high office of SVC and DC William Hallene for the high office of Department Historian for the 2024-2025 year. Please note the vote was unanimous.
2. Received District 9 Bristol County endorsements for the 2024-2025 year for Scott Conner for Department Senior Vice Commander, Andrew Pajak for Department Vice Commander, Ryan Howe for Department Vice Commander, and Grace Conner for Department Executive Committeewoman. Please note the vote was unanimous.

Motion made by PNC Morin that all correspondence be filed 2nd by D2C Duffy Any discussion?
 Motion carried

B MOTIONS

1. Motion to support H2954 disable tax exemption made by PNC Morin and 2nd by D4C Hallene
 Any discussion? Motion carried
 The department Adjutant send a letter to the stating we support this act.
2. Motion made to send a letter to the Governor, House Speaker and Senate pro tem opposing the elimination of the funds for the two Veterans Homes by PNC Morin and 2nd by PNC Comer
 But still collect the \$40.00 extra for the Veterans Home to be divided between the two
 Any discussion? Motion carried
3. Amend to motion from the last DEC meeting that we pay all Delegates registration and banquet to add Delegates and Alternates registration and banquet tickets if going. If we bought them a ticket bill them for the ticket. (As the department has to pay for tickets in December for National Convention. So if you don't plan to attend the banquet let the department know in advance if you do not plan to attend.
 Motion made by PNC Morin and 2nd by DVC Pajak
 Any discussion? Motion carried
4. I move the disbursement of last year's convention
 \$5,000 National Commanders Fund
 \$31,000 Shelby baseball sign - three year agreement
 \$50,000 General Fund if needed
 \$100,000 Scholarship fund
 \$5,000 Wayne Soares
 Motion made by PNC Morin and 2nd by DVC Pajak
 Any discussion? Motion carried
5. Bylaw change combining District 2 and District 3 as in the last five years District 2 has had a problem finding anyone to fill a leadership position. So PNEC Brault and D2C Duffy submit this bylaw change. Amendment to Bylaw will be sent out to post 45 days before department convention.
 Motion made by PNEC Brault and 2nd by D2C Duffy
 Any discussion? Motion carried
6. Bylaw change Amendment to Article 3 Section 4 to add Gaming Committee
 Bylaw will be sent out to post 45 days before department convention.
 Motion made by DVC Pajak and 2nd by SVC Blake
 Any discussion? Motion carried
7. Commanders Appointments Department Convention 2024
Elections
 Chairman Father Philip Salois
 Vice Chairman Louis Brault – Cindy Lacoste – Robert Desrosiers – James Brehio – Bruce Heisey
Credentials
 Chairman Lawrence Conners

Vice Chairman William Chisholm – Robert Burke – Fred White – James Blake

Constitutional Amendments

Chairman Michael Davis

Vice Chairman Frank MacDonald – Louis Brault – James Brehio – Mark Avis

Resolutions

Chairman Mark Avis

Vice Chairman Frank MacDonald – Louis Brault – James Brehio – Michael Davis

Parliamentarian

Chairman Louis Brault

Vice Chairman James Brehio – Merrill Atkins

Sgt-at-Arms

Bruce Heisey

Asst Sgt-at-Arms – Robert Desrosiers – Cindy Lacoste – Adam Doud – Robert Lewis

Motion made by PNC Morin to ratify the Department Commanders appointments for Department Convention 2024 and 2nd by many.

Any discussion? Motion carried

8. Replace Frank MacDonald with Robert Desrosiers on the Baseball committee.

Motion made by PNC Comer and 2nd by DVC Connor

Any discussion? Motion carried

GOOD OF THE LEGION

1. Chris Manning Post 4 Commander for a presentation \$8442.00 presented to Boys State program. Mark Avis would you come up to accept this check. Thank you post 4 for your generous donation.
2. Chuck Duffy is a volunteer driver for the DAV in the Western part of the state.
3. Robert Desrosiers in Dracut they put up a wall and an American Flay in the Veterans Memorial park. So you cannot see the Fitness court. It looks awesome.
4. Robert Jerdan presented the History book to PDC Nay. He received a participation certificate for his work.
5. PNC Comer something happened this year that has never happened Haverhill Post donated \$500 to the Dan Wiley fund so I am asking any post if they would like to make a donation.
6. Adjutant McPhee due dates on all form are very important to follow. The Annual Post Data Form needs to be filled out by every form for the dues increase. Needs to be in the department by April 1, 2024. Mylegion the department does not give permission. The post commander or adjutant gives permission. Commanders and adjutant form is very important for mylegion. Have a break out session for mylegion at Department Convention.
7. SAL National Commander Jr Hall – Four Pillars certificate for Squadrons making a donation of \$1.00 to each of the following programs CWF – OCW – Department Boys State or put on a blood drive

PNC Morin Technical motion

Comrade Commander, I have a technical motion. I move that the Department Adjutant be instructed to review the minutes of the DEC meeting, making any necessary correction without changing the intent of the DEC meeting, and proceed to edit and distribute these minutes.

Convention committee will meet at 1:00 PM today.

Motion to adjourn by PNC Comer and 2nd by DVC Pajak Any discussion? Motion carried

Prayer Asst. Chaplain Hamel

Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms Doud – Hand Salute

NEXT MEETING

ZOOM

JANUARY 13, 2024

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