

MINUTES OF 12 SEPT DEC MEETING

MINUTES OF THE Sept 12, 2020 DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE **ZOOM MEETING**

Jodie Pajak
Department Commander

Milton K Lashus
Department Adjutant

To be approved at the
Department Executive Committee Meeting
Nov 21, 2020 @
Location Lt. Roger P. Warfield Post 373
3 Central St
Baldwinville MA 01436
Membership 11 AM – DEC Meeting 1 PM

AGENDA FOR DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON

Sept 12, 2020 on ZOOM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY DEPARTMENT COMMANDER Jodie Pajak

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
6. ROLL CALL BY DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT Milton K. Lashus
7. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING on May 28, 2020 AS PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED
8. **NO DETACHMENT REPORT**
9. DEPARTMENT TREASURER'S REPORT Stephen Souza
10. DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT Anthony Dias
11. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS
12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Taunton Post 103 Richard D. Paster
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

All DEC Minutes are abridged. To hear the unabridged version contact the Department Office.

Meeting called to order by DC Jodie Pajak at 11 AM

SALUTE TO THE COLORS

INVOCATION

POW/MIA CHAIR

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PREAMBLE

Roll Call – by Adjutant Lashus

Present: CMDR Pajak; DSrVC Dias; DVC Kee, DVC McPhee; DVC Nay; ADJ Lashus; TRS Souza; Chap Salois; HIST Blake; DECW Wright; NEC Brehio; ANEC Davis; PDC White; PNC Comer; PNC Morin; JA Fratolillo; AJA Flattes; SGT Lacoste; HON SGT Lizotte; ASST SGT Desrosiers, Hallene, Kelly, Samko; PHOTO Blake; AIDE Pajak; D1C Hamel; D2C Barber; D3C Mackay; D4C Gauthier; D5C Deegan; D6C Jerdan; D7C Nelson; D9C Romanelli; AD3C Howe; AD4C Conner; AD5C McMath; AD7C Sinatra; AD8C Nelson; AD9C Pietro; AD10C Olson; PDC Brault, Chisholm, Starks, NVC MacDonald

Excused: D10C Cameron

Absent: Asst Chap Ryan; AJA Atkins; AD1C Oleen; AD2C White; AD6C Milot; SURGEON Bezio; ASST SURG White; D8C Genest

PNC Morin so moved to accept the minutes of the May 28th Executive Committee and membership meetings. Any discussion? So moved

Membership

DSVC Dias reported:

Overall we have 55.62% at this time the top three districts are D-1 63.18%, D-2 60.10% and D-4 59.73%. There are a few posts that have not set in any membership at this time. Also when calling the post you should let the bar manager know who the commander is so the messages get passed on the correct person. The department is doing very well seems that post are not having meetings due to COVID 19. D-3 51.43%, D-5 56.74%, D-6 56.86%, D-7 49.58%, D-8 52.72%, D-9 59.72%, and D-10 57.19%, with the total for department at 55.62%. Report in progress Any discussion? So moved

D2C Barber reported that they are having a hard time getting anyone from post 28. PNC Morin commented to get in touch with Dick Paster for the baseball chairman's information that's who you need to get in touch with to get them fired up about their membership.

JA Fratolillo asks that all District Commanders to send DVC Dias the phone numbers of all commanders in their districts.

AD5C McMath there is one post in district 5 that we cannot get in touch with. All other post have received their membership cards.

DADJ Lashus the department is in 8th place with a 56.297% for 2021 year and in 20th place for the 2020 year 94.065% with 30,781 members paid.

NVC MacDonald stated we need to work the DMS list that is sent out weekly in order for the department to reach our goal for National. We should be looking at the 2020 and 2021 DMS list as 60% of those members are needed to reach goal. Look over the list and see if there are any from your area to be transferred into your post and post in your district.

DC Pajak during this time post become complacent so commanders and vice commanders give a little nudge to your post to get in the membership.

SAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

DCSAL Laberge:

Working on the membership, most of the detachment cards have been passed out. Commander of Northampton will get in touch with Ernie as soon as he gets back in town. Gene is the membership

person this year. Everything is moving ahead even during the pandemic. The sons did reach their first goal of 10%.

Any question? PNC Morin Move the report. So moved

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism

DVC Lisa McPhee reported:

There will be a Zoom meeting within the next few weeks.

Report in progress PNC Morin moved. Any discussion? So moved

Oratorical

DVC Lisa McPhee:

All the oratorical 360 letters were sent out.

Report in progress Any discussion? So moved

AD5C McMath to Lisa I still have all the information from Bob Johnson.

Children & Youth

DVC Kee reported:

1. TFA-No activity to report since the last DEC meeting.
2. As we come into fall, it's time to keep in mind Halloween Safety. Halloween Safety brochures are available to download for local printing at <https://www.legion.org/publications/1603936/make-halloween-fun-and-safe-night>. Fall is also the time to start thinking about how to support our youth during this Holiday Season. Although we may not be able to host our normal Halloween and Holiday activities, we should turn those resources into support the children in our communities. It is a great time to start getting ready to support or host toy drives, coat drives, etc. to help out the youths in our communities.
3. The next Children & Youth Committee meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday Sept 30, 2020 at 7PM.
4. Children & Youth Excellence Award: Guidance for how to apply for award will be available at the next DEC meeting for the 2020-2021 award cycle.

Last but not least, THANK YOU to the American Legion family for all the recent activities to support our children and their welfare during these difficult times.

Respectfully submitted as a report in progress. Any discussion? So moved

Athletic

Chairman Richard Paster reported:

After the 2020 baseball season was canceled, a number of our coaches formed independent teams and leagues along district lines and played games throughout July and into mid-August culminating in individual league champions, but there was no overall championship tournament. The feedback I received was positive. I learned of two instances of players who tested positive for COVID-19 in different leagues, each observed the requisite protocol and there were no further incidents. Players and parents were genuinely appreciative for the opportunity to play baseball.

Over the summer the National Program Administrator held several Caucus webinars wherein Department Chairmen discussed whether to adopt MLB's 3 batter minimum pitching rule, expand player eligibility to allow this year's seniors to have another year of eligibility, feedback on the decision to cancel the 2020 season and areas of expansion in the future. None of the Chairmen on the webinar I attended favored accepting the 3 batter rule nor did they favor allowing 20 year olds to participate in 2021.

More troubling for ALB in MA are the actions of the high school governing body (the "MIAA"). The MIAA established a COVID-19 Task Force to make recommendations to its Board of Directors for resumption of high school sports. The Task Force recommended that certain fall sports including football be postponed to 2/22/2021 through 4/25/2021 and the entire spring sports schedule be postponed to 4/26/2021

through 7/3/2021, we will have a maximum of 18 days to hold regular season games plus district playoffs before we must start our Department Tournament on 7/24/2021. This will not give us sufficient time to hold a meaningful season and name a Department Champion in time for the Region One Tournament. I brought this situation to the attention of the National Program Administrator and learned that MA is not alone as other States have taken similar action. What if any sanctions will be leveled against a Department that is unable to send a team to the Regional Tournament will be discussed by the National ALB Committee and at the Fall Chairmen's Conference on 9/26/2020. The Athletic Committee will discuss this topic at its next meeting to develop contingency plans. However, until the MIAA's Board of Directors makes a decision, I will hold out hope that we will be able to commence our season on time or close to on time as I have learned there may be push back among school administrators who may not want sports to extend beyond the end of school.

In view of the Task Force having made their recommendation public, I have issued a statement to our coaches assuring them that discussions are underway at the National level as well as within the Athletic Committee to insure that there will be ALB in MA in 2021. Further statements will be forthcoming as events unfold. However, in my view, after canceling the 2020 season and in view of all the head winds facing us from other programs, under no circumstance can we afford to cancel the 2021 season if we are to have any hope of continuing ALB as a viable program into the future. Depending upon the MIAA's final decision, this may best be accomplished by not sending a Department Champion to the Regional Tournament in 2021 so that we can expand the season into August, hold our Department Tournament in mid-August. And provided National approves.

Respectfully submitted as a report in progress Any Discussion? So moved

Community Service

DVC Sally Nay reported:

Currently the Community Service Committee will continue to vote on this year's AI White Awards via e-mail.

Our committee did have submissions for all awards for the 2019/2020 year and are attempting to attend events where these awards can be presented. The Pendell and Shriver awards were given out at the July meeting of District 3. The Pendell Award this year went to Post 338 Southwick and the Shriver Award was presented to Post 124 Westfield. The Conway Award was presented yesterday at Palmer Post 130's 9/11 service to Marge Cavanaugh from Post 130.

The date for submissions for the Pendell/Shriver, Conway Community Service Award and Mulkern Educator of the year award will be March 31, 2021. This will ensure that we have time to vote and have the awards engraved.

We continue to accept AI White award nominations monthly and currently have submissions for May, June, July and August to be review at our next e-mail meeting. Please remind posts to keep your submissions coming. Posts are finding ways to serve their community in unique ways.

Respectfully submitted as a report in progress Any discussion? PNC Morin so moved
So moved

Scouting Committee

Chairman OC O'Connor reported:

Nothing new since the last report so just reference that if you would thank you

Submitted as a report in progress

Any discussion? So moved

Scholarships

Chairman PNEC Louis Brault report given by DVC Sandra Kee

At the end of July the scholarship committee met and all letters have been issued to the award recipients. The list of the scholarship awards has been sent to Department.

Finale Report. PNC Morin so moved to accept the finale report. Any discussion? So moved

If a student changes colleges do they still get the Scholarship award? Yes as long as they go to college. Who is the check made out to? The check is made out to the student unless the parents want it made out to them and they will send check to the school.

POW/MIA

PNEC William Chisholm report given by ASST SGT Robert Desrosiers:

In search of another site to hold the POW/MIA program besides the U.S.S. Massachusetts, every other year. WE are looking into other areas, such as Central and Western Massachusetts to hold the September 2021 POW/MIA remembrance ceremony.

The following is the criteria for locations:

- 1 Worcester county or Western MA
- 2 Free with no fee
- 3 Handicap accessible
- 4 To accommodate seating for 100-200 people
- 5 Stage or platform
- 6 Separate areas for a reception

All suggestion will be welcomed to the POW/MIA Chairman.

PNC Morin as one in progress Any discussion? So moved

PNC Comer stated that the U.S.S. Massachusetts is not handicap accessible and is very hard to get wheelchairs up the ramp. This matter will be discussed at the next POW/MIA meeting.

ROTC

Chairman Joseph Zangri:

Last year all awards nights were cancelled. I sent in my finale report to the department in May on the awards given out by department. I have not heard anything about the ROTC programs this year in the schools. In my area they are maybe two days a week so I'm sure if they even going to be open. I would like every district chairman to send me report in what is happening in your area.

PNC Moring moved as one in progress Any discussion? So moved

JA Fratolillo stated that Quincy had a zoom awards night and after the post delivered the citations and awards to the Major so they can be given out. Other schools may have also had virtual awards nights. Joe stated he delivered the awards to Holy Cross but no one contacted him as to whether the awards were given out. PNC Comer the department will be sending out checks to the different ROTC programs again this year.

Marketing

ANEC Michael Davis reported:

This past year the committee continued its Challenge Accepted partnership with The Springfield Thunderbirds of the American Hockey League. This involves a "Veteran of the Game" named at each home game and that veteran receives a challenge coin and appears on the overhead scoreboard. The team also runs a 30 second American Legion advertisement on the board. This is estimated at over 303,000 impressions and an exposure value estimated at over \$8,300. The Thunderbirds also dedicated a POW/MIA chair to remain empty of course. The dedication ceremony was attended by our POW/MIA chairman Bill Chisholm.

As is our yearly practice, we held our two sweepstakes in January at the DEC meeting and again at convention which was handled remotely due to COVID 19 restrictions and the cancellation of convention. Also, per yearly practice we distributed our winter trinket-gift which was sent to members in late February early March. These three fundraisers are all in coordination with Magnet Direct in Braintree. The committee has decided that we will be cancelling the winter trinket starting in 2021. There was not enough enthusiasm for this and the committee was of the opinion that I did not raise enough revenue and that perhaps members were over solicited with two sweepstakes, a trinket and our label program which is not distributed by the department and Magnet Direct by rather by national. Nevertheless,

members were solicited with four separate fundraisers and were perhaps jaded and or were asked for money at an inopportune time not long after the holiday season when they had heavy holiday bills to pay. As for the aforementioned label program, that was distributed by national in the spring as is the custom. A donation is never too late or too small and we welcome any funds. Reminders have also been sent by national so please, if you have yet to do so, consider a donation or perhaps even a second donation.

As always, I would like to thank all who donated to any and all of these fundraisers. Remember, these support your department and its programs. Thank you all.

Respectfully submitted as a report in progress ANEC Davis

American Legion Riders

PNEC Brault reported: given by DC Jodie Pajak

There were several Chapters that received their charters Athol 102 was the last chapter to receive theirs.

National Security:

DVC Lisa McPhee reported:

I attended the national zoom meeting on August 29, 2020

Robert Beercroft U>S> State Department

<https://www.academyofdiplomacy.org/member/robert-mason-beecroft/>

Discussed the four qualities of a good diplomat Flexibility and Sense of Humor, Mastery of Technical issues. Self-Control, and Understanding of DOD vs. State Department in budgetary issues.

The State Department needs to do an agonizing reappraisal of goals and strategies going forward in the world today.

Michael Luttrell

Senior Global Health Systems Development Consultant, Defense Security Cooperation Agency/Defense Institute for Medical Operations.

Discussed Global Health one component of National and Global Security. Health Systems part of diplomacy.

Dorothy Narvaez-Woods

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Moderated by Sean Sorbie, Director of Veterans Outreach, U.S. Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC).

Discussed four important factors and responsibilities of the Global Health Community, prevent and control of outbreaks, continued focus on vaccine programs, training in all global communities in regards to health, and the ability to quickly respond to health crisis.

Dr. Alton Frye

Presidential senior fellow emeritus, Council on Foreign Relations

Discussed nuclear disarmament on Global scale. Goal is reduction in nuclear weapons, trust among nations for verification purposed. Proposed idea of removing warheads from missiles and to store them elsewhere to prevent mutual destruction. <https://www.stimson.org/ppp/alton-frye/>

Michael A. Murieen, SMSgt, USAF, on Botswana engagement

Discussed helping Botswana veteran population with set up of a Veterans Affairs programs in the country. Very young veteran population in the country.

Submitted as a report in progress

So moved PNC Morin Any discussion? So moved

Consolidated Post Report Committee

PDC White reported:

THIS IS THE FINAL CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT FOR THE 2019-2020 YEAR. THE DEPARTMENT OF MA. HAD A FINAL COMPLETION PERCENTAGE AT 64%. AS COMPARED TO A FINAL PERCENTAGE OF 72 FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR.

ALTHOUGH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC CAUSED A LOT OF MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS TO BE CANCELLED .IT SHOULD HAVE HAD NO EFFECT ON SUBMISSION OF A CONSOLIDATED POST E.

Here is history of how post's in the Department of Mass. performed, in crunch time. This report covers the time from August 8, 2020 to August 28, 2020.

District 1 has 11 posts and two posts didn't submit a CPR.

District 2 has 15 posts, and three Posts hadn't submitter CPR but at the August 28 deadline only one post hadn't submitted CPR.

District 3 has 24 posts and 9 posts didn't submit a CPR.

District 4 has 55 posts and 24 posts didn't submit a CPR.

District 5 has 46 posts and 26 posts didn't submit a CPR.

District 6 has 29 posts and 17 posts didn't submit a CPR

District 7 has 23 posts and had a 100% completion percentage. Congratulations

District 8 has 33 posts and 15 posts didn't submit a CPR.

District 9 has 22 posts and 8 posts didn't submit a CPR. Although the Commander did the 8 posts but the submittal of these 8 records got lost in space. Congratulations to District 9.

District 10 has 33 posts and had a 100% completion. Percentage, CONGRATULATIONS

Out of 293 Posts in the Department only 64% turned in a Consolidated Post Report that means that 94 posts didn't submit a Consolidated Post Report.

National reports that 8,996 out of 12,637 of our American Legion posts submitted a Consolidated Post Report or 71%.

What have we learned, we learned that sending letters, e-mails or phone to a post doesn't always produce the results we had hoped to attain? The personal touch will always produce results.

Part of the District Commanders duties is he/she or their representatives must visit each post in his/her district. During these visits, no matter who makes the visit he/she should get the Commander and Adjutant's personal phone numbers. Therefor if you need a question answered or what to check up on anything, you will have the information at your fingertips.

The National intention is to have the CPR for 2020-2021 online next month. This will give us a little head start in compiling data for the 2020-2021 CPR reporting year.

The 2019-2020 reporting year is over, TG it's now time to start your Consolidated Post Report for 2020-2021. Good luck.

Finale report PNC Morin So moved the report Any discussion? So moved

PNC Comer to Fred you did a great job in the last 5 or so years the department has not done that well.

D4C Gauthier in district 4 I believe it's the paper post that has not submitted their CPR reports. I would like to say great job by DVC McPhee and D4VC Conner for getting the word out and working with the post in the district to get the CPR report to department.

PNC Morin the CPR can be intimidating but every post does at least one item (oratorical, boys state, wakes for veterans in there post and buddy checks) on the list just fill that out and send to department. CPR's information from June 1st – May 30th.

IT

PNEC Louis Brault reported given by DC Aide Drew Pajak

I will host a meeting get ahold of Drew. Frank will you give me a date for the meeting. I will also need a list of the Committee meetings to set up Zoom. Send the meetings to Frank to get in the newsletter.

Report in progress So moved

Training

DVC Sandra Kee reported:

Given the current restrictions, there is no in person training session scheduled within the Department or National. However, online training opportunities are available.

1. American Legion Basic Training is available online at legion.org/training. To date, less than 10% of our Department membership has taken National Basic Training. Remember, the only way to get credit is to take Basic Training online.
2. National is holding virtual training on October 27, 2020 at 7PM. Topics for this training session includes MyLegion Membership Processing and Buddy Check. This is a great opportunity to expand your knowledge from the comfort of your own home.
3. For members of TALMA (The American Legion Media Alliance) virtual training is available monthly on topics such as "How to get your post's events in your local media", "Best practices for social media" and "Best practices for shooting video". For more information, visit legion.org/talma.
4. Recently, The National Membership workshop went completely virtual this year on August 3-6. It was very well received by the 33 + people were able to attend each session. All the training materials from this event are available at legion.org/training/membership. Topics included develop a mission & vision; Membership Retention and Defining a great post just to name a few.
5. As a reminder, given the current state of the world around us, National American Legion College has been re-scheduled for March 2021.

Lastly, think about opportunities to incorporate training at the District and Posts levels. Many resources are available at legion.org/training. Remember: The more you know, the more empowered you become. Respectfully submitted as a report in progress

So moved PNC Morin seconded PNH Fratolillo Any Discussion? So moved

D5VC McMath, Sandra are you planning on doing a zoom adjutants training? We can do one as we have all the material. I'm asking because we have a new adjutant in our post that would like some training.

Women Veterans

DECW Neysa Wright reported:

Holding the Conference virtual and there will be two sessions morning and afternoon on Oct 3, 2020. Morning 9-12 opening with Federal, State and local speakers. Afternoon – sponsors talking about benefits for women veterans that they may not know exist on women's health issues. This will be the 12th annual Conference.

Report as one in progress PNC Morin so moved and seconded PNH Fratolillo

Any discussion? So moved

DVC Kee has the women's luncheon for October been cancelled? DECW Wright yes it has been cancelled

Employment & Veterans Preference

PDC Connors Chairman report given by PNH Fratolillo:

I am not the Department Chairman but I'm the National Chairman for Employment & Veterans Preference. It has been quite some time since the department has received any nomination for the Employer awards. The awards can be found online VE&E@legion.org or call the Department office or you can contact me, Jim or the Department Chairman. This is for employees that are veteran friendly large, medium or small size does not matter. Nominations by post and individuals must be sent to department headquarters as soon as possible so that the department will have time to review all nominations received and make the selection of its winners. One award for each category awards for department will be given out at department convention. All nominations from department must arrive at National Headquarters on or before January 15th. Only one from each department will be sent to National Veterans Employment & Education Commission will be reviewing all the resolutions, all listed in the book will be getting a letter and should plan to attend the zoom or virtual meeting.

This report is for information purposes only.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Taunton Post 103

Attorney Richard Paster reported:

I have talked with the owner when the owner finishes redoing the outside of the building he will contact me in April 2021, so the bronze plaque can be put up.

PNC Morin move Taunton be moved to the April agenda seconded PNC Comer. Any discussion? So moved

NEW BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received a Thank You from Abe Gould for the opportunity to participate in an incredible speech competition
2. Received a Thank You from Grace Hobin for being chosen as a scholarship recipient
3. Received a Thank You from Massachusetts 4-H Foundation for the \$500.00 donation
4. Received a copy of the letter Post # 221 sent to their 2 State Representatives Gordon & Horan looking for support to open post 221 outside dining, members socializing & gathering without waiting for Phase Four to be satiated.
5. Received the 2020 list of Dept. Scholarship Recipients
6. Received District 5 Middlesex County April 19, 2020 Virtual Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
7. Received District 3 Hampden County July 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes
8. Received District 10 P.B.&N. County August 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes
9. Received POW/MIA August 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes

10. ENDORSEMENTS

11. At the regular schedule meeting of District 3 Hampden County on July 12, 2020 it was unanimously voted to endorse the following candidates, Dept. Commander Jodie Pajak for the High Office of Alternate National Executive Committeeman, Department Vice Commander Sally Nay for the Office of Senior Vice Commander and Historian Nelson Blake for the Office of Department Vice Commander.

PNC Morin moved and seconded by PNC Comer that all correspondence be received and placed on file.

12. **LATE CORRESPONDENCE:** Received a Thank You from the following scholarship recipients Brendan Capuzzo, Daniel Lupo, Samantha Currier, Paige Spivey, Samuel Kierstead and C4C James G. St. Pierre (USAF Academy).

PNC Morin moved and seconded by PNC Comer that all late correspondence be received and placed on file.

PNC Morin moved to file all the endorsements received.

MOTIONS

PNC Morin made a motion to pay the DC Pajak for any expenses for the Zoom meetings and to be taken out of the IT line

Seconded PNC Comer Any discussion? So moved

PNC Morin made a motion that the DC Pajak sends a letter to the Governor that he reconsiders the chairman position at the Solders Home as a non veteran is for a veteran as there are many veterans qualified for the position.

Seconded PNC Comer Any discussion? So moved

COMMANDER'S APPOINTMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

AD6C John Milot

Scott Connor to be a member on the oratorical committee

Robert Burke VAVS for the Boston Health Care Brockton Division

PNC Morin moved for approval seconded PNC Comer

Any discussion? So moved

GOOD OF THE LEGION

1. DC Pajak announces her candidacy for ANEC for the 2021-2023 years
2. PDC Starks announces his candidacy for ANEC for the 2021-2021 years
3. ANEC Davis announces his candidacy for NEC for the 2021-2023 years
4. D7C Nelson announced there will be no parade in Boston on Veterans Day
PNC Comer, Flo received a phone call this morning that the Soldiers Home in Holyoke, Christmas gift shop in November has been cancelled. At this time we do not know what the other VA Hospitals and Soldiers Home will be doing for the gift shops.
5. Sgt Lacoste presentation of the mask we were given 10,000 masks from National, thank you Jake for facilitating that for us. Jodie read the declaration form National Commander Oxford; pictures were taken and sent to National. Very well received bright spot in the day. Yes Cindy I called National to get that done. Cindy yes Milton I know you were involved you called me right away to get information about the mask. And you worked with the Washington and National office to get this done. PNC Morin that was a joint venture with National and the Government of Twain and we work with National to get the mask and I want to thank Cindy, Commander Jodie and Milton congratulation to all.
DAJ Lashus I received another 4,000 mask at my home as we cannot receive packages at the state house. One thousand masks will be given to our representative Billy Bell for the Soldiers Home in Chelsea
One thousand masks will be given to the Boston VA, Brockton Division.
Two thousand masks are left I will bring some to the next DEC for the post. PNC Morin you need to keep 500 for Department Convention.
6. D4C Gauither very concerned about the servability of The American Legion Post in Winchendon not sure how post are going to make it during this Covid 19 time. We voted to close the post at the end of the month. The pavilion opened is not paying the bills. It's taking care of a restaurant not a bar. We are trying to follow state and local rules but its just not working. I cannot staff the bar or have people in the bar area. We have also talked about selling our Rockwell painting I do not want to do that out of respect of the Grouts. But I do not think we will be going in that direction. But what about the smaller Post, Rochdale right now had to sell their building because they did not want to take out a loan. I think in my district there will be about 10-15 post that are going to sell. PNC Comer many posts have applied for the payroll protection plan (PPP). We tried but they were out of money, PNC Morin I suggest you try again they still have funds available. National and Department both applied all received the PPP funds. Post 221 and 275 went to there town official's and now serve food in the hall with social distance. Is it a success probably not but it helps pay some of the bills. I agree some post may have to sell there building but the can still function as a post and do the programs of The American Legion. I will give you an example my post sold about 20 years ago we now meet at the KOC hall and we do all the legion programs. The post is still going to have a Christmas party for the committee, we may not be able to have it like always but legion members will bring the gifts to the children in there cars. Scott you need to get together with other post and department officers and see what they are doing in order to make end meet. Steve Souza had some good out of the box ideas, and Jim Brehio talk to your local board of health. OC are there any post that got the PPP funds successfully yes Post 40, 185, 275 and 382 that we know of maybe more.
Thank you
7. Update on National Convention 2021 will be in Phoenix AZ, Sheraton price per room is \$125.00 plus 12.57% tax.
8. Out standing bills on gazebo there are 2 bills totaling \$1100.50. These were sent to Becky last year and were never forwarded to the department. The Edith Norse Rogers is asking if The American Legion is going to pay these bills. If so are we going to pay from the rehab fund? PNC Morin how much have we taken out so far not sure of the total amount at this time. PNC Comer said to pay the bill out of Commanders Charities.
Has the Gazebo been put up yet? Its not finished at this time the architecture said he will check it out next week.

NO FURTHER BUSINESS – Motion to adjourn PNC Comer moved and PNC Morin seconded

Any discussion?

So moved unanimous

CLOSING PRAYER – D1C Kevin Hamel

Sgt.at Arms Colors in place – Salute ready 2

NEXT Executive Board Meeting

Zoom

November 21, 2020

Membership 11 AM