

MINUTES OF JUNE 23rd

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Anthony Dias
Department Commander

Milton K Lashus
Department Adjutant

To be approved at the
Department Executive Committee Meeting
November 26, 2022

AGENDA

AGENDA FOR DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON June 23, 2022 Starting at 2:00 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY DEPARTMENT COMMANDER **Anthony Dias**

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 PREVIOUS DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING on June 23, 2022 at Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel AS PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED
8. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF the DETACHMENT EXECUTICE COMMITTEE MEETING on March 5, 2022
9. DEPARTMENT TREASURER'S REPORT **Steve Souza**
10. DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT **Sally Nay**
11. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS
12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. NONE
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 Anthony Dias at 2:00 PM
SALUTE TO THE COLORS – Sgt. Desrosiers
INVOCATION – Father Philip Salois
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ALL
POW/MIA CHAIR – William Chisholm
PREAMBLE - All

Roll Call – by Adjutant Lashus

Present: CMDR Dias; DSrVC Nay; DVC Blake; DVC Davis, DVC McPhee; ADJ Lashus; TRS Souza; CHAP Salois; DECW Wright; NEC Davis; ALT NEC Pajak; PDC Pajak; PNC Comer; PNC Morin; JA Fratolillo; SGT Desrosiers; ASST SGT Hallene, Kelly; Samko; Photo Borges; Aide Mangels; D1C Lefebvre; D2C White; D3C Howe; D4C Conner; D5C Desrosiers; D6C Jerdan; D7C Nelson; AD1C Oleen; AD3C Fontaine; AD5C Blake; AD7C Sinatra; AD9C Romanelli; AD10C Connell; PDC Avis, PDC Bicchieri; PDC Brault, PDC Brehio; PDC Chisholm; PDC Connors; PDC Lenotte; PDC MacDonald; PDC Starks

Excused: Asst Chap Ryan; Hist Deegan; Hon Sgt Lizotte; Asst Sgt Lacoste; D8C Cannon; D9C Bettencourt; D10C Olsen; D6C Milot

Absent: AJA Atkins; AJA Flattes; AD2C Willette; AD4 Gallant

Acceptance of the minutes of the Executive Committee and membership meetings on April 2nd at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel as printed and distributed.

So Moved PNC Morin and 2nd by PNVC Avis commander any discussion? Motion carried

Acceptance of the minutes of the Detachment Executive Committee meeting on March 5th

So Moved PNC Conner and 2nd by commander any discussion? Motion carried

Treasurer's Report

Treas Steve Souza:

Budget and Finance Committee: As we are ready to close the books for FY 2022 we would like to report that our Legion is on solid ground. Despite what we see every day with Global and National economics, we feel confident that the American Legion, Department of Massachusetts has the resiliency to weather the storm. Our investments may be at a critical crossroad yet we feel confident, yet hopeful, that this is short term.

Budget 2023: Our budget for FY '23 of \$616,456.70 is one that maintains continuity for all programs, services as well as our operational cost. It reflects a modest decrease as we continue to serve all programs, our veterans, their families, our communities and our children. As of this report, we find all committees have completed their mission as we keep with the fine tradition of the American Legion, we have known, in years past.

A final reminder to all committees: If you or any members have any outstanding expenses, please submit them to us by the end of this month as we would like to close all accounts, as we move forward.

I have additional expense vouchers with me, for anyone in need.

Investments: Total investments, as of 6.17.2022 are at \$3,777,816.19 from previously reported at the last DEC meeting in April. We have had a loss of \$603,430. Or roughly 13.8%, as the market continues to take a nose dive due to inflation, raise in the Federal Reserve rate, war in Ukraine and shortages in various marketplace goods.

These funds are closely monitored by our Legion Finance and Investment Committees, with meetings that take a hard look at methods to keep a sound portfolio.

April DEC meeting Jun DEC meeting

RBC Capital Wealth Mgt. \$3,216,788.82 to \$2,778,111.83

Boston Harbor Wealth Adv. \$1,164,459.22 to \$999,704.36

Unclaimed Property: We continue to be active as we have recently requested unclaimed property (funds) that some post may have coming to them. We should be hearing shortly from the Inspector at the Unclaimed Funds Division of the Commonwealth's Treasurer's Department.

Last year the time frame was in June/July as we expect the same to happen this year, with a full review for possible distribution in late August.

Team in Action: Like to report on our Statehouse “Team in Action”.

Recently our Adjutant, Milton Lashus was told by our CPAs that our Department might be eligible for Employee Retention Credits or ERCs through the IRS. Milton asked me to find which quarters over the last three years might we be qualified for this? Once that was completed, I then went to our in-house accountant, Bill Chisholm who prepared the forms needed and sent them to our CPAs.

End result is we will be getting \$67,400 returned to us for this program. The bad news is we have to wait to receive it, perhaps toward the end of the end. The good news is that it will be paid to us with interest.

Love it, when a plan comes together! Great job, TEAM.

“Foot Note”: As of this date, membership is just shy of 29,500 or 98.12%. Our initial budget projections were based on 29,000 members as we are closing in on 100%. This brings in a bit more revenue as we are getting ready for our new fiscal year to begin in a couple of weeks.

Good job to everyone!

This concludes my financial report as it continues to be one in progress subject to audit, as always.

PNC Morin one in progress subject to audit and 2nd by D7C Nelson commander and discussion?

Motion carried

Membership

DSVC Nay reported:

Massachusetts is currently in 9th place nationally with 9 district at 100%. We have been able to do this with 3 strategies. New members 981 – Just ask works, renewal rate of over 93.36% and transfers from DMS -1839. I hope Massachusetts continues to use these strategies for membership.

Thanks you to all who got us to this point 98.62% of goal.

Respectfully submitted Sr. Vice Commander Sally Nay

Motion DVC Davis and 2nd by D4C Conner commander any discussion? Motion carried

Budget

PNVC MacDonald reported:

All on the executive meeting received a copy of the budget 2022-2023 and a copy was mail to all post. The budget does not change much year to year \$616,456.70. Membership is going down so the income is going down. We did receive a little more in American Legion Insurance Trust. Changes in expenses are raises for employees and operating cost. Some money from LIT was transferred to the VA&R in a separate line item so it can be tracked.

Motion PNVC MacDonald and 2nd PNC Morin commander any discussion? DVC Davis I never received a budget. Any more questions? Motion carried

Convention Committee

PNC Morin reported:

Welcome to the 103rd Department Convention everything is set to go have fun!

New Business

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received a Thank You from National HQ for the donations to TAL Veterans & Children Foundation for \$4,160.61, \$450.00, \$650.00 & \$310.00 from the National CMDR visit.
2. Received Thank You from The National CMDR to the Dept. Marketing Team for the Thunderbirds hockey shirt he received during his recent visit to Massachusetts
3. Received a Thank You from The American Legion Auxiliary Foundation for the \$100.00 donation to VCAF

4. Received District 1 March 20, 2022, April 24, 2022 & June 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes & Caucus
5. Received District 2 May 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes
6. Received District 3 March 13, 2022, May 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes & May 15, 2022 Pre-Convention Caucus Meeting
7. Received District 4 March 12, 2022 & May 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes
8. Received District 5 March 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes & May 22, 2022 call to council
9. Received District 6 March 23, 2022, Meeting Minutes
10. Received District 7 May 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes
11. Received District 8 March 20, 2022 & May 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes
12. Received District 9 April 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes
13. Received District 10 May 15, 2022 Call to Council
14. Received Department Children & Youth Committee, April 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes
15. Received Department Finance Committee April 2, 2022 Report
16. Received Department Americanism April 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes
17. Received District 1 June 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes
18. Received District 8 May 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

All Correspondence to be placed on file

Motion PNC Morin and 2nd by DVC Davis

commander any discussion? Motion carried

Motions

D4C Conner request to have post 119 Harvard taken off suspension and to put post 323 Grafton Hill on suspension low membership.

Motion D4C Conner and 2nd by PNC Morin commander any discussion? Motion carried

Good of the Legion

1 PNC Comer introduced special guest NVC Cory Bates from RI, two tenths of point to being in first place. Larry Marcouillier from Delaware and Rev Daniel Seehafer candidate for National Commander 2023-2024, he has also been the National Chaplain in 2011.

2 Jim Sinatra: Save the date for Veterans Day parade Saturday Nov 5, 2022. Trying to get the Old Town Trolley for those who cannot march or would just like to ride.

3 July 5th American Legion Baseball game at Polar Park great family day and the State Finale games will be held in Milford.

4 Ryan Howe Rt. 20 Medal of Honor Highway has been passed in MA house of Reps.

5 Dispatch talks about Post 125 own Mitchell Keil on the 100 Miles for Hope from post 125 to post 414.

6 Request for Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms for National Convention.

7 CPR – due July 1st 112 turned in for 287 post for a 37%. But you can still turn them in after the deadline date. Just the Department will not get credit but the information will still go on the report for Washington DC.

8 District 7 raffle

9 July issue of the Legion magazine features the Captain of the USS Constitution

10 Technical motion made by PNC Morin

Motion PNC Morin and 2nd by PNC Comer

11. Pass out the nomination papers for Department Elections.

NO FURTHER BUSINESS – Motion to adjourn PNC Morin moved and 2nd DVC Davis
Commander any discussion? Motion carried

Sgt.at Arms Desrosiers Colors being in place – Salute ready

CLOSTING PRAYER – Father Philip Salois