

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
71 N. Elm Street
Westfield, MA 01085-1619
Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850
Meetings 2nd Monday of every month
www.mclwrv141.com
SEMPER FIDELIS

Minutes of Monthly Meeting 12 February 2024

OPENING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1900 hours, posted the Colors and led the detachment in the Pledge of Allegiance; the Chaplain read the opening prayer after which the Sergeant-at-Arms declared the meeting open for official business. Sixteen regular members, one guest and ten associate members were present.

ROLL CALL OF DETACHMENT OFFICERS:

Detachment 141 Elected Officers (Board of Trustees)		
Commandant	Christopher B. Cekovsky	P
Senior Vice Commandant	Rene Cote	E
Junior Vice Commandant	Dan Bishop	P
Judge Advocate	Keith A. Buckhout	P

Appointed Staff Officers		
Junior Past Commandant	Keith A. Buckhout	P
Adjutant	Brianna Torrey	P
Paymaster	Joseph Delaney	P
Sergeant at Arms	Aldo Mancini	P
Chaplain		E
Historian	John S. Rutovich	P

Auditor	Sophie F. Bartosik	E
Public Relations	Michael Patnaude	P
Scuttlebutt Editors	Roger Beer, William Federman	P
Web Sergeant	Carriann D. Bailey	P
Armorer	Christopher B. Cekovsky	P
Color Guard	Keith A. Buckhout	P
Quartermaster	John S. Rutovich	P
Flag Service	Vinny Sulewski, John S. Rutovich	P

Past commandants							
Richard Greene 1977		Joseph Mucha 1994		Donald Wielgus 1999		Joseph Willis 2004	
Fran Curnow 2005	P	Brian Dupee	P	John Rutovich 2011	P	Dan Bishop 2013	P
Keith Buckhout 2017	P						

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: 3 new applications. two regular members and one associate member. Paul Bushey, Jay Mayel are new regular members and Robert Vigneault is a new associate member.

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you from Brian Ryan of the Leeds V.A. for our coffee and donuts on the second Monday of each month.

SICK OR IN DISTRESS: Commandant Chris Cekovsky's wife Colleen's biopsy came back clear. Roger Beer's wife is finishing radiation. Please reach out to Henry. His wife is very ill and he misses seeing everyone.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS (those not listed had nothing to report or were absent or excused):

Commandant: Brandon's Eagle project to get the incinerator at Parker Park is being voted on by

Westfield Park and Recreation on February 12, 2024.

Jr Vice: Recruited the 3 new members. Looked into building quotes for updates. Mini splits will be \$20,000, floors are \$16,000, commercial dishwasher is \$4500 and outside updates roughly \$2500. will be working on an energy audit for possible help. Looking for a plumber as well for the backflow pump. Looking into Historical Building to see if this would help with costs of updates.

Scholarship: Applications out in December. \$3300 in account to hand out. Applications are out online and in an email to everyone.

Webmaster: Updates to the website have been made. If anyone goes to any of the events and takes photos please email or text to CarrieAnne to add to the website.

Jr Past Commandant: Attended 4 Chaplains in Leeds at VA. It is a service to celebrate 4 different religious chaplains who during WW2 gave up their life jackets to others and went down with the ship. This event is yearly on the first Sunday in February.

Paymaster: December and January figures looked over. Many outstanding checks leaving the checking account roughly \$25583.25 to keep in mind for building updates. Numbers accepted unanimously.

Ceremonial: April has a ceremony at the 104th monument on 202 in Westfield. February 26th is Iwo Jima day at the state house. Ceremony is at 11AM and all are encouraged to attend. Duty belts paid for and there are 5 for the color guard duties.

Public Relations: 313 profile interactions in January.

Scuttlebutt editors: New edition just went out. Looking for stories while in the military or Marine Corps League activities. Bill will look for questionnaire that used to be used for the stories.

VAVS: Coffee and donuts are going well. Every second Monday of the month is Marine Corps Leagues coffee day. Please help out if you can from 8A-10A. Please bring Non perishables to the next meeting for the VA food pantry. It is very empty.

Holyoke Soldier Home: Very full. They would enjoy later day visits since the hospital has no activities later in the day.

Westfield Veterans Council: Memorial day being discussed. Contact Julie Barnes to get on the

list for free Veteran Lunch at the tech school.

Agawam: Memorial Day being discussed. April 7th Battleship Cove Bus Trip (more info to follow). They will be figuring out a 4 day D.C. trip in the summer.

Unfinished Business: Held a meeting about a new emblem. Old t-shirts can be worn only when not with cover on, at national events and at meetings. Working on new emblem that can be worn everywhere using research with National.

Applebees has a donation program Monday through Thursday and no holidays. Any day we choose you, let Applebees know and hand out the poster to get the 15% back to Marine Corps League.

New Business: Hira met Sgt. Major Ruiz in Bristol CT. She brought back a signed flag dedicated to the post and will be at the barracks.

Westfield State University reached out for sponsorship of diploma frames for veterans graduating this year. \$500 to be donated to the University for the frames motioned by JR and second by Dan Bishop. Passed.

Joe motioned for an \$800.00 donation to Young Marines at Westover. Second by Fran and passed.

The Golf Tournament is August 3rd 2024. We made \$15,300 last year and are hoping for \$20,000 this year. First meeting Saturday February 17, 2024 at 10AM.

Mother's day weekend will be at Geisslers.

Good of the League:

The Vietnam Veterans Association presented an award to the Marine Corps League as a thank you for years of contribution.

Breakfast has been well attended. The next will be 03/09/2024.

Awards given out for Distinguished Service by the Commandant. Awards given to Bev Bishop, Dan Bishop, Brianna Torrey, Andy Reardon, and our two Santa's from our Christmas parties.

Reports for 2023 of our barracks. Attended 4 funerals, 790 hours worked for community service, cash donation for Toys for Tots, Parades, Color Guards, Young Marines, Scouts, Eagle

certificates, Christmas Party, Skate Party and the Golf Tournament.

CLOSING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 2032 hours and the Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The closing statement was read and the proceedings were declared adjourned until the next scheduled detachment meeting, on March 11, 2024.

Brianna Torrey, Adjutant
Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
Marine Corps League