



Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 71 N. Elm Street Westfield, MA 01085-1619 Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850

Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month [www.mclwrv141.com](http://www.mclwrv141.com)

## Minutes of Monthly Meeting 9 February 2026

**OPENING CEREMONY:** The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1855 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. Ten regular members, and five associate members were present.

**Membership:** none at this time.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted unanimously. Motion made by Dan Bishop, seconded by Joe Delaney.

**Correspondence:** Project New Hope sent a thank you for our \$500.00 donation.

**Sick or In Distress:** Brian Dupee is sick at this time.

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

**Commandant:** The department meeting was good. The New Commandant Mike Heinz is hard working and getting things accomplished. Department convention conference is one day in Watertown on April 18th. The Growl will follow after the conference around 4pm. New England division conference at the Springfield Sheraton is June 11-14. \$159/night and needs to be booked by May 14. A package will be sent to the Commandant about each of these events. Please attend the New England Division conference if you can since it is in our backyard. The 2027 National Convention is in Buffalo, New York and 2026 is in Indianapolis August 10-14. Scholarships for the Department were spoken about at the meeting you can win \$1500 from the department and the website has all the details. Scholarship applications need to be in by May 1 and awarded at division conference in August. There is a need for Department and Division VSO reps. Please let Chris know if you would like to be a rep. If you are part of 10 Honor guard details for the detachment please let someone know so you can get your ribbons. February 19 is Iwo Jima day at the state house in Boston.

**Jr. Vice:** Plumbing is finished in the basement. Flyers are printed for the Golf tournament. See Dan if you are interested in grabbing some to hand out.

**Paymaster:** Dan Bishop motioned to accept subject to audit and JB seconds. Accepted.

**Ceremonial:** 4 Chaplains went well February 1st in Leeds at the VA chapel. The Young marines also attended. The stained glass in the chapel depicts the 4 Chaplains which is very interesting. Make sure to



attend as many events as possible at the VA to ensure the Chapel can stay. April 4 at 1pm is Vietnam Veteran Appreciation day at Parker Park. April 12 is the 40/8th dinner at 5pm with more information to follow. February 13 is a wake/service for an active duty Marine with MCL ritual at 6:30pm. An email is sent about this service. Please let Keith know if you can attend in Southbridge MA. Please wear uniforms if attending.

**Web Sgt:** Emailed photos and minutes. Minutes and photos are up on the website. Announcements have been working well on Facebook and Instagram.

**Flag Service:** There will be tons of work in the Spring. Working on getting help for the Spring to sort.

**Scholarship:** The application was sent out by email. Ensure the proper scholarship application is being used otherwise it will be thrown out and not considered.

**Building Committee:** The roof will be taken care of as soon as the snow goes away. Robert is doing a great job as head of the committee.

**Golf Tournament:** TBD for a meeting. Flyers are ready to be handed out.

**Veteran's home:** Joe has not been in a few weeks. The new building opens in September and all visitors need masks. Hoping to use the van to bring some patients for the next meeting and breakfast on March 7. May need help with orders and things for these veterans when they visit. Hoping for a Spring/Summer burger burn for the veterans.

**Westover Young Marines:** Started drills two Fridays ago. There are 27 recruits, the youngest is 8 and the oldest is 15. It is going well and they are working on getting parents to understand they are volunteers with their children. They don't refuse anyone but they are taking kids to make better citizens not be babysitters. Presented Westover Young Marines \$800 check for this year.

## **New Business:**

Joe Delaney motioned to buy 500 calendar cards as long as they cost less than \$200 to buy to help fundraise this year. We did not sell 34 cards this past year but we still took in \$2,500 for the fundraiser. Fran Second motion and accepted.

## **Good of the League:**

Once Joe is back from vacation Dan will open the store. Dan will be looking to add more items for spring/summer. The store will be open soon for three weeks. It will ship only to the house now.

Monday April 6 10a-4p Westfield State University Nonprofit forum. Networking and roundtables with veterans will be available. Details will be available at the next meeting. You will need to buy lunch at the cafeteria. There will be a link emailed out soon.

Commandant handed out awards in no particular order to thank members for their hard work at the detachment. Both awards are associated with ribbons or stars for members' uniforms.

## **Distinguished Citizens Award**

Joe Delaney, Charles Distefano, Dan Bishop

## **Meritorious Commendation**

Brianna Torrey, Zach Torrey, Carrieann Bailey-Dymon

# MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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Commandant looked into dates of membership from National and handed out pins to those who have 10 or more years in the League. 22 years for Dan Bishop, 12 years for Chris Cekovsky, 21 years Fran Curnow, 12 years Joe Delaney, 22 years Charles Distefano, 17 years Carrieann Bailey-Dymon, 23 years Ed Mitrook, 13 years Rene Cote and 20 years JB Stern.

Awards and pins will continue to be handed out at each meeting until all recipients have been awarded.

**CLOSING CEREMONY:** The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 20:05 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 **SATURDAY**, March 7, 2026.

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