

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES 10 August 2017

Call to Order: President Peter Burdett called the meeting to order at 1832 hours. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the assembly present followed by the invocation delivered by Joe DiChiaro.

Attending: Avery, Boyle, Breuder, Burdett, Burdo, Chadwick, Coulter, Day, Devoe, DiChiaro, Ikstrums, LeFebvre, McLean, Register, Smith, Way. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Opening Remarks: Peter Burdett began by apologizing for not being present last month as he was on the way to Hanover to attend the premier of a Ken Burns program called “The Vietnam War”. It will be a seventeen week program on PBS. The premier consisted of viewing pieces of nine of the episodes. Peter and the panel in attendance got to meet Ken Burns and other people involved in the series. Peter commented that most people know that Ken Burns is an ultra-liberal. However, Peter said that he thought that the 850 people in attendance at the premier felt the presentation was rather balanced. Peter commented that he felt that for those who have contacts in the mental health field, this series will be loaded with “triggers”. There are a number of pictures that might “trigger” reactions in people who served in Vietnam. Peter said that we, as a group, have a responsibility to counsel anyone who may have a reaction to viewing the series. Peter mentioned the passing of chapter member Bob Fortnam, a WWII hero, on August 1st. Peter went on to tell the story of Bob’s landing an aircraft that was all shot up over the Netherlands. That resulted in Bob receiving an Air Medal at a chapter luncheon some sixty years late.

Immediate Past President Remarks: “Chad” began by saying there was a piece on Bob Fortnam on WMUR. “Chad” said we are confirmed at the Eagle Mountain House in Jackson for June 23, 2018. He added that he thought that the Clambake went very well.

Secretary’s Report: Michael McLean reported that he received one typo correction to the July Board meeting minutes. Michael reminded everyone that people need to start thinking about their inputs for their Annual Meeting reports. Michael needs them all **NLT** the October Board meeting on 12 October. Motion made and seconded to accept the July minutes. Motion passed and minutes accepted.

Treasurer’s Report: Roby Day asked if anyone had any questions on the July report. He said we are in good shape. He said our retained earnings are \$7,400 which is about twice what we were last year. We are in a good position to finish out the year. Roby moved on to the Clambake and began by saying what an outstanding job Terry Bobseine did running the 50/50 Raffle. He intends to send her a congratulatory message. She put up with a lot and managed to collect \$447.00 which gave Jim LeFebvre \$224.00. Jim commented that his wife has it all! Roby reported that our current balance for veteran causes is \$463.00. Roby commented that Ken Lull donated a bunch of meal tickets so we have enough tickets to last us for quite a while. Roby then went on to mention a problem with the locks on the port-a-potties – they weren’t locked. As a result, the port-a-potties were in terrible shape. Roby pointed out the cost analysis of the

Clambake, which showed that we cleared \$600, but was down from previous years. This points the need for all the luncheons to pay for themselves as we can't rely on Clambake profits to help defray the cost of other luncheons. Michael McLean suggested we do something nice for Terry Bobseine for all that she has done for the chapter. Peter Burdett went on to explain who she was in relation to the chapter. Roby then brought up the budget for 2018. He went over several items that he had questions on. Roby brought up that Michael McLean suggested that we have a "fire sale" of the items he has remaining in the MOAA-NH Virtual Store – ball caps, visors, golf balls, challenge coins. Michael said he has a large inventory of those items that are taking up room in his house and aren't selling for one reason or another. Perhaps we could have a half off sale. It was suggested that perhaps we could give them away as gifts to speakers at the luncheons. Peter Burdett asked about the mix and quantity of caps left. Peter said Michael could set up at the September luncheon. Michael said he had too much to do at the September luncheon. Roby suggested Michael could announce at the September luncheon that we would have a sale at the November luncheon. Peter said we would do that. Roby brought up that the cost of our liability insurance went down last year as a result of our reduced membership. Therefore it should go down again this year. Roby will ask Michael for a membership number to submit to the insurance company. Roby asked if anyone saw a reason to change what he had presented as far as the budget was concerned. Michael pointed out that the dues income might change slightly as the Board voted last month to recommend to the membership that the Auxiliary dues be raised from \$10.00 to \$12.00, but it is only a small amount. Peter Burdett recommended that everyone review the budget and we will vote on it at the September Board meeting. Peter then began a short discussion of his President's fund and the books, by Dr. Wright, we have been giving as speaker gifts. Roby finally brought up the status of the September luncheon. A lengthy discussion of different issues ensued. Peter Burdett called for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion made and seconded. Motion passed.

Trustees of the Trust Fund: Andrew Breuder commented that he felt we are in good shape and do not need to make any changes in our distribution of funds. Peter Burdett added comments on the market.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Government Relations (National/State/SVAC/MLT): Peter Burdett began by saying he wanted to talk for a few minutes about the choices the governor is going to have to make concerning the balance of leadership in the state of New Hampshire for veteran issues. Peter said there has not been a single individual within the state government who has made decisions concerning veterans. He believes this governor will establish a well defined leadership structure. Peter went on at length to talk about the funding and definition of this new structure. He discussed the possible increase in personnel in the Office of Veteran Services. The next meeting of the SVAC will be in September (normally the first fall meeting is in October) to discuss all these issues. Peter then reported that the US Army has a new Undersecretary who is also the acting Secretary of the Army. Peter said that, up until recently, his alternate on the SVAC has been Bancroft McKittrick; however, Bancroft will be out of touch for the next year.

Personal Affairs: Russ Register reported that he was at a family reunion on the West Coast so he doesn't have a report to present. Peter Burdett commented that with Congress not around this month, they can't mess things up.

Membership: Michael McLean presented the following membership numbers:

New members - 1
Deceased members - 14 (Plus 6 w/ spouses)
Dropped members - -1 (Fortnam widow)
Current total membership – 723

Recruiting: Jon VanGuilder not present. Michael McLean reported that he received a list of 44 names from MOAA of national members who changed addresses in the state (33), joined MOAA (8) or provided their email addresses (2). After weeding out people who are or have been chapter members (2), had been sent a recruiting letter in the past (5), those with only email addresses (2) and those whose age was listed as over 80 (9), he came up with a list of 25 names to send letters. He plans on doing that in the next few days.

Programs: Sandy Way mentioned briefly the remaining luncheons for this year. Roby Day brought up the fact that RADM Garry White, a MOAA national Board member from Massachusetts, had attended the Clambake, and according to Roby, likes to talk. Perhaps he could be considered as a speaker. Sandy went over the list of luncheons for next year that he had passed out. Sandy said he was going to start finding speakers for each of the luncheons. Finally, Sandy brought up for discussion people's responsibilities for luncheons - who is a back-up for who, etc. Sandy said when he took over, everything was word of mouth. He said we need something that says how we run a luncheon. Peter Burdett pointed out that Sandy will be leaving the Board in November, so we have two events left to come up with a replacement for him and to come up with procedures for running luncheons. Michael McLean produced a document, titled "Activity Guide...", which Michael said includes everything you need to know about planning and executing a luncheon. Discussion continued on who should be responsible for what, when, etc. and who are the back-ups. Peter Burdett said Sandy should go over the Guide to make any corrections necessary. Sharon Day suggested that Board members who have corporate knowledge assist Sandy in this review. Peter hoped that by the end of the meeting someone would come forward to volunteer to take over Programs.

BREAK FOR DINNER

Reconvened Meeting at 1953

Web Page: Michael McLean reported that there were 378 hits in July, up from 330 in June.
Popular Pages in July:

<u>Hits</u>	<u>Page</u>
34	Program Notes
33	Newsletter
21	Chapter News
18	Membership
18	Odds and Ends
16	Transition Assistance

7 Group Travel
2 UNK
210 General

After consulting with his son, Michael decided not to spend the \$120 for security for our web site. His son's co-worker considered our web site editor to be safe enough without the addition program.

Travel Programs: Tony Burdo submitted the following report:

All brochures have been received for our 2018 travel program. We have six trips planned for 2018. Two travelers are scheduled for a fall trip. Total of eight passengers for 2017. No word from Military History Tours. Tony spoke with reps from MA MOAA at our clambake. They may be interested in using our travel program for their chapters. He sent letters to MOAA chapters in MA, VT and ME nearly two years ago but never received a response. Tony explained that he would do all the legwork and we would work out the commission from Collette. He is still waiting their reply. Tony said he would try mailing them again.

Scholarship Loan Program: Joe DiChiaro reported that Cal Hosmer will be sending out the checks for the fall semester, and then Joe will be taking over. Joe then went into a brief discussion of the program to include the loan forgiveness feature. Peter Burdett mentioned that he spoke with Col Jim O'Brien, MOAA's COO, about our Scholarship Loan Program.

Strategic Initiatives: Bruce Avery reported that Queensboro is totally redoing their virtual stores that Bruce thinks will work to our advantage. We will be reviewing our inventory and pricing over the next few months.

Granite State Warriors Award: Bruce Avery said we will be closing out the reports shortly and convening the committee in early September to report to the Board at the September Board meeting.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

NH Veterans Home: Joe DiChiaro reported that the Home is doing fine.

Awards: Joe DiChiaro reported that he needs to know how many UNH ROTC grads there will be so he will be able to purchase the "bars" necessary.

Nominations (Directors & Officers): Michael McLean reported that Sharon Day has volunteered to be the Chairperson of the Board of Directors Nominating Committee and will submit her report at the September Board meeting. "Chad" Chadwick had nothing to report concerning the Officers nominations.

PAO: Still vacant. Sharon Day emailed Ken Lull to ask him for some specifics of the job so she could draft a blast email to send out to the membership similar to the one sent out for a newsletter editor. Sharon went on to say how successful the blast email was in securing a newsletter editor. Sharon said we need to make Marie Chipola, the new editor, welcome and other Board

members should do as well. We should encourage her to attend the Board meetings. There was a question whether she would do a September newsletter. Michael McLean said she would.

Granite Slate: Just covered above.

Web Communications - FB: Jon VanGuilder not present.

SUD (Substance Use Disorders) Committee: Andrew Breuder reported that there was nothing new. The next meeting is next Thursday.

LIAISONS:

ESGR: Peter Burdett asked Sandy Way that, in light of his scaling back of involvement in the chapter (he is downsizing his home), would he still make occasional reports on the ESGR. Sandy did not answer directly. Sandy did report that this is the ESGR's "Boss Lifts" season. He went into the procedures on how to request a "Lift". They have three more "Lifts" this summer – one a month through October. They are starting the Blackhawk helicopters lifts from Concord this month. There are four flights on August 29th. The ESGR is trying something new this year – take your boss to the ball game, in partnership with the NH Fisher Cats. They will put the boss and his company along with the ESGR on the jumbotron at the stadium. Sandy said the big event is a luncheon on September 14th where they will bring together a bunch of employers who have been identified by the Guard and Reserve personnel as being supportive of the Guard and Reserve. Peter Burdett commented that this will be the last year for the air refueling "Lifts" as the new tanker is configured differently.

Transition Liaison: Peter Burdett mentioned again that Bancroft McKittrick will be out of the country for the next year and Jim LeFebvre will be his stand in for the year. Jim reported that MOAA is holding a job fair on September 14th at the Air and Space Museum in DC, and he is planning on attending it.

VAMC Manchester: Bernie Satterfield not present. Joe DiChiaro reported that he attended several meetings recently at the VA. He said that it will cost \$7 million to repair the water damage from the broken pipe. They are considering building a new hospital as the current facility is so far out of code. The state has property that could be used. A problem is justifying building a new hospital in NH. It has been argued that there are facilities in MA. Joe went into detail concerning the issue. Peter Burdett added that he had spoken with Senator Hassan on the possibility of building a new medical center. Peter brought up Veterans Choice "2.0".

Martins Point: Bob Jaffin not present.

Auxiliary: Gwen Devoe reported that she had sent out a number of condolence cards and notes and one phone call (to Dorothy Lessard). Gwen said she is still going through the chapter directory looking for deceased members. Roby Day brought up that he saw Paul Chapman at the Clambake who is looking much better.

OLD BUSINESS:

Clambake: Peter began with a review of the Clambake. He said he was glad that Jim O'Brien from MOAA was there. He also mentioned that a MOAA Board member, RADM Gerry White,

showed up at the last minute. Peter said that he had discussions with them and CAPT Hunt (PNSY Commander) concerning the idea of a North East New England regional convention in conjunction with our Clambake next year (August 2018). They discussed having the meeting on the Friday night before the Clambake and stay over for the Clambake. CAPT Hunt offered housing and club facilities for the convention. Roby Day asked how far afield are we talking? Peter responded that probably CT, RI, MA, ME, VT and perhaps eastern NY. He said it is up to MOAA to make the arrangements – Peter is there to help. Peter then went on to mention that Jim O'Brien brought a MOAA coin which he presented to Ken Lull on behalf of Gen Atkins, MOAA President. Roby Day reported that we are booked for next year. Apparently Jamaica Island was double booked this year.

Goals and Objectives: Tony Burdo reported that on the request of the Financial Goal owner, he made several revisions to mostly the Measures. As far as the 2018 program, Tony feels that we should stay with the same three Objectives. If that is the case, he will develop a program for 2018.

Speaker Gift: Peter Burdett said he will contact Dr. Wright to do a bookplate for the Wright Museum to present to the speaker at the September luncheon. Roby Day asked if we should buy more books from Dr. Wright. Peter thought that was a good idea. Peter then went on to discuss how the process works.

PAO: Peter Burdett said that Sharon Day was going to help draft an email outlining the requirements for a PAO. Sharon said she sent an email to Ken Lull asking him for specifics of the job. Peter went on to mention the article he submitted to MOAA on Kelly Ayotte receiving the GSWA (Granite State Warriors Award) at the April luncheon. It showed up in the August issue of the *Military Officer*. Michael McLean pointed out that the page from the magazine was extracted and posted on our web site.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donation to SVAC Summer Outing: Peter Burdett thanked the Board for the contribution of \$50.00 made to the outing.

Warren C of C in Nov 17: Warren Coulter said he was ready to be President, but the issue is who will be the VP? As a side light, Peter Burdett said he just learned that Gerald Boyle had volunteered to be Program Chairman. There was a short discussion of possible names for VP.

Awareness: Peter Burdett asked that all members show awareness to getting new members.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will begin at 1830 on Thursday, 14 September 2017 at the Red Blazer in Concord, NH.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2034 hours.

Michael A. McLean
CDR, USN (Ret.)
Secretary
New Hampshire Chapter