

# NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES 14 December 2017

**Call to Order:** President Warren Coulter was not present (a scheduling conflict). Vice President Bob Jaffin called the meeting to order at 1834 hours. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled followed by the invocation delivered by Joe DiChiaro.

**Attending:** Avery, Balcom, Boyle, Breuder, Devoe, DiChiaro, Ikstrums, Jaffin, Luti, McLean. A quorum was not present for the meeting.

**Opening Remarks:** Bob Jaffin began by pointing out that we do not have a quorum this evening as we are extremely light. He briefly ran through the names of some of the people who were not here. He hoped for a short but meaningful meeting. Bob announced that we did hear from [MOAA] national concerning a regional conference next year in conjunction with our annual Clambake. He said he would be willing to take the lead on that project. He added that we need to talk with other chapters in the area to make it work. Bob then mentioned that he had just spoken with John Reed from Martins Point who said they are not allowed to talk about all the changes in health care that will take place January 1st. Andrew Breuder added that John Reed briefed the October meeting of the SUD Committee. Bob further added that John Reed will be attending the next meeting of Military Blues organization on the Seacoast in Hampton this Friday. Bob is still hoping that the chapter will allow John Reed to attend the January Luncheon, not to present, but to answer questions. Joe DiChiaro added that John Reed spoke to the last meeting of the SVAC.

**Immediate Past President Remarks:** Peter Burdett not present.

**Secretary's Report:** Michael McLean reported that he received no corrections to the November Board minutes. Michael said that he finally updated the MOAA Officer Form on MOAA's web site. Michael has not received an acknowledgement that their records have been updated. He reiterated that we do not have a quorum so technically we can't make any motions. Nevertheless, a motion was made and seconded to accept the November minutes. Motion passed and minutes accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Roby Day not present. There was a brief explanation of the reason for his absence. Michael McLean said he spoke with Roby on the phone and the only item Roby mentioned was a mysterious deposit from MOAA of \$10.00. Bruce Avery has been trying to find out what it was for but without success so far. It was decided that we could not move to accept the Treasurer's Report at this time.

**Trustees of the Trust Fund:** Andrew Breuder reported that things continue to go along without any issues. All the funds continue to make money.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Government Relations (National/State/SVAC/MLT):** Peter Burdett not present. Joe DiChiaro said he won't have as much to say as Peter. Joe said that most of the meeting was taken up with the VA. He mentioned that John Reed was at the meeting and provided a briefing on upcoming changes to TRICARE. Joe went on to mention that pending state legislation was covered. Joe brought up, in his mind, the difference between state and federal legislation. He commented that we have a chance to input on state legislation before it is passed whereas the Congressional delegation states what has already been passed. Joe then went over several other items that were covered at the SVAC meeting.

**Personal Affairs:** Russ Register not present. Bruce Avery presented Russ's apology for not been here this evening.

**Membership:** Michael McLean presented the following membership numbers:

New members - 1

Deceased members - 3

Dropped members - 1

Current total membership – 719

Michael said that he will be sending out dues letters in the middle of January – 288 regular members and 17 auxiliary members.

**Recruiting:** Jim Spotts not present.

**Programs:** Gerry Boyle reported that we are all set for the 2018 luncheons.

**Web Page:** Michael McLean reported that there were 321 hits in November, up from 238 in October. Popular Pages in November:

### **Hits Page**

57 Program Notes

19 Chapter News

13 Membership

13 Odds and Ends

13 Newsletter

10 Group Travel

3 Transition Assistance

1 UNK

177 General

**Scholarship Loan Program:** Joe DiChiaro reported that they are going to be sending out the checks for the second semester. Overall the Scholarship Loan Program is going very well.

**Strategic Initiatives (SIC):** Bruce Avery reported that there is nothing new on the SIC.

**Granite State Warriors Award:** Bruce Avery said that we are going to have three head tables, one for each of the recipients. Bruce remarked that he can not get hold of one of the recipients – Sig Sauer. They are not aware that they are getting an award! Bob Jaffin said he will try as well.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Awards:** Joe DiChiaro reported that there are an Air Force Lieutenant and three Army Lieutenants being commissioned. They will deplete his inventory of “Gold Bars”.

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

**Nominations (Directors & Officers):** Nothing new.

**PAO:** Still looking for one. Bob Jaffin said we ought to look at the Guard and Reserve to try to find a PAO.

**Granite Slate:** Marie Chipola not present. Bruce Avery commented that the latest edition of the Granite Slate was the best he had ever seen! Michael McLean had a color version which Bob Jaffin said looked so much better than black and white. The problem is the price. Michael reminded everyone that the newsletter is available on our web site in color.

**Web Communications - FB:** Jon VanGuilder not present.

**SUD (Substance Use Disorders) Committee:** Andrew Breuder submitted the draft minutes from the October meeting by email earlier. (**Attached.**) He went over the highlights of the meeting.

**Blast Email:** Vacant. Still need someone to take it over.

## **LIAISONS:**

**ESGR:** Sandy Way not present.

**Transition Liaison:** Jim LeFebvre not present.

**VAMC Manchester:** Bernie Satterfield not present. Michael McLean asked if everyone had seen the email about Bernie receiving recognition from the VAMC Manchester.

**Martins Point:** Bob Jaffin reported that there was nothing to report from Martins Point.

**Auxiliary:** Gwen Devoe reported on the number of deaths she discovered and the condolence notes and phone calls she made since the October meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Still need PAO:** Already covered.

**National Planning for regional convention:** Already covered.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**New 5-Star LOE Requirements:** Michael McLean reiterated that the scoring sheet for the Level of Excellence (LOE) has changed. He asked that people who provided inputs in the past should be prepared to provide inputs this year in the new format. People need to think about

items that occurred this year. He reminded everyone that we now have until May to provide our input.

**VA Task Force:** Joe DiChiaro commented on the status of the VA Task Force that is looking into the VAMC Manchester.

## **BREAK FOR DINNER**

### **Reconvened Meeting at 1938**

**Travel Programs:** Tony Burdo not present. Janis Ikstrums presented the following report:  
Two passengers have committed to book the Classical Spain and Portugal trip scheduled for October 2018. That brings our total to six for 2018.

It appears we are not getting hits our website's group travel link . Since our members are not coming to us, we probably need to go to them. Upon my return, I will work with Bruce Avery to schedule a series of blast email messages announcing our 2018 travel program as well as the Oberammergau's passion play in 2020. Anyone interested in the play needs to begin making reservations in the January, February time frame in order to get the best dates. I have received some interest in the passion play but no reservations have been made to date.

**Other New Business:** Joe DiChiaro asked how many people had read "Enduring Freedom" [by Dr. James Wright]. A discussion then ensued concerning Ken Burns' series on the Viet Nam War. The consensus was not favorable. Wayne Balcom brought up about the upcoming wreath laying at the Boscawen Veterans Cemetery. He asked whether anyone had been involved with that in the past. Bob Jaffin said we need to consolidate items like this around Thanksgiving to lay out things that the chapter could be involved in. Joe DiChiaro asked how the "hat" sale went at the annual meeting. Several people relayed stories of discounts they received because they were wearing MOAA-NH ball caps.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will begin at 1830 on Thursday, 11 January 2018 at the Red Blazer in Concord, NH.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1945 hours.

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

ATTACHMENT: 1



# MILITARY TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Prevention, Intervention, Treatment & Recovery

Chair: Major General William Reddel

Vice Chairs: Jessica Blais, Victoria Bagshaw

Advisor: Jo Moncher

## Joint Military Task Force

19 October, 2017

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

DHHS Brown Building, Room 460

*The mission of the Joint Military Task Force is to enhance awareness and advocacy as well as improve access to affordable, relevant alcohol and other drug related services for military members and their families through education and collaboration.*

### Agenda/Notes

⇒ **Present:**

*Dr. Andrew Breuder (MOAA)*

*Nancy Triantafyllou (Broadleaf, Inc.)*

*Chris Chant (CHI/Center for Excellence)*

*Robert O'Hannon (BDAS)*

*LTC Roy Hunter (NHNG)*

*John Reed (Martin's Point Health Care)*

*Victoria Bagshaw (ESNH Military & Veterans Services)*

*Linda Stone (WRJ VA)*

*Chris Neiman (Manchester VA)*

⇒ **Welcome and introductions**

⇒ **Leadership changes:**

- Jessica Blais in new HR role at Accenture; will hopefully remain as an active JMTF participant.

⇒ **August minutes approved**

⇒ **Updates from Priority Areas/old business:**

Priority Area	Lead(s)	TF Tasks/Other	Updates/notes
TRICARE update	John Reed	JR intends joining February 2018 JMTF meeting to provide more updates on transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal: Monitor and make updates available regarding Tricare coverage in regard to substance misuse and mental health treatment services. John Reed gave update on Tricare transition and changes.</li> <li>• JR: Two sides to changes: Behavioral health and Tricare, generally. No handouts – Defense Health Agency (DHA) wants everyone directed to website. Meeting with care coordinator on Nov 1 &gt; lots of changes to behavioral health.</li> <li>• Update in late-August, 2017: Webinar covered changes, some of which have already taken effect. \$25 copay down to \$12. Realization that behavioral health as important as physical. Benefit changes reflecting that. ⇒ Will send presentation from webinar to Jo.</li> </ul>

Priority Area	Lead(s)	TF Tasks/Other	Updates/notes
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DHA acknowledged that they are “behind the times” with getting people onto Tricare. Will redo credentialing, making changes to criteria, more user-friendly for behavioral health to get into network. JR has heard very little about the behavioral health side – still few updates, but will continue to research. Tricky to get updates amidst huge changes to Tricare. General impression is that there is improved understanding of behavioral health needs. Change will be slow, but steps seem to be taking place.</li>   <li>• Big Tricare changes: Contract change will take effect Jan 1. Humana working on moving up to this region, HealthNet heading out west. Contact at HealthNet has said very little communication with Humana. Beneficiaries are being informed that those who pay enrollment fees must make sure they link up with new contractor (onus on beneficiaries) to avoid disenrollment, but there is currently no way to contact Humana.</li>   <li>• Tricare Prime will stay Prime – same benefit. Tricare Standard and Tricare Extra will discontinue as of Jan 1, replaced by Tricare Select. Very similar to Standard: Basic plan, wherein beneficiary will manage their own benefit (no network, no referrals, but more out-of-pocket cost for that flexibility) big change with change to select, instead of paying a percent (unknown in advance of receiving bill) will now transition to flat-rate co-pays. Sometimes higher, but at least predictable.</li>   <li>• Other big change: Trying to simulate civilian insurance by adding an open enrollment period. Currently eligible automatically and enrolled on Tricare Standard -- after change, early-Nov – early -Dec will be enrollment period for making changes (i.e., changing from Select to Prime or Martin’s Point), unless one has the military equivalent of a life-changing event or loses civilian insurance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Open enrollment period system will be effective Nov, ’18. Need to educate beneficiaries on the changes – if no selection made within 90 days of eligibility event, ONLY benefit is going to military healthcare provider when opening available.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>• Nancy T: Related problem: So difficult to find providers who accept Tricare. Fewer and fewer available. Tricare doesn’t pay as much as other insurance providers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ JR: Rates Tricare pays unlikely to change. Government-determined by DODs. Martin’s point has huge behavioral health network. Network fairly decent, although definitely trickier up north. Will have to see what happens if network changes when Humana gets here. Few changes expected but could be changes to individual’s providers. Hopefully will keep HealthNet’s network (have bought their network in NY already). HealthNet direct behavioral health – yet to be determined whether it will be separate. BH program currently managed by contracted partner for HealthNet and Martin’s Point. Will Humana do that the same way? Still seeking answer.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>• How smooth will transition be for providers from HealthNet contract to Humana contract? ⇒ Similar to mortgage transfer from bank to bank or more involved? Last contract change did not go smoothly, including providers having issues getting paid, which led to providers ceasing to accept Tricare. Hopefully, lessons learned from previous transition will be applied. JR happy to be used as a resource, will try to develop a relationship with Humana; losing a great contact at HealthNet. JR happy to come back to meeting in Feb, ’18 to discuss final details and progress post-transition. <b>Action: reach out to John closer to the time.</b></li> </ul>

Priority Area	Lead(s)	TF Tasks/Other	Updates/notes
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big concern now: Major cost changes coming in January for those who are retired and pay enrollment fees and co-pays. Changes came about from 2017 National Defense Authorization Act – DOJ has been working on changes for the past year. Those entering the service 1 Jan, 18, or after, will be subject to much higher costs. But ‘grandfather’ piece still being debated by Senate and major cost increases may end up being applied to all enrollees.</li> </ul>
<p>Funding for JMTF</p>	<p>JMTF</p>	<p>Letter now submitted: Potential spending plan(?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding request letter submitted to Governor’s Commission. Jo H. provided letter to Tym Rourke, who will present it to the full Governor’s Commission. Important to remember Tym’s dual roles (also with NH Charitable Foundation) so may be other funding streams available(?).  ⇒ AB: What would we do if more money granted than requested? VB: Funding is a long shot and most likely will not face this situation. Some ideas re-funding military liaisons in mental health centers, increasing/strengthening proposed network, as proposal is quite modest. ⇒ AB: Propose to get some ideas on paper. LS: Maybe start to cover some travel/expenses. RO: Maybe hold any extra money back, implement as proposed, then elicit feedback and use extra to adjust/enhance after implementation. VB: Potential to increase liaisons’ hours, if insufficient.</li> <li>• VB: related side-note: Adding Ask The Question to WITS system/Ask The Question opportunities with BDAS. ⇒ RO: Jo has been working with Mike Rogers, liaison with FEI, which does design and support for WITS system, to determine cost involved in making that change. Should be able to be added. Still in progress.</li> </ul>
<p>Ask The Question website</p>	<p>JMTF</p>	<p>Continued review of ATQ website</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring ATQ website for quality control: Information updated, functionality checks, other goals and strategies. Action items continuing to get ATQ out there. Aiming to keep it an active and viable resource. Reviewing content as a group regularly.</li> <li>• JMTF went through aspects of the website to explore content and functionality. <b><i>If the group reviewed content independently, suggestions could be provided at the next meeting.</i></b> Transition of maintenance currently happening from Easter Seals back to DHHS. ES had contracted out construction of the website, details still in talks so transition not finalized.</li> <li>• In addition to content, need to be aware/understand functionality/design issues. This tab needs to still be compatible/cohesive with other parts of the website, so significant changes need to be well considered.  ⇒ Will 844 number transfer over from ES to DHHS? Currently linked to intake line at ES military and vets.  ⇒ Are there ways to simplify list of contacts for website users? Presently hard to navigate. Possibility of adding screening questions to direct users to the appropriate content information(?). User-friendly, but difficult to execute. Could there be scope to have subject-matter experts comment on the site content groups? What happens after “The Question” has been asked? This needs to be considered.</li> <li>• <b><i>Website will be reviewed again at December’s JMTF meeting.</i></b></li> </ul>

⇒ **New business:**

Priority Area	Lead(s)	TF Tasks/Other	Updates/notes

⇒ **Other business/updates:**

Priority Area	Lead(s)	TF Tasks/Other	Updates/notes
<b>National Guard updates</b>	LTC. Roy Hunter		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roy Hunter provided overview of services. Big restructure at state level, but Nat'l Guard is a community-based asset. Care coordination program works with currently serving members. Family assistance centers throughout state for provision of info/advice, services. Outreach. Risk reduction, tying into substance misuse program. Resiliency/suicide prevention. Employment support. Sexual assault response/prevention. Other state family programs. Linked with Terrie Raposo, Col. Richard Oberman (State Surgeon). ASAP (Army Substance Abuse Program) (need to discuss with Jo how NG will fill in gap): Contracts are yearly, so can change, current contact is Gary D'Amour. Managed by Sgt. Eddie Clements (will be at next meeting to discuss tie-in of how it affects the military). Structure remains the same, just a different contractor. Gary D'Amour who back-filled Jess is very experienced, former guard member, recently retired. Gary started 17 Oct.</li> </ul>

### Our 2017 Meeting Schedule:

~~16 FEB, 2017~~

~~20 APR, 2017~~

~~15 JUN, 2017~~

~~17 AUG, 2017~~

~~19 OCT, 2017~~

**14 DEC. 2017\* (STARTING AT 9:00AM)**

**\*PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CALENDARS!**

**All meetings will be held in the DHHS Brown Building, room 460, from 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM\*.**

A call-in number will be provided at the top of each agenda.