

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES 14 March 2019

Call to Order: President Warren Coulter called the meeting to order at 1830 hours. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled followed by the invocation delivered by Gary Terhune

Attending: Balcom, Boyle, Breuder, Burdett, Burdo, Coulter, J. Day, S. Day, Devoe, Ikstrums, Jaffin, LeFebvre, Register, Spotts, Terhune. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Opening Remarks: Warren Coulter welcomed everyone. He then called on Peter Burdett.

Immediate Past President Remarks: Peter Burdett rose to make his remarks. He began by announcing that there is a group in NH trying to sell tiny homes, one bedroom, 500 square feet, and energy efficient, which cost less than renting, to provide ownership with equity. They need to earn \$24,520 before taxes. There were a number of other specific requirements to qualify. Pete and others complained about the number of requirements to qualify during the meeting. He then turned the meeting back to Warren.

Secretary's Report: Michael McLean not present. Andrew Breuder reaffirmed that we do have a quorum. He relayed that Michael McLean received no comments or corrections to the February minutes. If no one has any further comments, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made and seconded to accept the February minutes. Motion passed and minutes accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Roby Day asked if people wanted the long version or the short version. There was a cry of "short version". He said we are still solvent. Roby went on to say that we have the receipt back from the IRS for the 990, so they definitely have it now. He doesn't have any details on the next luncheon. Michael has the flyer on the street and provides for a 50/50 raffle. We will also make a plea for Bernie Satterfield's food drive with the Manchester VA. They're looking for "ready made/ready to eat" items for homeless veterans. Roby will also be transferring some money from short-term investment funds into the Life and Scholarship investments in the amounts of \$3,115.00 and \$1,342.00 respectively. This will leave us still with unencumbered operating cash of over \$13,000. Motion made to accept the Treasurer's Report and seconded. Motion passed, report accepted.

Trustees of the Trust Fund: Andrew Breuder reported that the downturn from the end of 2018 has turned around and the investments are all doing well.

OLD BUSINESS:

Norman Langlois award ceremony: Warren said that there were seven members present at the ceremony in Dover on March 6th. Very nice presentation and facility (Watson Fields). The mayor was also present. Most of those present at the ceremony were veterans

(mostly Navy). Norm was very appreciative and said some nice words. Many people from the Empire Beauty Academy he founded were also present at the ceremony. Michael had previously sent out a copy of the article from “fosters.com” detailing the event.

Tricare Letter Update: Gary was able to contact Bill Luti regarding an update. The letter was sent out and he got at least one response from Senator Hassan. He wasn't pleased with the response because it was a “canned” letter. Gary recommended that everyone go onto our website, look at the presentation and the letter, and contact their representatives. The last issue of the MOAA magazine also has tear outs that can be sent out as well. Peter will take copies down to Washington during the “Storming the Hill” event in April.

LOE Submission: Michael McLean not present. He submitted the following report:

Deadline for the 5-Star LOE submission is 1 May 2019. My final write-up for the LOE topics was sent out to all Board members. I have not received any comments yet on my proposed “Addendum Item” input. I would like a vote yea or nay on my proposed input. The Board fully approved the submission.

NEW BUSINESS:

NHNG Conference recruiting table – March 30: We have been approached by Mr. Rodriquez (?) from MOAA National regarding a conference that will be held at the Puritan Backroom on 30 March from 1100-1500 hours. We will have a table there and both Bob Jaffin and Jim Spotts have volunteered to be there. We will try to see if we can find some recruits.

Chapter Secretary back up: We continue to look for a back up for the Chapter Secretary. This would be an intermittent requirement for times when Michael is unable to attend. Michael had previously written up a job description for the Granite Slate. Sharon will work with Michael to get something ready for placement on the tables at the next luncheon.

Social at Bedford Village Inn: Bob Jaffin and Gary have been going out for lunch at the Wentworth. Bob suggested that this could be expanded to anyone else who is interested and suggested that these social meetings could be conducted at the Bedford Village Inn. During the Christmas season, their basic rules require that there be a \$2,300 minimum for food, \$2,900 with beverages. This would be a strictly social event. Tentatively looking at December 7th, a Saturday night, at a cost of \$150/couple. We need to decide whether to proceed by the June/July time frame. This should be brought up at the April luncheon to determine if there is enough interest.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Government Relations (National/State/SVAC/MLT): Peter Burdett said that the SVAC meeting was held at the new NG Maintenance facility in Hooksett. This is the replacement garage for the facility in downtown Manchester that had doors too small for any of the normal NG equipment. New facility has large overhead crane and very large doors. Speakers at the meeting included one from the Homeland Hero's Foundation, one talking about the mini-

homes, and the loan fund for the mini-homes. Al Montoya from Manchester VA was on a trip and not present at the meeting. Many VA services are moving into the Brady-Sullivan building on Elm Street to free up parking at the main facility and move non-clinical services out of the main hospital. VSO's will be moving to this new location. Drew Breuder mentioned that the VA has been using Brady-Sullivan space for several years for services such as Home Based Primary Care. Peter said that CMC might also be trying to occupy some space there as well. Amy Cook, who replaced Jo Moncher, is starting to get a voice of her own. Peter also spoke about the large number of new bills coming up in the Legislature such as property tax exemptions, license plates, NG scholarship fund, Gold Star license plates, stickers instead of a whole new plate, hunting licenses for bow and arrow, a study committee to study vehicle registration relative to active duty personnel, qualified veterans to obtain an additional set of special license plates including motorcycles. Also being considered are special license plates for Purple Heart, POW, and Pearl Harbor survivors. Peter wanted people to think about SB 208 regarding the renaming of the TAG's department to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to codify the Governor's previous Executive Order. This will allow for additional cooperation among the Veteran Service organizations and all of the other various departments in the state of NH. Warren Perry, the Deputy TAG, a civilian, will play a significant role in this transition. Ideally this will provide for "One Stop" service and implement the "Fort NH" concept. This process is designed to be cost neutral to the state. The state Senate voted unanimously to approve this. It now goes to the House. This concept is being briefed at various sessions across the state and if you see a need out there, there should be just one place to call for action. You can also call the 2-1-1 program for veterans in need of services. This service is also available on-line. The VSO office in Manchester is also increasing their staff from six to ten by moving billets around. The TAG had a slight overage, and the VSO was a little short, so positions were moved around with no net cost to the state. There is now a VSO stationed up in the North Country as a result. Amy Cook is now the facilitator for the Military Leadership team, which Peter attends. The new chairs are Al Montoya and Warren Perry. The Governor wanted to have an advisory group, which will now be the Military Leadership team. The military appreciation night with the Monarchs, which Peter attended, went off really well with about 80 recruits for the various services. There is a new thing called the "Green Alert" somewhat similar "Amber" and "Silver" alerts. This is being supported by Senator Hassan's office and this alert will be used to identify, search for and find a veteran who is in trouble such as at risk for suicide. He recommended that Congressionals also talk to Trooper Seth Gar, a veteran, who has been helping other troopers with issues like PTSD, many of whom are former military personnel. He actively seeks out troopers who are having issues and tries to help them. He has a reputation for going to the scene of an issue between a trooper and veteran and taking the veteran directly to the VA for care. Peter will try to distill this information into a paper for Michael.

Personal Affairs: Russ Register reported that the monthly blast email covered three topics on this month's Personal Affairs report. First there was MOAA's request for help with the removable letters in the March issue of Military Officer Magazine to House and Senate majority and minority leaders regarding the Survivor Benefit Plan-Dependency and Indemnity Compensation offset. Members have been requested to send in these letters. Second, making members aware of MOAA's Legislative goals for 2019. Third, advocating to protecting Gold Star

spouses during future government shutdowns, especially those in the Coast Guard who come under Homeland Security as opposed to those under DOD. See Russ's email for additional details (**Attached**).

Membership: Michael McLean not present. He sent the following membership numbers:

New members - 1
Deceased members - 1 (plus 1 w/ spouse)
Dropped members - 0
Current total membership – 706

Of 296 dues letters sent, received 218 payments so far for 73.6%, including 20 on line payments. He plans to drop 21 people at the end of the month unless Bancroft can work his miracles.

Recruiting: Jim Spotts reported that we have 65-70 people out there as targets. He requested that the recruiters act on them ASAP and enter their information into the database. If they don't want to be a part of us, make sure to identify that as well for future reference. For the August event, Bob and Jim can man the table. They would appreciate any additional help so they might be able to do some shifts. Looking to get additional members out of the NH ARNG. For the trailer, he'll wait until Ken gets back from Florida. For now, the clambake gear will be left in place. General Bolduc will be giving a talk at the World Affairs Council at SNHU on 3 April about what the US Government is doing in developing nations. (**Note: some of Jim's comments were drowned out by nearby conversations**)

BREAK FOR DINNER

Reconvened Meeting at 2015

Programs: Gerry Boyle said that the next luncheon in on the 27th of April in Plymouth at the Common Man Inn. He said General Dave Perkins, USA (Ret) will be the speaker. He retired one year ago as the Commander of TRADOC. He lives in Madison, NH. This is a change in speaker as he was originally scheduled to speak in June. The TAG will now speak to us in June to accommodate a need to change schedules. The venue for June will be at the White Mountain House. They have already cashed our reservation check. We will have a 50/50 raffle at the April luncheon and a speaker's gift has already been secured.

Web Page: Michael McLean not present. He reported that there were 259 hits in February, down from 532 hits in January.

Popular Pages in February:

Hits Page

21	Tricare
19	Program Notes
16	Membership
10	GSWA
20	Tricare
9	Chapter news
8	Transition Assistance
6	Newsletter
6	Odds and Ends

5	Group travel
4	Virtual store
131	General

Travel Programs: Tony Burdo reported that we have completed one more contract with Collette for 2019. Today we have four of the seven trips contracted for 2020. We have two travelers for the 2019 Discover Canyon Country trip bringing our total to two reservations for 2019 and 10 reservations for 2020. If anyone has a religious or military organization that might be interested in contracting with us, please put them in contact with Tony.

Scholarship Loan Program: Joe DiChiaro not present. He submitted the following report:
I will be sending out applications for the coming year for those currently in our program and have had one request for a new application. CAUTION: since half our membership is over 80 we should rethink including grandchildren as applicants since the sponsor may not be in a position to pay the loan if the student defaults. I recently ran into a recipient struggling with the payments and found that the sponsor is over 90 and in an extended care facility. My two youngest grandchildren start high school next year by the time they complete college in the normal course of events I will be 93!

Drew will send out the email to all members.

Strategic Initiatives (SIC): Bruce Avery was not present and had nothing to report.

Granite State Warriors Award: Bruce Avery was not present and had nothing to report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards: Joe DiChiaro not present. He submitted the following report:

I have ordered the medals and certificates for ROTC/JROTC for this year and now have dates for 4 of the 10 JROTC units as well as the award ceremony for the Army ROTC unit at UNH. If you are interested in being a presenter please e-mail me to match your availability with a school.

NH Veterans Home: Joe DiChiaro not present. He submitted the following report:

Unable to visit this month as the flu shutdown last month shifted the entire schedule, I will be there on April 2nd.

Nominations (Directors & Officers): Sharon reported that they are working on a product.

PAO: Kent Whitman was not present. He has asked if he can forego attending meetings due to personal issues. This was approved by Warren and asked him to send in his reports.

Granite Slate: Marie Chipola not present

Web Communications - FB: Jon VanGuilder not present. He is currently TAD and has not been able to make meetings.

Joint Military Task Force (SUD committee): Andrew Breuder submitted an extensive report by email, which included a copy of the meeting minutes from 20 December 2018, and his notes

from the most recent meeting on 21 February 2019. Of note, the Governor's Three Year Strategic Plan for the Governor's commission was published and attached to his minutes. It can be accessed at the following URL: <https://nhcenterforexcellence.org/governors-commission/military-task-force/>. The report is 16 pages long. The next sub-committee is scheduled for 18 April. On 22 February, there was a meeting of all Chairs and Co-Chairs of the Governor's Commission at the Community Health Institute in Bow and was chaired by Mr. Patrick Tufts. The meeting was originally scheduled to begin at 1200 hours, but started at 1130 instead as the Governor's Commission ended early. BG Bill Conway, Commander of the NHNG attended for the TAG. Details of the meeting are in the email report. Finally, this morning at 1000 hours, the TAG held a meeting with BG Conway, Maj. Patterson, Capt. Sanderson, SSgt Frost and myself to set the agenda for the April meeting. Of note is that the TAG will appoint Maj. Patterson as a new co-chair to the JMTC and SSgt Frost will resume his liaison duties. The TAG is going to seek some money from the Governor's commission for various activities he has in mind. Peter asked if they discussed the two suicides that occurred in the last few months, and I replied that they did not. Neither individual were in the VA system of care. This may be the impetus for the TAG seeking additional monies for actions from the Governor's Commission.

Blast Email: Geoff Corson not present. He submitted the following report:

Below is latest recipient report as extracted from iCONTACT. We are averaging 3 blast e-mails per month (this month is below average) , reaching approximately 50% of members. Note iCONTACT explanation of their category of "NO INFO" which may indicate a higher rate of "OPENS" than what is reflected.

Please let me know:

- if there are additional e-mails that you want released on a regular basis;
- if there are still subscribers who are not being reached who want to be reached;
- if there are additional errors in content;
- if there are other comments/suggestions as warranted
- if there are members who have declined future membership, moved out of the area or died.

With the help of Michael, I continue to reconcile new/bad/changed e-mail addresses in the iCONTACT database and those who have left the chapter or passed away.

BLAST E-MAIL SUBJECT	DATE SENT	NUMBER SENT TO	NUMBER OPENED % (# opened)	NO INFO * % (# NO INFO)	BOUNCES/ UNSUBSCRIBES	MANNER OF OPENINGS: BY COMPUTER	MANNER OF OPENINGS: BY SMART PHONE	MANNER OF OPENINGS: BY TABLET
March 2019 Personal Affairs Report	3/7	316	42.7% (135)	55.4% (175)	6 BOUNCES/1 UNSUBSCRIBES	43% (58)	34% (45)	21% (32)

***NO INFO**: The number of contacts who neither registered a "Bounce" nor an "Open."
 Note: Some of these contacts might have opened your email. However, they will appear as "No Info" instead of "Opens" if they have images disabled in their email client or have not clicked a link in the HTML version of the email.

LIAISONS:

ESGR: Sandy Way not present. Peter Burdett had no comments.

Transition Liaison: Jim LeFebvre had nothing to report.

VAMC Manchester: Bernie Satterfield not present. No report.

Martins Point: Bob Jaffin had nothing to report. He believed that there was a meeting coming up this next month

Auxiliary: Gwen Devoe reported that in February she found three deaths and one in March. She has sent out two condolences cards and letters, and at the end of January, she had a lovely conversation with Marilyn Follansbee. She is still living at home and still drives. Her daughter has an apartment ready for her, but she is not ready for that yet.

Last Minute Items: Betty Breuder gave a short presentation regarding a new shelter home for homeless pregnant women called St. Gianna's Place, which will open in Hudson, NH in a few months. She gave some statistics on this issue, and noted that Drew serves as Vice President of this non-profit, and that we have recently signed a one-year lease at an old rectory of St. John XXIII parish in Hudson. She also mentioned that we will be having a benefit dinner at the Executive Court Banquet Court facility in Manchester on 1 May 19 and that further information could be obtained at: <http://stgiannasplace.org>.

Peter mentioned one final item was that there are some changes being made to the Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen. There will be 1400 new vaults installed. Shawn Pawcutt (?) has taken over from Michael Horne and is doing very nicely. There is also an organization called the NH Community Veterans Board. Peter only became aware of this organization about a month ago. He has volunteered to be on this board, and the organization is trying to increase the amount of community engagement and how they intersect with the VA Medical Center. More information to come out in the future.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will begin at 1830 on Thursday, 11 April 2019 at the Red Blazer in Concord, NH.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours.

Andrew J Breuder, MD, MPH, FACPM, CPE
Col (Ret), USAF, MC, CFS
FOR

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

Attachment



March 2019 Personal Affairs Report

MOAA Requests Your Help. In the March issue of the Military Officer magazine, MOAA National has included between pages 12-13 and 92-93, four letters to be sent to the majority and minority leaders of the House and Senate. The letters concern the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) - Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) offset which results in a penalty to survivors of deceased military members who died of a service connected injury or disease. Please help MOAA by mailing these four letters to our leaders in Congress.

MOAA Legislative Goals for 2019. MOAA has ten legislative goals for 2019 aimed at protecting and improving the wellbeing of the military community. Areas of focus include: TRICARE, military pay and benefits, ending penalties on military survivors and disabled retirees, military and veteran family support programs and policies, timely access to VA benefits, and guard and reserve pay and benefits equity with respect to active duty components. Read all the details at:

<http://www.moaa.org/2019Goals/>.

Protect Gold Star Spouses During Government Shutdown. Under current law, Gold Star Spouses receiving benefits from the Department of Defense are protected from interruptions in payments during a government shutdown. However, because Coast Guard paychecks come from the department of Homeland Security, Coast Guard survivors are still at risk. Members can send a MOAA drafted email regarding this matter to their House Representative by going to:

<http://takeaction.moaa.org/app/write-a-letter?3&engagementId=496048>

and then follow the prompts.