

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

16 September 2020

Call to Order: Vice President Jim LeFebvre called the meeting to order at 1908 hours. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled followed by the invocation delivered by Joe DiChiaro.

Attending: Balcom, Boyle, Breuder, Coulter, J. Day, S. Day, DiChiaro, Frye, LeFebvre, McLean, Miller, Spotts, Way, Wright -- Burdett, Jaffin, Terhune joined the meeting later.

Opening Remarks: Jim LeFebvre welcomed everyone on behalf of President Bob Jaffin. Jim confirmed that we have a quorum. He then stated that we have one important item to decide this evening – whether we are going to have an annual meeting. We also have to approve the Board of Directors and Officers slates to go before the membership for a vote. Jim decided to forego the agenda in favor of the two aforementioned items. Andrew Breuder asked if anything has changed since we last discussed holding the annual meeting. Michael McLean said he talked with the Nashua C. C. and reiterated the details of what the C. C. can handle. Michael went on to say that he has a flyer ready to go to the printer. He detailed the important points of the flyer. Michael asked whether we want to try a 50/50 raffle at the luncheon. The consensus was not to do one. The final item was whether we have a commitment from the TAG that he will attend. Gerry Boyle confirmed that the TAG said he would attend. Michael pointed out that the luncheon is scheduled right after the General Election so there should be some interesting conversations. Jim said that the consensus was that we will have the annual meeting as planned.

Jim LeFebvre then brought up the next item – the Directors nominations report. Sharon Day said she sent out an email with the names of the Directors. She also said that Bob Jaffin said he was going to talk with Ray D’Amante about taking over the Granite State Warriors Award. Sharon also wanted to thank Doc Breuder for trying to help find a Director and a Treasurer, even though they didn’t work out. Jim called for a vote on the slate as presented by Sharon Day. Motion seconded and approved. Jim then brought up the Officers slate. Warren Coulter said Jim LeFebvre agreed to be VP and Bob Jaffin was on the fence but thought he would agree to be President. There is no name for Treasurer. Michael McLean asked about the Secretary position. He begrudgingly agreed to continue serving. Jim asked if anyone had any objections to the Officers’ names put forward. None noted.

OLD BUSINESS:

2020 – 2021 Program Planning: Michael McLean we might as well continue with the items under Old Business from the agenda. He said we have covered “Annual Meeting decision time” and “BOD appointments and Vacancies”. The next item is the Program Planning. Roby Day brought up that there is one important item under the Treasurer’s Report that is approving the Budget for next year. Michael said we will cover it a bit later. Back to 2021 planning, Michael covered some of the problems with having a January meeting for the GSWA. Jim LeFebvre said that if we don’t have four luncheons next year, the Chapter will be in rough shape. Michael reiterated the current seating restrictions. Michael pointed out that if we have a January

luncheon, the flyer has to go to the printer at the beginning of December to avoid the Christmas printing rush. Jim said he will try to get hold of Gary Terhune to find out details about the Portsmouth C.C.

Next BOD meeting: Michael McLean said we had talked about having a Board meeting just before a luncheon which would mean having a Board meeting in October. Michael asked whether we want to have an in-person or ZOOM meeting. Given that we probably won't have Board meetings in November or December, he is leaning toward an in-person meeting at the Red Blazer in October. Jim LeFebvre asked if there was any objection to having an in-person meeting at the Red Blazer on October 8th. [Peter Burdett joined the meeting.]

Immediate Past President Remarks: Warren Coulter had no comment.

Sharon Day spoke up to ask if Jennifer Wright had been in contact with Jon VanGuilder concerning our Facebook page. Jennifer replied that she had and it looks like we will have to establish a new Facebook page as our current one is frozen. Jim Spotts spoke up to ask if Jennifer would be interested in taking over our LinkedIn page. There was a brief conversation between Jim and Jennifer concerning what is involved. Jennifer said she would be happy to talk with Jim outside the meeting.

Secretary's Report: Michael McLean reported that he received no comments or corrections to the July 2020 minutes. As we do have a quorum, Michael asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion made to approve the minutes, seconded and motion passed to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Roby Day said he sent a list of anticipated expenses for the remainder of the year. He reported that we are solvent and can remain so for the remainder of the year. Andrew Breuder brought up the email Roby sent about withdrawing funds from the Life Membership dues. Roby said he does not anticipate withdrawing any funds but wanted to point out that there is a mechanism to do so if necessary. Michael McLean commented that there was no specific item on the agenda to vote on the 2021 Budget so we might as well do it now. Roby said that he disagrees with Bob Jaffin concerning deleting any reference to the luncheon revenues and expenses. Roby believes it would send the wrong message to the membership. Jim LeFebvre asked if anyone had any objection to Roby's proposed budget. No one did so, so Roby's Budget will go forward to the membership. Michael McLean brought up that we have to approve the Treasurer's Reports for August and September. Motion made and seconded – Reports approved.

Trustees of the Trust Fund: Andrew Breuder reported that everything seems to be picking up.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Government Relations (National/State/SVAC/MLT/Vets Count): Peter Burdett began by saying that the SVAC met on September 1st. The next meeting will be on the sixth of October. In November the SVAC will probably meet on the tenth because of the election. At the September meeting they had Dave Tille (sp?) speak about veteran homelessness. Peter Kelleher (sp?) spoke about using "211" as the one stop place for veteran help. Peter went into a bit more detail about 211 in answer to a question. Peter then highlighted several other topics covered at

the meeting. Peter reminded everyone that Dave Kenny is no longer the chair of the SVAC; it is Paul Lloyd. [Gary Terhune joined the meeting]

Personal Affairs: Vacant. Michael McLean brought up that it is important to fill that position because it is a specific item on the 5-Star LOE submission to MOAA. Michael said that Sharon Day approached Gwen Devoe, our Auxiliary Liaison, to see if she would take on that position. Gwen declined. Joe DiChiaro volunteered to take on Personal Affairs, as he said he does most of the responsibilities now anyhow. Sharon Day said that Russ Register gave her a turnover file for when he was Personal Affairs. She will send that to Joe. [Bob Jaffin joined the meeting] Jim LeFebvre brought Bob up to date as to what we had done to so far in the meeting.

2021 Program Planning (cont.): Gary Terhune gave a run down of problems we have had with the Portsmouth C.C. in the past. He said they have a new General Manager who is much more cooperative. Gary said we will probably be limited in numbers, but he will report on that at the October Board meeting. Gary asked if we have anyone to replace Bruce Avery. It was discussed that Ray D'Amante might be willing to take over. Bob Jaffin said he will contact Ray. Jim LeFebvre brought up that the luncheon flyer needs to be to the printer by December 4th. Gary said he will have it ready right after Thanksgiving. Gary added that he feels we should meet as much as possible in person to support the restaurant business in the state. Michael McLean commented that we are going to meet in person at the Red Blazer on October 8th.

Membership: Michael McLean reported that he had sent out his report to everyone. Basically we stayed the same at 655. Gary Terhune asked when we go below the large chapter category. Michael thought it was 600.

Recruiting: Michael McLean said that Jim Spotts was looking for a relief. Jim spoke up to say that he could continue now that the campaign was over. Jim asked Michael to send him a list from national and he will start working on it. There was then a short discussion about the Republican primary candidates for the Senate seat.

Programs: Gerry Boyle had no input at the moment. He is hoping to have more next year.

Web Page: Michael McLean repeated that everyone got his report. Michael could not believe that we only had six hits in August. Hopefully it will pick up in September.

Travel Programs: Tony Burdo not present. He sent an email saying that at present we have no travelers for 2020 or 2021.

Scholarship Loan Program: Wayne Balcom reported that we have six students this year. We decided not to accept new candidates for this year. Wayne said that Joe DiChiaro has been a great help in the transition. Joe brought up again the issue of the future of the Scholarship Program and whether we should vote on it at the annual meeting. Joe recommended suspending the program until the pandemic is over and the schools get their act together again.

Granite State Warriors Award: Already covered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards & NH Veterans Home: Michael MacLean reported that Joe DiChiaro sent him an email saying not much is going on with either.

Nominations: Already covered.

PAO: VACANT.

Granite Slate: Michael McLean said that Marie Chipola was anxious to get the newsletter out, but held up until after the meeting tonight to decide whether we were going to have an annual meeting. Now that we are, she can proceed with the newsletter. Sharon Day said she thought we should put in a “laundry list” of positions we are trying to sell.

Web Communications - FB: Michael McLean said we had already covered this. He asked that Bob Jaffin put Jennifer Wright’s name as action officer.

Joint Military Task Force (SUD committee): Andrew Breuder reported that there is a Joint Military Task Force meeting scheduled for tomorrow morning. He then discussed the status of the Purple Star Program. There is also going to be a meeting of the Governor’s Commission a week from Friday.

Blast Email: Michael McLean reported that Geoff Corson is still doing it even though he wants a relief.

LIAISONS:

ESGR: Sandy Way reported that not much is going on. No Boss flights at the moment. There have been Directors meetings periodically.

Transition Liaison: Jim LeFebvre reported that MOAA has a ZOOM meeting every other month.

VAMC Manchester: Michael McLean reported that Bernie Satterfield sent an email with a couple of links – one being September is suicide prevention month and the other concerned colonoscopy screening. Here are the two links:

https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/support/be-there?utm_source=bethereforveterans.com

<https://www.facebook.com/ManchesterVAMC/photos/a.128951060507617/3347367285332629/>

Martins Point: Bob Jaffin reported that on October 13th they are going to have their first virtual meeting. He went on to say that there are several “open seasons” that will be going on at the same time.

Auxiliary: Gwen Devoe not present and had no report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bells of Peace - Nov 11: Larry Miller brought up this subject. He said that several states had issued proclamations on this, but he did not see New Hampshire. He asked if anyone had an in with the Governor’s office to get a proclamation done. Peter Burdett said that Jane Graham and her husband, John Graham [chapter member], are the points of contact.

Last Minute Items: Michael McLean brought up that he needs people's annual reports NLT the Board meeting on October 8th.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 8 October 2020 at the Red Blazer in Concord, NH.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2027 hours.

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