

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
9 September 2021

Call to Order: President Bob Jaffin called the meeting to order at 1736 hours at the Golden Corral in Manchester. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled.

Attending: Balcom, Boyle, Breuder, Burdett, Coulter, J. Day, S. Day, Jaffin, LeFebvre, McLean, Miller, Spotts, Terhune.

Opening Remarks: President Bob Jaffin commented that he had no opening remarks.

Immediate Past President Remarks: Warren Coulter had no remarks.

Secretary's Report: Michael McLean began by saying that we have a quorum. He said he had received no comments or corrections on the minutes of the July Board meeting. Michael said that, unless anyone had any comments on the July meeting, he asked for a motion to approve the July 2021 minutes. Motion made and seconded. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

Financial status: Roby Day said we have money. He apologized for not getting the August financial report out yet but he is hung up on some numbers. He did say we have over \$4700 in retained earnings. Roby mentioned that he has a high school classmate who wrote a book called "So You Want To Be a Volunteer Treasurer". Roby went into a little detail on various subjects in the book. One item was that Roby has never been audited which he should be every year. Andrew Breuder brought up that he has been in contact with chapter member Tom Dalton who had expressed interest in the Treasurer position. Drew has been trying to connect Tom with Roby for the last month. Bob Jaffin added that the greatest gift for the incoming President would be a Treasurer and someone to help Michel McLean. People added other positions that need filling.

Trustees of the Trust Fund: Andrew Breuder said that he had nothing to report as he hadn't seen the August financial report; however, he said the stock market looks fairly stable.

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Report inputs: Michael McLean reported that he has gotten a few but not many. He said those people who don't have to wait until the end of the month for data can start working on their reports. Michael listed those reports he has received. It was brought up that the proposed Budget for 2022 needs to be approved by the Board at this meeting in order to go before the membership at the annual meeting for final approval. Roby went over the Budget briefly. Michael brought up the item of our ZOOM contract that comes up for renewal next March. He asked whether we want to renew it. The general feeling was to keep the ZOOM. The concept of hybrid ZOOM meetings was brought up. Michael said he doesn't know how to do it. There was discussion on how to do it. Michael asked if the feeling of the Board was to send the Budget forward to the annual meeting. That was the feeling. Peter Burdett brought up the idea of ZOOMING speakers at the luncheons for those who can't travel to them.

Clambake: Gary Terhune reported that as of today, we have between 175 and 180 signed up for the Clambake. Gary reported the problem with Port-A-Potties – we aren't going to have any. Gary commented that he has noticed that a number of Board members have not included a contribution to the Scholarship Loan Fund with their Clambake responses. He did say that he received a \$2,000 contribution from Paul Forte, the CEO of Long term Care (LTC). Wayne Balcom added that he has received contributions directly to him. The issue of the Port-A-Potties was brought up again and discussed. Jim LeFebvre brought up that he got a call from Ken Lull (the Bakemaster) who is concerned about security in the cooking area. Ken Lull also asked for two more people to help in the cooking area.

SIC: Jim Spotts reported that he is going to bring up the changes to the Scholarship Program, discussed at the last Board meeting, at the annual meeting for a vote. He also went into other initiatives being worked on by the SIC, such as the use of social media.

NEW BUSINESS:

Moving Forward: Jim LeFebvre asked for some time. He began by bringing up 2022 Board meetings. He said there are Board members who live north of Concord. Meeting in Manchester is too far for them to travel. Jim brought up the Common Man in Concord. He also mentioned the Red Blazer. The Makris Steakhouse was also brought up. Bob Jaffin was in favor of it. Bob also asked how far north was Tilton from Concord. Jim said he will come up with several suggestions of places to hold our next Board meeting. Jim Spotts asked if anyone would host a Board meeting at their home. Jim LeFebvre brought up the NH Veterans Home for a meeting. People brought up a number of suggestions.

Jim LeFebvre moved on to the staffing issue. He began with the Treasurer position. Past Treasurers were brought up. Sharon Day brought up the letter she sent out this summer to 410 chapter members asking for Directors and a Treasurer. Not one person responded to the Treasurer position. Jim Spotts volunteered to be Treasurer. He said he has done it for a political campaign. It was also brought up that we need a check writer. Warren Coulter brought up splitting the position into two – a comptroller and a treasurer. One does the bookkeeping and one handles the money. Roby Day brought up the big problem as he sees it, is the IRS form 990 that has to be filed annually. There continued discussion on one Treasurer or two people.

Jim LeFebvre next covered trying to get help for Michael McLean. Michael covered the various jobs he has had in the chapter. He mentioned that Recording Secretary is the biggest pain for him. Andrew Breuder volunteered to take over Recording Secretary.

Jim LeFebvre mentioned two other positions of concern. The first is newsletter editor. Marie Chipola has said she is stepping down after the December newsletter. Sharon Day mentioned Geoff Corson, the Blast Email person. The other was the Recording Secretary position, covered earlier.

Wayne Balcom volunteered to assist Jim Spotts in the Treasurer position.

Sharon Day asked if we are going to have a BoD meeting in October before the November Luncheon, to discuss among other things, a raffle at the November Luncheon.

Jim LeFebvre brought up Luncheons next year. Jim thought of four to six events, perhaps something different from a normal luncheon. A Fisher Cats Game was brought up. Bob Jaffin brought up for consideration, holding an event once a month from May to October, not just luncheons. There was discussion of different possible venues for events.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Government Relations (National/State/SVAC/MLT/Vets Count): Peter Burdett said to look at the current issue of the MOAA magazine for the national issues. The next meeting of the SVAC will be in October. Vets Count has a big event at the Pease Air Show this weekend. Vets Count is doing a fashion show called “Beyond the Boots”.

Personal Affairs: Vacant.

Membership: Michael McLean reported that since the July 2021 BoD meeting:

New members -	2
Deceased members -	5 (Plus 3 w/ spouses)
Dropped members -	2
Current total membership –	595

Michael McLean said that he sent out fourteen recruiting letters in August and September. Two people joined as a result.

Recruiting: Jim LeFebvre brought up trying to approach other veterans groups and the National Guard to try to recruit people, especially former officers. Jim Spotts said they tried to recruit National Guardsmen, but they were not interested. There was discussion about whether MOAA national sent out an email about the Clambake. Jim Spotts mentioned that a number of phone numbers provided by national on their monthly recruiting lists are bad. Bob Jaffin said to let him know so he can bring it up when he is in DC for their annual meeting.

Programs: Gerry Boyle reported that the next event is the train ride and then the annual meeting.

Web Page: Michael McLean commented that the web page as gone to the “pits”. It could be the pandemic. He reported the following information:

6 hits in July	
23 hits in August	
Popular Pages in August:	
Hits	Page
13	Program Notes
4	Chapter News
2	GSWA
1	Membership
1	Newsletter
2	General

Travel Programs: Tony Burdo not present. He submitted the following report:

There are no travelers booked for 2021.

We had 10 travelers booked for 2021 and all the trips included the Passion Play in Oberammergau. When the play was postponed to 2022, four travelers chose to receive full refunds from Collette and decided not to rebook for 2022. Currently, we have six bookings for 2022 and two possible bookings for the Tropical Costa Rica trip.

There is one trip remaining for 2021 and that is Spotlight on San Antonio from 27 November – 1 December.

Cost free advertising of our program continues with Trip of the Month blast emails (thank you Geoff), our website (thank you Michael) and the Granite Slate (thank you Marie).

The 2021 travel program annual report has been submitted to Michael this past week.

As you probably know by now, Tom Kyle has volunteered to co-chair the development and execution of our travel program.

Scholarship Loan Program: Wayne Balcom reported that we have ten students this year. He said that he has sent out seven checks. He said that we have about \$1500 to \$2000 coming in and \$30,000 in the bank. Wayne went into some detail on the amount available and the number of students. He asked what we should do with the \$30,000. It was discussed whether we should ask the membership what to do with the money.

Granite State Warriors Award: No report. Bob Jaffin said that he has not heard from Ray D'Amante. Peter Burdett said it was time to start thinking about next year. Michael McLean said that normally we have names presented at this Board meeting and if we had a meeting in November, the Board would vote on the names. There was discussion whether to have a Board meeting in November, perhaps on the 18th.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards & NH Veterans Home: No report.

Nominations: Sharon Day covered the memo she had sent out listing the Board nominees. Warren Coulter said we have covered the Officer nominees.

PAO: VACANT.

Granite Slate: Bob Jaffin reminded everyone that Marie Chipola is stepping down after the December newsletter. Michael McLean added that the September Newsletter is at the printer and should go out today or tomorrow.

Web Communications - FB: Jennifer Wright not present.

Joint Military Task Force (SUD committee): Andrew Breuder reported that there will be a JMTF meeting next Thursday. This will be the first in-person meeting in over a year. Drew reported on the Purple Star program. There are now twelve schools signed up. He also mentioned a child care proposal that is ready to be worked on.

Blast Email: Geoff Corson not present.

LIAISONS:

ESGR: Sandy Way not present.

Transition Liaison: Jim LeFebvre reported that he turned in his annual report. Nothing else to report.

VAMC Manchester: Bernie Satterfield not present. He submitted the following report:

VA New England Healthcare System: Communications Briefing to Veteran and Congressional Stakeholders August 4, 2021

COVID19 Update

- Veteran patients across the NE healthcare facilities are 60% fully vaccinated by the VA. The number is low, because some veterans are vaccinated outside the VA. So, this is not counted unless the patient reports it to the VA.
- Employers are over 90% vaccinated.
- At this time, for the first time in a long time that there are more than 10 in-patients combined across the network. The trend had been in the low single digits currently now at 12.
- VA has announced that Title 38 healthcare staff are mandated to be vaccinated.
- There is a religious exemption in the VA policy from the vaccine. This is if you have a deeply held religious belief against the vaccine there is an exemption process.

Eviction and Homeless:

- VA's efforts to prevent Veterans homeless from the financial pressures put on Veterans caused by the pandemic.
- VA Rental Assistance Finder: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/housingresources/index.asp>

Martins Point: Bob Jaffin reported that Martins Point is looking to hold their meeting later this year.

Auxiliary: Gwen Devoe not present. She submitted the following report:

Military Officers of America – New Hampshire Chapter
Surviving Spouse Liaison Report
May 4, 2021 – September 6, 2021

I have recorded the deaths of the following:

Lilla A. Strubbs	d. 9/23/2020
Col. Donald E. Holroyd	d. 4/19/2021
Marcia Erickson	d. 6/21/2021
LCDR Edward E. Ikerd	d. 5/22/2021
Barbara N. Hayes	d. 5/17/2021
Marian B. Lippincott	d. 5/28/2021
Col. Norman P. Phillips	d. 6/28/2021
Capt. Diane Botzum	d. 6/21/2021
Barbara G. Maysilles	d. 2/7/2021
CW4 George A. Miller	d. 5/23/2021
Mildred G. Schappals	d. 6/9/2021
CDR Bruce F. Avery	d. 7/31/2021
LTC Bruce Elliott	d. 8/22/2021
Capt. Howard H. Gaskill	d. 6/26/2021
Luetan M Kaminski	d. 8/20/2021

I have sent out six condolence cards, and one letter.

Last Minute Items: Bob Jaffin brought up approaching the Guard about doing a walk through on the Pegasus aircraft.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was not discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1910 hours.

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