



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE OUTER BANKS DETACHMENT 1264

Post Office Box 2332
Kitty Hawk, North Carolina 27949-2332
Phone: (252) 305-4768

23 February 2017
1100

From: Adjutant
To: Distribution List

Subj: MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOR FEBRUARY 2017

Ref: (a) Marine Corps League National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures
(b) Outer Banks Detachment Bylaws

Encl: (1) Detachment Muster Roll for February 2017

1. In accordance with the references, a detachment general membership meeting was conducted on 14 February 2017 at the Kern Pitts Center, 5375 North Virginia Dare Trail, Southern Shores, North Carolina.

2. A roll-call of detachment members and staff members was conducted, with those in attendance at the meeting identified as "Present" in the remarks column at the enclosure. In addition, one guest, and one membership candidate was present at this evening's meeting. They were as follows:

Steve Tracy, Department of North Carolina Eastern District Vice-Commandant
Johnnie Becker, Membership Candidate

3. The meeting commenced at 1900 with Sergeant-at-Arms Clark securing the quarters, presenting the national colors, leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance, and declaring the meeting open for the transaction of official business.

4. In the absence of our chaplain, Bob Messinger opened the meeting with a prayer.

5. Guest Speaker. None

6. New Members. None

8. Staff Reports

(a) Commandant. N/A

(b) Senior Vice-Commandant. N/A

(c) Junior Vice-Commandant. None

(d) Judge Advocate. In the absence of Russ Laney, Robert Yanacek reported that a current copy of the National Bylaws has been uploaded to our website and is available for use by the membership. This update includes all changes currently in effect, including those approved at the League's national convention in August 2016.

(e) Junior Past-Commandant. N/A

(f) Adjutant. Robert Yanacek reported that the Department of North Carolina Quarterly Report is due in early March for the period 1 December 2016 to 28 February 2017. He is currently preparing this

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report and will submit it as required. Robert also reported that we currently have 44 members on the rolls, having added five new members since our last meeting. Those new members are Joseph Patrick, Susan Patrick, Martha Pedersen, James Monroe and Frank Russano. Prompted by the recent increase to our detachment's membership rolls, a "Welcome Aboard" package has been developed, prepared, and provided to our newest members. The purpose is to formally welcome them to our detachment; to make them aware of general information such as meeting dates, dues, contact information, and on-line resources; to provide information necessary to order uniform items, and; to encourage their assistance in the recruiting effort.

(g) Chaplain. N/A

(h) Paymaster. In the absence of Jorge Diaz, Robert Yanacek provided an abbreviated report of the income and expenditures since our last meeting as well as the detachment's current account balance. Included in the report of income was the receipt of a \$250 grant from the Walmart Foundation for the fourth quarter of 2016. This report was prepared from the detachment's bank statements provided to Robert by Jorge. No questions were raised, nor discrepancies noted by any of those present.

(i) Quartermaster. Dennis Thompson reported that he and Adjutant Yanacek will be conducting an inventory of detachment property on 21 February, with a report of the results to be submitted at next month's meeting. Dennis also reported that since our last meeting an order for 21 detachment polo shirts was placed. Sixteen of these shirts were ordered by members and have been delivered. The remaining five were purchased by the detachment and will be kept in our inventory and sold to any member who desires to purchase one. We currently have one medium, two large, and two extra-large shirts available for purchase at a cost of \$20 each.

(j) Sergeant-at-Arms. None

(k) Toys for Tots Liaison. N/A

9. Old Business

(a) Awards Presentation. None

(b) Recruiting and Retention. Adjutant Yanacek reported that we are currently working 20 membership candidates. Each candidate has been added to our e-mail distribution list and been sent a personalized letter asking them to attend our meeting, along with a map of our meeting location, and an appropriate membership application. Addressing retention, Adjutant Yanacek expressed concern that the membership roster of 31 December 2016 provided by the national headquarters within the past few days indicates that we have eight members being carried in a delinquent status. At this time he is uncertain if any of these members have brought their dues current as Paymaster Diaz will need to examine his records of recent dues payments. Commenting on that report, Bob Messinger pointed out that members in a delinquent status remain on our rolls for a period of one-year, after which time they are dropped. Bob recommended that following research into recent dues payments, that a letter be sent to those members in a delinquent status encouraging them pay their dues and remain members of our detachment. Bob has a copy of such a letter and will e-mail it to Adjutant Yanacek following the meeting. In concluding this report, Adjutant Yanacek pointed out that in light of the changes approved at the last National Convention, the issue of tracking dues payments will soon become much easier since membership dues for all members will become payable on 31 August, beginning this year.

(c) Grants and Donations. Adjutant Yanacek reported that he is currently recording his volunteer hours for submission to the Walmart Foundation's "Volunteerism Always Pays" grant program for the first quarter of 2017. Upon completion of the program's requisite 25-hours of volunteer service, he will submit the grant request.

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(d) Sickbay. None

(e) Website and Marketing. Adjutant Yanacek reported that our detachment website and Facebook page has been updated with recent events and photographs, however we recently lost some functionality on our operational calendar that is available on our website. Specifically, the various colored event category flags are now being displayed on our calendar in the same color. This change is apparently the result of Google changing programming within their calendar's application program interface and has not yet been resolved. Adjutant Yanacek is currently researching alternatives to Google Calendar and is currently evaluating a similar free calendar offered by Zoho.

(f) Social Activity. Adjutant Yanacek reported that on 7 February, 13 members and two guests met for the free breakfast social offered to veterans at the Jolly Roger restaurant in Kill Devil Hills. Robert added that everyone in attendance enjoyed both the food and company, and that this was the largest group we have had since we began meeting over three years ago. Next month's breakfast social will be on 7 March 2017 at 0900. All hands are invited and encouraged to attend.

(g) Endorsement to Open an Outer Banks Navy Federal Credit Union Branch Office. At our January meeting, guest speaker George Berry addressed the membership asking the detachment to provide a letter of endorsement for opening a branch office of the Navy Federal Credit Union in our area. Although many of our members would benefit from a local branch, the legal implications endorsing a for-profit commercial enterprise was raised. As a result of that concern, the request to provide a letter of recommendation was tabled last month for further research. Although it now appears that there is no legal obstacle to providing an endorsement, Adjutant Yanacek recommended that further discussion be tabled until our senior detachment leadership returns from their out-of-town commitments. His recommendation was prompted over a concern raised by a number of members since our last meeting, that providing the requested endorsement may result in future requests from other organizations. Entertaining such requests is felt to be an unnecessary diversion of resources from the scope of our organization's mission. In addition, new and verifiable information has come to light indicating that Navy Federal Credit Union was recently fined \$5.5M and ordered to refund its members \$23M due to improper debt collection practices. As a result of that information, discussion ensued with many members present concurring that the detachment should remain clear of offering endorsements to any organization. Following discussion, Frank Russano motioned that the subject request for a letter of endorsement be tabled until the return of our senior detachment leadership. His motion was seconded by Craig Clark, voted on, and passed without dissent. As our senior detachment leadership will not be available until the end of March, this business item is tabled for further action until our meeting on 11 April 2017.

(h) 2017 Membership Directory. Adjutant Yanacek reported that the 2017 Membership Directory has been printed and will be handed out to those present at the conclusion of the meeting. The remaining directories will be mailed within the next few days to those who were not present at this evening's meeting. Concluding, he reported that the printing cost was reduced by 50-percent following the submission and approval of a written request for a discounted rate to our detachment. With a production cost of \$35.42, and a postage cost of \$16.17, the total cost of \$51.59 is well below the amount of \$75 to \$100 that was budgeted for this project.

(i) Marine in Need. None

(j) Outer Banks Shrimpfest. Adjutant Yanacek reported that no further information is available on the Outer Banks Shrimpfest. The location venue, Festival Park in Manteo, is closed and will not reopen until 1 April 2017. He will continue to monitor the event's Facebook page should further information be published prior to 1 April and will provide further information as it becomes available.

(k) 2017 Spring Belk Charity Sale. There is still no information at this time regarding the Spring Belk Charity Sale. The program coordinator was contacted on 13 February 2017 by Adjutant Yanacek and she

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indicated that she has not yet received details from her corporate office about this event. She expects that information to be available later in the month or in early March. Adjutant Yanacek will contact her once again on 27 February to ensure that the detachment attends the event's planning meeting and is able to select desirable dates and times for which to conduct ticket sales for this event.

(l) Adopt-A-Beach Program. At our January 2017 meeting we discussed participating in the "Adopt-A-Beach" program as a community service effort. Following that meeting, an e-mail was sent to the membership to establish interest in this activity. Twelve members responded that they would be willing to assist in this effort. A listing of available beach accesses was then obtained from the Surfrider Foundation and three accesses were identified as good candidates. Adjutant Yanacek walked-off these accesses, and based on his reconnaissance, recommended the West Third Street Estuarine Access. His recommendation was based on its small size, its frequent use by local residents, and the ease of our members in negotiating the terrain. To further establish feasibility, Adjutant Yanacek performed a thorough cleanup of this access on 19 January 2017 and completed it in less than one-hour. If approved by the membership, the Town of Kill Devil Hills will provide and maintain a sign listing our organization at this access, and we would be required to clean and remove the litter from the area a minimum of six times per year, submitting a report tabulating the litter collected each time a cleanup is performed. Doing so would maintain our eligibility to maintain our assigned access and sponsorship signage indefinitely; however failure to meet these requirements would result in our designated access being reassigned to another willing sponsor. Following his briefing and a short discussion, Adjutant Yanacek motioned for the detachment to participate in this program and adopt the West Third Street Estuarine Access. His motion was seconded by Bob Messinger, voted-on and passed without dissent. Adjutant Yanacek will prepare and submit the necessary administrative form to the Surfrider Foundation following the meeting to adopt this access, and will contact the membership to establish a mutually-agreeable schedule for our cleanup activities.

(m) Scouting Program Update. Bob Messinger reported that he has identified and spoken to the gentleman responsible for the scouting program in our area and advised him that our detachment offers a citizenship award to those who attain the rank of Eagle Scout. Bob added that he has been assured that future Eagle Scouts will be identified to him for appropriate action, and that the presentation of these awards will be photographically documented and submitted to the Marine Corps League's magazine.

10. New Business

(a) Marine in Need. None

(b) Saint Patrick's Day Parade. The Kelly's Annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade will be on Sunday, 12 March 2017 from approximately 1300 to 1430. All members are invited to participate, and those unable to march the route's one-mile length may still participate as they will be able to ride on the veterans float. Adjutant Yanacek reported that Junior Past-Commandant Gregory will be taking the necessary action to coordinate our participation at this event as we have in the past with the local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts. We will be meeting at the American Legion Post in Kill Devil Hills before the event so that we can be transported to the parade's starting point at approximately Mile-Post 11.5 on the Beach Road. Adjutant Yanacek will ensure that an e-mail is sent to all-hands with these and further details as soon as they become available.

(c) Awards Recommendations. Adjutant Yanacek nominated and opened for discussion two cases for detachment-level awards consideration by the membership. The first was for a Certificate of Appreciation to the owner and the staff of the Jolly Roger Restaurant for hosting our free breakfast social events for the period 7 October 2014 through 4 February 2017. The second was an Honorary Membership Certificate to Joanne Sulik for providing timely, efficient and near-cost embroidery services to the members of our detachment for the period 1 January 2007 through 28 February 2017. Discussion

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ensued with positive remarks being made by many members for each case. One question was raised by Bob Messinger as to whether annual membership dues would be required for granting honorary membership to Joanne Sulik. Answering Bob's question, Adjutant Yanacek indicated that in accordance with the references, the payment of dues is not required. Continuing, he added that honorary members are considered to be only "members" in title as a form of recognition, and that they are not entitled to any privileges afforded to regular and associate members. In concluding the discussion, Adjutant Yanacek added that the only associated cost to the detachment in each case would be from \$10 to \$15 for the purchase of a suitable frame to accompany the certificate. Following discussion, each case was individually voted-on and approved without dissent.

(d) Veterans Administration Assistance. Department of North Carolina Eastern District Vice-Commandant Steve Tracy advised the membership that a traveling Veterans Administration team will be offering assistance to veterans in Wilmington, North Carolina in late March and early April. This team has the ability to streamline the entire VA claims process and in many cases, make a determination on the spot. They will be available in Wilmington on the following dates, based on the last two digits of each veteran's social security number as follows:

30 March 2017	00 to 33
31 March 2017	34 to 66
1 April 2017	67 to 99

(e) Department of North Carolina Summer Quarterly Meeting. Department of North Carolina Eastern District Vice-Commandant Steve Tracy indicated that the department's summer quarterly meeting will be held in Raleigh and encourage our membership to attend as many important issues will be discussed before the National Convention. The dates, times and location of the summer quarterly meeting will be provided in an e-mail as soon as it becomes available.

11. Bob Messinger closed the meeting with a prayer.

12. The meeting concluded at 2024 with Sergeant-at-Arms Clark retiring the national colors and declaring the meeting closed until 14 March 2017, when the detachment's membership will reconvene for the transaction of official business.

Robert J. Yanacek

Robert J. Yanacek
Adjutant

DETACHMENT MUSTER ROLL FOR FEBRUARY 2017

Name	Staff Billet	Remarks
Beall, Daniel M.		
Bowser, Oyoma R.		
Boyce Sr., Ronald A.		
Clark, Craig T.	Sergeant-at-Arms	Present
Czernik, Lawrence C.	Toys for Tots Liaison	
Diaz, Jorge L.	Paymaster	
Dozier, John J.		Present
Draper, Frank D.	Commandant	
Fearing Jr., Zenas E.		
Felder, Gary L.		
Figura, John P.		
Fillmore, Walter D.		
Gibson, Ron G.		
Gillis, Steven		
Gregory, Timothy G.	Junior Past-Commandant	
Holton, Edward J.		
Hudson, Daniel R.	Senior Vice-Commandant	
Hunley, Thomas M.		
Hurley, Thomas F.		
Keating, Michael A.	Junior Vice-Commandant	Present
Laney, Russell E.	Judge Advocate	
Lawrenson, Richard	Chaplain	
Lotspeich, Cory B.		
Mason, Ronald L.		
McGrath, Kevin J.		
Messinger Sr., Robert L.		Present
Monroe, James S.		
Murphy, Donald W.		
O'Brien, William W.		
Owens, James W.		
Patrick, Joseph J.		
Patrick, Susan S.		
Pedersen, Martha E.		
Riley III, Edward W.		
Russano, Frank G.		Present

