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**Marine Corps League**

**Granite State Detachment #542**

**14 December 2021 Meeting Minutes**

**Officers present: Commandant BJ Byers – Present**

 **Sr. Vice John Jenkins - Present**

**Jr. Vice Chris Peirce – Present**

**Judge Advocate – position vacant**

**Jr. Past Cmdt – position vacant**

 **Paymaster Gary Gahan – Present**

 **Sgt. At Arms Greg Krill – Absent; Gerard Tanguay filled in**

**Chaplain Joe Duquette – present**

 **Quartermaster John Petralito –** **present**

 **Adjutant – position vacant**

 **Veterans Council Shawn Carboni – Absent**

 **Web Sgt. – position vacant**

 **Editor-in-Chief Marge Romano - Present**

**Members present:** In addition to those marked present: Kevin Brown, John Bogdanowicz, Dan Fedor,

Paul Janes, Ellen Petralito, Gerard Tanguay, Polly Labbe, and Paul Coutu (new member)

**Guests: Eric Anthony, a PLM from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Detachment, who may transfer in**

**Actions:** Meeting began at 18:30 (6:30 pm). A quorum was present. Opening ceremonies were conducted by the Commandant, Chaplain and stand-in Sgt. At Arms Tanguay

**Roll Call of Officers**: All Officers were present or accounted for as indicated above, with exception of Sgt. At Arms who is missing and unaccounted for

**Applications for Membership:** see above reference re **Eric Anthony**

**Adjutant Report:** There were minutes available from the November meeting; acceptance was moved and seconded. Motion carried unanimously

**Correspondence:** There was no new correspondence read/reviewed

**Paymaster Report:** Available funds are $16,991.79. It is unknown whether funds are held in Pay-Pal. Paymaster reminded everyone that $2,000 was dedicated to and reserved for academic scholarships

**Reports of sickness and distress:**

Kevin Brown reported on the Obituary of Frank Diekmann and praised how the family had put a human touch on the copy and included some very funny personal quirks of the man, such as “…for making it through his entire life without any exposure to popular culture of any kind, … for the exacting ability to plan nationwide trips to the mile, (for) an inability to ever pick decent donuts…” And closer to our Granite State Detachment hearts, for his claims for mileage reimbursement, even when he was a passenger in another vehicle….

Further, it was reported that Paul Sorenson’s wife was in Hospice Care

**Report of Officers and standing committees:**

**Awards Committee**: this committee consists of BJ Byers, Dan Fedor, Marge Romano and Gary Gahan

 BJ will initiate the actions of this Committee, which will be coordinated by email

**City Veterans Council**: no report

**Fundraising:**

 **Chester Rod & Gun Club:** John Jenkins reported that the needed follow-up detailed below had not been done yet.

 **Needed follow-up by Granite State is:** 1) Preparation of a Thank You letter to the club;

 2) Preparation of a Plaque to the club; and 3) Possible make an award to Doc Freschi

 Final item: thanks to Jim Ambrose and John Petrolito for working as volunteers

 **Flag Pole Auction**

 **This fundraising program was discussed in December to no conclusion**

 This effort appears to be still alive and has a good level of support.

 Gary Gahan will coordinate purchase of the pole

 Chris Alberding will do the set-up for the sales effort

 The prices for tickets were set as: 1 = $5; 3 = $10; and 8 = $20. This matter of pricing

 Is well-supported; the feeling is that we can price ourselves out of the market if

 We go for too high a price.

 It is also felt that we should try to do this on an annual basis. For 2021, we could launch not

later than Veteran’s Day, and we should hold the drawing on either Flag Day or

4th of July

 At the end of the discussion, it was moved by Kevin Brown that we set-over this discussion

until the February Detachment meeting; seconded by Paul Janes, and passed by unanimous vote

**Molding New EGA’s** John Jenkins brought in several items that he has been storing at his home, including the old EGA molds. People are interested in molding some additional copies, but there is no knowledge about what tat might cost. BJ moved to mold additional copiess, but BJ withdrew his motion, and the matter was tabled **NOTE: THE PATHETIC SCRIVENER FAILED TO NOTE WHO TOOK THE MOLDS INTO THEIR CUSTODY**

**Future Fundraising Events:** Although it should be a part of the monthly “Fundraising” report, there was no mention of any upcoming Fundraising events

**Membership**: Chair is Chris Peirce

**Newsletter:** Marge advised that the cut-off date for the next issue was Tuesday Dec. 28, and that

The next issue was “on track” for a release around 10 January

**Public Relations**: no report

**Scouting Committee**: Chair is Dan Fedor

**Scholarships:** Committee Chair is Marge Romano. Kevin Brown moved to re-name our Scholarship

 from the “Frank A Diekmann Marine Corps League Scholarships”, to the “Frank A. Diekmann Granite

State Det. #542 Academic Scholarship.” This was seconded by Chris Peirce, and passed by unanimous vote

Further, Marge informed the participants that the Scholarship Committee will make changes to reflect the new name change of the current scholarship; the change from one individual scholarship of $1,000 to two individual scholarships of $1,000 each.  In addition, Marge stated that she is distributing copies of the draft changes to the Scholarship committee for review of the original Scholarship by-laws and would need a response from the committee **ASAP** as the Scholarship information needs to be revised and sent to the high schools with the application form and a cover letter on or before January 31, 2022.

**Veterans (VAVS**): no report

**Young Marines**: There was some discussion about Young Marines, resulting in John Jenkins agreeing

to contact Bruce Katz, and report back to the Detachment

**Bingo**: no report

**Web Sgt Report**: no report

**Social Activities**: It was moved by Marge Romano that we provide a $200 gift card to Sue Sciosia as a Christmas gift. Motion seconded by Gary Gahan and passed unanimously.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Phone Tree:** it was suggested in September that we establish a Phone Tree. This is to be a project by BJ Byers and Gary Gahan; we expect a proposal during the January meeting

**Awards:** to Bass Pro, Chester Rod and Gun, Kittery Trading Post and Doc Freschi are still pending. These were discussed and Gary Gahan has agreed to get these in motion.

**Challenge Coins**: This was discussed again, at some length. For the second month, Gary Gahan volunteered to talk with his designer and report back to the membership, expected in January

**Bus trip to the National Marine Corps Museum:** Marge announced this has been tabled

until Spring 2022

**New Business:**

 **Liberty House**: It was moved by Commandant Byers and seconded by Jr. Vice Peirce to donate $1,000 to Liberty House, which motion passed by unanimous vote. It was further discussed that we should challenge the Manchester Expeditionary Brigade to match this gift, and we discussed a joint event to deliver the gifts. Since the meeting, Gary Gahan reports that he was successful working with the Brigade to add two additional gifts of $500 each, turning the total raised for Liberty House into $3,000

**Toys for Tots:** Marge Romano reported on her neighborhood “Block Party” on Dec. 12, and how difficult it has been getting the Marine Reserve to coordinate on T4T pick-up

**New Member:** Eric Anthony maybe could have completed a Transfer Document, but nobody had one with them at the meeting. NOTE: THE PATHETIC SCRIVENER FAILED TO NOTE MARINE ANTHONY’S CONTACT DATA, but apparently so did everyone else, as all anyone got from the man was his PLM number. I hope someone has an email address or a phone number….

**Good of the League:**

**Upcoming Events:**

**Monthly Events**;

 **2nd Tuesday of each month at 18:30** – Detachment meeting is held at the Elks Club, 290 Granite

 Street, Manchester, NH

 **Last Saturday of the month at 08:00**. Detachment Breakfast at the Airport Diner on Brown Ave.; this is a no-host, social gathering with no MCL business agenda

 **3rd Wednesday of every month at 11:30** the “Together We Served” group holds a luncheon in Dover, NH Contact John Cannon 781-956-6982

**Closing:** Meeting ended at 20:15 hours (8:15 pm). Closing ceremonies were conducted by Commandant

 Byers, Chaplain Duquette, and stand-in Sgt at Arms Gerard Tanguay

**Submitted by: Kevin Brown**