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**Marine Corps League**

**Granite State Detachment #542**

**14 June 2022 Meeting Minutes – DIRAT DRAFT**

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

**Sr. Vice Gary Gahan -- Present**

**Jr. Vice Chris Peirce – EXCUSED**

**Judge Advocate – position vacant**

**Jr. Past Cmdt – position vacant**

**Paymaster Gary Gahan –**

**Sgt. At Arms Paul Janes – Present**

**Chaplain Joe Duquette – Present**

**Quartermaster John Petralito –** Present

**Adjutant Shawn Carboni – EXCUSED**

**Veterans Council Shawn Carboni – EXCUSED**

**Web Sgt. – position vacant**

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

**Members present:** In addition to those marked present: Kevin Brown, Joey Duquette, John Nye, Paul Coutu, Dennis Mitchell, Paul Sorenson, Gerald Tanguay, Dan Fedor, Eric Anthony, Teresa Hamlin

**Guests Present:** Mike Hamlin, Emma Hamlin, MaryAnn Diekman, and daughter Mary Ann \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Guests: Bill Miller** from Pennsylvania[**BillJae2@verison.net**](mailto:BillJae2@verison.net) **(may transfer to GSD)**

**Steve Duquette**, Manchester Police Department, and prior service Marine

**Actions:**

**Actions: Scholarship Award Ceremony**

Ms. Emma HAMLIN, grand-daughter of Marine Tony Romano and Marge Romano and daughter of Teresa and Mike Hamlin received the Frank Diekmann Scholarship for 2022, in the amount of $2,060. Emma will be a Sophomore at Liberty University in Virginia, and is majoring in Pre-Law. She thanked the Detachment.

**Community Policing Presentation**

Officer Steve Duquette, some sort of relative of Chaplain Joe Duquetter, addressed the group on the efforts of the Manchester Police Department to confront and decrease the crimes against Senior Citizens, and detailed various scams such as the ‘Injured Grandson’ scam, dating scams, and “your computer has a virus’ telephone scams. Good presentation, well-received. Chaplain Duquette is assigned to recruit Officer Steve Duquette into membership with the Detachment

**The Meeting began** at 19:26 (7:26 pm). A quorum was present. Opening ceremonies were conducted by the Commandant, Chaplain and Sgt. At Arms

**Roll Call of Officers**: All Officers were present or accounted for as indicated above.

**Applications for Membership:** there were no new applications nor transfer requests

**Adjutant Report:** Due to the excused absence of the Adjutant, there were minutes available from the May 2022 meeting.

**Correspondence:** Due to the excused absence of the Commandant, there was no new correspondence received/reported or read

**Paymaster Report:** Available funds are $13,887.64. Payments reported totaled $2,443.03. In the Restricted Funds, the Paymaster reported that there are $2,650 left.

**Reports of sickness and distress**: Commandant BJ Byers has injured his back, and is on medication.

It was reported that Teresa Hamlin is scheduled for surgery on 27 June.

**Report of Officers and standing committees:**

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

Itwas reported that several previously approved awards and donations have yet to be finalized, such as a donation of $250 to Easter Seals, a donation to Home Town Heroes for their Golf Tournament, and awards for the operators of the Chester Rod and Gun Club. Further, it was reported that the Bass Pro Shop was given a nicely framed award, and that such items are to be prepared and presented to the management of the Market Basket locatios in Bedford and Hooksett.

**City Veterans Council**: Due to the absence of the Adjutant, there was no report

**Fundraising:**

**Flag Pole Auction**

This fundraising program was discussed in December to no conclusion

Nor was it discussed during the May Meeting

**Molding New EGA’s** JIn December, BJ moved to mold additional copies, but BJ withdrew his motion, and the matter was tabled. This is continued to the topic of Unfinished Business

**Future Fundraising Events:** There are fundraising efforts upcoming on June 25 and 26, at the Bass Pro Shop and the Bedford and Hooksett Market Basket locations. During the meeting, Gary Gahan strongly lobbied for three additional volunteers needed for the Hooksett store on June 25, 12-3 pm. With little to no success….

There was a heated discussion about the subject of having a raffle over the weekend of June 25-26 for one of the wooden flag replicas made by Dennis Mitchell. As announced by Sr. Vice Gahan, anyone who offers a donation of $20 or more and any of the locations over that weekend would be given a customized raffle ticket, with the winner to be drawn July 4th and notified shortly thereafter by email, text or telephone. Gary has discussed this at length with Commandant Byers. One of the audience members strongly feels it is unfair to offer a raffle ticket to anyone who offers a donation of $20 or more, and not offering the same to anyone who only goes in for $1 or less. When questioned, only 1 other member in attendance had sympathy for this point of view

Gahan has already invested a lot of effort in this effort. He believes that by itself it may bring in funds exceeding $10,000. He has purchased racks to hold the replicas at each location and has arranged with Dennis Mitchell and others so there is one of the flags at each location. He is also designing the tickets, to allow us to gather the contact details of the individual. It is felt that we can do this type of auction 2x per calendar year.

**Membership**: Chair is Chris Peirce; no report available

**Newsletter:** Marge advised that the cut-off date for the next issue is Sunday June 26th, and that

The next issue is “on track” for a release around July 1st

**Public Relations**: no report

**Scouting Committee**: Chair is Dan Fedor; he reported that all sorts of activity that MCL would be involved with essentially goes flat until late August

**Scholarships:** Committee Chair is Marge Romano. Please see earlier notes for the awarding of the scholarship to Emma Hamelin.

**Veterans (VAVS**): no report

**Young Marines**: There was no discussion about Young Marines

**Bingo**: no report

**Web Sgt Report**: no report

**Social Activities**:

**Memorial Day at Boscawen Veteran’s Cemetery**

Gary Gahan reported on the Ceremony, chaired this year by the Dep’t NH Marine Cops League’s John Jenkins, and included the bit about one of our members passing out during the color guard ceremony

**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.

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

until Spring 2022

**New Business:**

Nothing to report

**Good of the League:** Gary Gahan reported on the Ceremony held for Former Commandant Frank Diekmann and Camp Carpenter, and what a wonderful event it was

**Upcoming Events:**

**Department of NH Quarterly Meeting:** is to be held at Amherst Fire Dep’t on Saturday 18 June, starting at 10:30. DNH elections will be held. A MODD Growl will follow. It was also decided that some T-shirts would be sold as a fundraiser

**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. **IT WAS DISCUSSED WHETHER TO CHANGE THIS MEETING FOR JUNE AS IT CONFLICTS WITH THE FUNDRAISER ON JUNE 25TH (SEE ABOVE) BUT NO DECISION WAS REACHED**

**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 20:05 hours (8:05 pm). Closing ceremonies were conducted by Commandant Byers, Chaplain Duquette, and Sgt at Arms Janes

**Submitted by:**

**Kevin Brown, a weak substitution for Shawn Carboni**