

Granite State Detachment #542 Minutes of the July 11th Meeting at 19:30:

A presentation of about a half an hour preceded the meeting: Richard Marsh of **Homebase** explained his PTSD charity for the detachment, submitting it for our consideration and support (report appended below the minutes report*).

19:30 Opening Ceremony: The Opening Ceremony was conducted by Commandant (Cmdt) __ B J Byers __ (name or acting name),

Sergeant at Arms (SAA) __AJ Hebert__ (name or acting name) and

Chaplain (Chap) __Joe Duquette__ (name or acting name).

Officer Roll Call: Cmdt, (name)	B J Byers	(circle one: present , absent, acting or excused);
Senior Vice Commandant (SVC)	Gary Gahan	(circle one: present , absent, acting or excused);
Junior Vice Commandant (JVC),	Dennis Mitchel	(circle one: present, absent, acting or excused);
Judge Advocate (JA),	position open	
Sergeant at Arms	Paul Coutu	(circle one: present, absent, acting or excused);
Junior Past Commandant (JPC)	Derwood “Woody” Haskell	(circle one: present, absent, acting or excused);
the Adjutant (Adj)	Eric Anthony	(circle one: present , absent, acting or excused);
the Paymaster	Gary Gahan	(circle one: present , absent, acting or excused);
the Web Sergeant	Jo Zurwell	(circle one: present , absent, acting or excused);
Chaplain	Joseph Duquette	(circle one: present , absent, acting or excused).

There were __11__ (insert number) voting members (list last names) _Byers, Anthony, Gahan, Tanguay, Peirce, Duquette, Joey Duquette, Brown, Zurwell, Hebert, Romano _);

and __0__ (insert number) guests (list full names)

The meeting was conducted in person/ via Zoom (circle one or both). There was/wasn't (circle one) a quorum.

Minutes:

- A motion to accept the __June 13th__ (list date of minutes to be voted on) Minutes from the meeting was made by Marine __Kevin Brown__ (insert name) and seconded by Marine __Gary Gahan__ (insert name). The motion passed (or rejected) with __0__ (insert number) dissenting votes cast.

New Members and Guests: There were ___1_(insert number) guests,

___Jo Zurwell_____ (list names and titles (if appropriate)).

Paymaster Report:

- The checking account balance is \$_10,825 (see financial report)_(insert amount);
- the savings account balance is \$_ 0_(insert amount).
 - A motion was made to accept the Paymaster’s report by Marine **_Kevin Brown_**(list name) and seconded by Marine **___Joe Duquette___**(list name). The motion passed (or rejected) with ___0_(insert number) dissenting votes cast.
 - A motion was made for the effective date to commence **Jo Zurwell’s** contract as Webmaster on Sept. 1st with a payment of \$337.50, with her yearly membership paid by the detachment, by Marine **_Gary Gahan_**(list name) and seconded by Marine **___Kevin Brown_**(list name). The motion passed (or rejected) with ___0_(insert

Chaplain Report:

- (Chaplains or other members bulletized list of members who have died or in distress or need visiting, etc.)_____.
- Pauly Labbe / recovering from Covid, test results now negative; doing well_____.
- Dennis Mitchel / TBI affected by heat; so is resting _____.

Committees:

Scholarship:

- NTR_____
- _____
- _____(Committee Chair update).

Communications/Website:

- ___(see notes on Jo Zurwell's presentation of our new website appended below the minutes*)___
- ___Motion to accept contract and Jo Zurwell as our new Webmaster was made by **Gary Gahan** and seconded by **Marge Romano**; _ 0 opposed___; the motion was passed.
- _____(Committee Chair update).

Membership:

- ___Jo Zurwell is welcomed into membership of the Granite State #542 detachment ___
- _____
- _____(Committee Chair update).

Correspondence:

- ___Thankyou note received from Liberty House___
- ---Thank you note received from Dreams for Marines (\$1000)
- ___Thank you note received from Lily Byers for her scholarship___
- _____(Commandant or Paymaster update).

Scouting:

- ___Kevin will be attending the Eagle Scout ceremony at Hookset on Tuesday July 25th___
- _____
- _____(Committee Chair update).

Public Information:

- ___The drawing for Dennis' wooden flag (from the Market Basket fundraiser) results: ___
- ___Winner of the flag: Joe Turkowski_ (Gary: if contact of him fails, Gus Peres will be the backup winner)(Committee Chair update).
- **Marge Romano** made a motion for us to donate \$500 to **Homebase** vet charity; this was seconded by **Joe Duquette**, and passed with ---0--- dissenting votes.

Marine for Life:

- ___ NTR ___
- _____
- _____ (Committee Chair update).

Donations and Gifts:

- ___ NTR ___
- _____ (Paymaster update).

Awards:

- ___ NTR ___
- _____
- _____ (Committee Chair update).

Honors:

- ___ NTR ___
- _____
- _____ (Committee Chair update).

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL) <http://nhmarines.org/>: <https://www.facebook.com/MCLNHMARINES/>

- ___ NTR ___
- _____
- _____ (Committee Chair update).

MODD #159:

- ___ 4 "growls" a year are required to maintain the charter ___
- ___ Gary agrees to reach out to Mark Lindsey on this ___
- _____ (Committee Chair update).

OLD BUSINESS:

- NTR _____ (Commandant, SVC, JVC, Committee Chair update).

NEW BUSINESS:

- ___ NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE: (discuss and vote/ August meeting) ___
- Commandant: Gary Gahan (nominated and accepted)
- Senior Vice Commandant: OPEN
- Junior Vice Commandant: Dennis Mitchell
- Paymaster: Aaron Hebert (proposed and accepted)
- Quartermaster John Petrolito
- Judge Advocate: Kevin Brown
- Junior Past Commandant: B.J. Byers
- Sgt. at Arms: Paul Coutu
- Adjutant: Eric Anthony
- Chaplain: Joe Duquette
- Editor in chief: Marge Romano
- Webmaster: Jo Zurwell
- _____ (Commandant, SVC, JVC, Committee Chair update).

Good of the League:

- __NTR__
- _____
- _____ (All members invited to update).

Future Dates:

- As listed in the Agenda and including the below:
- Next monthly meeting scheduled for August 8th (date) @ 18:30 (time).
- Last Saturday of the month FUNday breakfast a 0800 at the Airport Diner Manchester NH.
- “Together We Served luncheon” <https://www.gyrenes.org/> @ 1130 U.S. Marine Corps, New Hampshire & Southern Maine Chapter continues at Strafford Farms, Dover, NH (<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>) on _____ (next luncheon date). All Marines, FMF Navy Corpsmen and Chaplains and Spouses are Welcome "Membership is Free." Time for the Gathering of Gyrene's 11:30 AM on the **second Wednesday** each month.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt BJ Byers (first and last name (name or acting name)), SVC (acting) Gary Gahan (first and last name (or acting name)), SAA (Paul Coutu/excused) (first and last name (or acting name)) and Chap Joe Duquette (first and last name (or acting name)) conducted the closing ceremony at 20:30 _____

Appendices:

***Guest Richard Marsh's presentation of Homebase PTSD charity**

Background: Richard has been active in serving veterans. He has written a book on the NH Boscowen Veteran's Cemetery history and its individual memorials to each service, for example Norm Nowell construction of the Marine Iwo Jima memorial. His goal in doing this is to let veterans know how valued their service is. Homebase serves PTSD vets and families of suicide vets. The Homebase fundraising walk, led by Richard, raises funds for other veteran charities involved in these issues, and goes from Concord to Boscowen (13 miles) on July 22nd. He has raised \$1500 so far in pledges for this walk. "Homebase" can be Googled on the internet to bring up more information on the website. He also mentioned that for

him to get credit for his volunteer work, donations need to be made out to him which he then processes through to the organization.

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***Webmaster Jo Zurwell' s report and presentation on the new website format:**

Jo Zurwell, using a projector to present graphics for our group, explained navigation and features of our new #542 website.

Features include:

--- History of the detachment;

--- donations page;

--- VA and NH veterans department links;

--- Youth Programs;

--- Building Dreams;

--- detachment membership and meeting schedule with application to join;

--- Events calendar;

--- Store/ merchandise;

--- OORAH newsletter

In response to Gary Gahan's question on how to get highest point or priority on Google searches, Jo explained there is a way to do this without paying. Gary explained Jo's contract agreement for us as temporarily under hourly pay; but eventually settling on a reasonable monthly salary when the landscape becomes clearer; and extra projects to be negotiated ad hoc. Kevin (legal expertise) will go over the contract and coordinate with Jo. Motion to accept monthly retainer and accept Jo Zurwell as our Webmaster was then passed.
