



Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 71 N. Elm Street Westfield, MA 01085-1619 Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850

Meetings 2nd Monday of every month www.mclwrv141.com

Minutes of Monthly Meeting 10 March 2025

OPENING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1902 hours, posted the Colors and led the detachment in the Pledge of Allegiance; the Chaplain read the opening prayer after which the Sergeant-at-Arms declared the meeting open for official business. Eight regular members, and ten associate members were present.

Membership: none at this time.

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted unanimously. Motion made by Roger Beer, seconded by Joe Delaney.

Correspondence: The Leeds VA sent a Thank You for our donations for their coffee time. The Food bank sent a Thank You for the \$150.00 donation sent to them. Westfield State University Foundation sent a Thank You for our donation to help with frames for veteran graduates. Westfield Fair sent a sponsor sheet in case we would like to help sponsor this year's fair.

Sick or In Distress: Dan and Bev Bishop are both sick at this time. Chuck's daughter was injured in a car accident and his mother was diagnosed with dementia. Rene's mother passed away in February. Keith has surgery that was successful but he is still unable to get around too much at this point. Kinley Cekovsky is doing well and has a smaller cast at this time. Roger's wife is having a tough time with her diabetes after cancer treatments.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS (those not listed had nothing to report or were absent or excused):

Commandant: Thank you to Paul for dinner. A thank you to everyone involved in breakfast. A letter was given to Walmart for Father's Day flag pins. Giessler's was not sure if they already had someone for Mother's day so we have to check back this week. Colleen took 5 bags of nylon flags to Worcester on the way to Boston. All the veteran organizations need to start scheduling flag burning at the Sportsmans club. Ask for the contact information. State Convention is in Burlington May 29-June 1. The packet will be out soon. The Scholarship deadline was March 1st and only one application was received. They will check the application and hand out in June if everything looks good. The building committee is slow to start but will be meeting at 11am after the breakfasts. The Golf tournament paperwork is updated and at the barracks if you would like copies for teams or sponsors. There is a plan to update bylaws so associates have more say and are part of the quorum at the barracks. Brandon's Eagle board review is tomorrow night and he should be an Eagle Scout after that.



Jr. Vice: Reported by Joe Delaney for Dan Bishop. The building committee will be meeting at 11am after the breakfasts. Come join after breakfast if you are interested in being part of the committee. Calendar cards are in. Please stop by the barracks and pick up cards to start selling. The cards are \$10 per ticket to be drawn in November.

Paymaster: February 2025 income and expenses looked over. There are checks outstanding from the Golf tournament which will be taken back after one year if not cashed. The report was accepted subject to audit by Rob Vigneault and second by Chuck Distefano.

Armorer: 2 guns are out for cleaning and the rest are all set upstairs.

Flag Service: There is a full table to work on and there are 12 bags of cloth to retire.

Historian/Americanism/POW: The book has to be bound to be within regulation. A book binder will be bought to ensure the history books keep to regulation. The POW/MIA flag code has changed and may be changing again soon so we will keep the barracks updated as the rules and regulations are updated.

Quartermaster: There are a few patches left and there are stickers and magnets at the barracks. Please let Chris know if you need anything.

Scholarship: One application submitted. Will give out at the June meeting.

Photographer: Updates made to Facebook and website. Photos have been sent to Roger as they are received and added to the website and social media as well. Thank you for the photographs. Please make sure to sent from events.

Scuttlebutt: The next edition is almost ready to send out. Please sent dates of events ASAP to Roger to ensure the calendar is up to date with all events.

VAVS: Need food donations and are desperate for volunteers. March 29th will have a Vietnam memorial ceremony and they are hoping for Westover Young Marines to help with the color guard. There will be a POW/MIA ceremony again this year. They are working on hydroponics and gardening items with hope donations will come in to help with these new ventures. Donations can be sent to their general fund for use all over the VA campus. This summer will have a car show and other events. There will be a Stand down in Northampton sometime soon. Please ignore all emails about changes in appointments from the VA. These emails are a glitch. The VA will be rechecking volunteers and workers every 6 months for fingerprints and other security items.

Easthampton VC: Flags will be up this year along with banners. Working on the Memorial Day Parade.

Westfield VC: Parade Route being decided Thursday and may be changing.

Chicopee Vet Council: Has not met in 2 months while waiting for the Mayor to decide on the board members.

Westfield State University: Many Events coming up and all are welcome. There is an Iwo Jima event on March 28th 10am-12pm. There will be a light breakfast. Please wear covers and reach out to Rob Vigneault if you would like a parking pass for campus parking. There is a Marine veteran from Iwo Jima that will be getting a card and photo of the league to let him know we are thinking of him. An Honor Flight movie will be happening. There will be Burger King offered at this event since one of the volunteers owns a chain of them. May 3rd an Honor Flight will be going out of Bradley and greeters are



needed for this event as well. Please visit the Veteran Graduation Celebration at Westfield Campus; Please wear uniforms for this event. This celebration is where the frame money donation went to. All events are listed and will be shared by Carrieann as well for dates and times or you can reach out to Rob Vigneault for the information.

April 7th Chuck will have an event on Westfield campus to help veteran non profits to understand the uncertainty of the new federal funding. It will be held from 12:30-15:30. Please let Chuck know asap for registration.

Good of the League:

First Sunday in April is the 40/8th 102nd Birthday party. There will be an award given out that is very important and Brian Dupee would appreciate as much attendance as possible. Dinner is \$20 per ticket at the Easthampton American Legion at 5pm. Dinner will be meatloaf, mashed potato and green beans along with birthday cake. Please wear your uniform; no jeans or t-shirts. Call Brian so he can have an accurate head count if you plan to attend.

There are three ceremonies in Westfield in April. April 5th is Vietnam Recognition day at Parker Park at 1pm. April 21st is Patriots Day Ceremony at Parker Park and April 26th is 104th infantry ceremony at 10am.

Lexington and Concord reenactment is on April 19th if anyone is interested.

The Marine Corps League was represented in North Brookfield at the American Legion all you can eat breakfast that was held at 10am on March 9th. Make sure to track events like this please for Chris' end of the year tracking.

CLOSING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 20:07 hours and the Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The closing statement was read and the proceedings were declared adjourned until the next scheduled detachment meeting, on April 14, 2025.

Brianna Torrey, Adjutant

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Marine Corps League