



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 November 2025

OPENING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1903 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. Thirteen regular members, fourteen associate members and two guests were present.

INSTALLATION: Officers and appointed positions were sworn in from 19:03 to 19:11 by Fran Curnow.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: Three membership forms are in place. There were two to be sworn in and one transfer from Iowa.

Steven Weatherbee who membership was approved last meeting was sworn in at this meeting. His father served in the Marines in Korea and he joined in 1978 after graduating high school. He worked in communications and worked 16 years in the Army after the Marines.

Joseph Robert Beaudieu Sr. "Jumpin' Joe" application was unanimously accepted. JB Stern met him at a dog park and they spoke about the League. Joseph was in the Marines starting in 1975. He was in Fairbanks Alaska and ended up working in the Army until 1981 when he moved back to Massachusetts. Michael and Alta Clingerman are transfers from Iowa who are joining our detachment now. Michael was in the Marines starting in 2004. In 2008 he was in the Marine reserve in Arizona. Currently he is active duty Army Staff Sergeant operations. He joined the Marine Corps League in Waverly Iowa and now that he is near Westfield will be transferring. They have been married for four years and she is a director of operations.

Hal Danielson was a guest from Suffix County, New Jersey and was visiting to celebrate the birthday.

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted unanimously. Dan Bishop motions to accept minutes as sent out, Keith Buckhout seconds.

SICK OR IN DISTRESS: Kinley Cekovsky's surgery went well on her arm and she is doing fine. Don Rivette was visited by everyone who went to the VA for the Marine Corps Birthday cake ceremony. He is bedridden and it would be great if people could stop by to visit him.

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

Commandant: There are raffle cards left. Please return any you have with the money. The winners will be picked once all the cards have been returned towards the end of the month.

Judge Advocate: The Bylaws have been submitted to the state and we are waiting for state and national approval.



Paymaster: October still has checks outstanding. The true total for October is \$57,350.32. Motion to accept subject to audit was motioned by Chuck Distefano and second by Keith Buckhout. Unanimously accepted.

Sgt at Arms: thank you to everyone who came to take a vet to school day. Teachers were happy with the showing. Keep in mind we could use the lot behind Westfield Feed for a Car Show if we wanted next year..

Chaplain: Please bring food to the barracks for the Leeds VA. They love cereal or anything that does not need much cooking. Many are homeless and have no real kitchen to make anything in. There is a VA meeting Thursday. The cake cutting went great at the VA birthday ceremony. Many marines that worked at the VA also came to enjoy it. There were a few possible members that Brian will check in with again.

Ceremonial: There were 5 ceremonies in Westfield, South Hadley and the VA. December 7th at 10am there will be a ceremony for Pearl Harbor day at Kane Park.

Photographer/Web Sergeant: Social media posts out. A new frame is added to the wall. The EBs give back event went well and should be sending a check shortly. Stop n Shop chose us this year for the month of November. This is only at the 57 Main Street Westfield Stop n Shop. If you buy the "Give" bag at \$2.50 we get \$1.00 from the sale if you log on and select us as the charity for the \$1.00 to go to. The website was updated. Sneakers to recycle (no holes) bring to the barracks and we will get a check back.

Scholarship: Application will be out in December. There will be 3-\$1000 prizes from the detachment. There are department and national scholarships as well so please send in for them as well. The National level wants the scholarship to state "Marine Corps" not "Marine Corps League" if you apply for their scholarship.

Scuttlebutt: Emailed out for the month of November. Please send interesting family friendly stories from your time in service to Roger Beer and Bill Federman.

Holyoke Veterans Home: Cake cutting ceremony is on November 12 at 6pm on the second floor in the Canteen. Polos with covers are fine for the event.

Agawam VC: The VSO is in the hospital. We need to send a card from the league.

Westfield Veterans Council: Due to the weather the parade is still on but the ceremony is inside. The parade started at 10:30am and the ceremony at 11am. November 16 at St. Mary Cemetery is being deflagged at 1:30pm. Please help if you can.

Building Committee: Back flow valve is an issue and meeting with plumber will take place soon. The drain is higher than the clean out. We are waiting on the price for a plumbing fix quote. NexGen roof interested in getting the roof done before winter but the payment plan is in the works now.

Golf Tournament Chair: Mestek and Wall E Computer were met for at least a half hour each to discuss more support this coming year. They plan to help more than last year. Golf meetings start right after the 1st of the year. Certificates have been handed out to everyone.

Historian/POW/MIA/Americanism: History book is going well. National updated the criteria so the book will be changed as needed. The Easthampton VSO, Sharon Mass and Ware all asked for help setting up POW tables.



Unfinished Business:

Donations discussed at the last meeting were made into a list and handed out to everyone at the meeting with donation amount breakdown. Amelia Park is off the list because we missed the window to buy an ad slot this year. 4 Chaplains was added for \$300, Wreath Across America \$85 for five wreaths was added to the list (Carrieanne added for this amendment). Boy Scout troop #114 for \$500 was asked to be added to the list (Chuck Distefano added this as amendment). This list is a year to year budget to budget decision not a yearly donation amount. We can donate more after repairs are made and paid for for the barracks. The total amount asked to disseminate out to all of the charities came to \$5,435. We voted for this package for community help. Motion was made by Dan Bishop and second by Joe Delaney and unanimously accepted to pay each of the following in amounts of \$250-\$500 per charity:

Agawam Veteran Food Pantry, Westfield Veteran Food Pantry, Leeds VA Food Pantry, Baystate NICU, ToysforTots, Westfield Animal Shelter, Southwick Animal Shelter, Boy Scout Troop #821, #124 and #114, Cub Scout Campership, Westfield Boys n Girls Club, 4 Chaplains, and Wreaths Across America.

New Business:

Ana's Cleaners closed with clothes inside. If anyone knows of a way to donate those clothes to veterans please let Aldo know.

The Mason's reached out to Ernie about the tree fair they are having. They wanted to know if we were interested in sponsoring a tree at the "Festival of trees" at the Big E. It will have our name and will help kids in need who need Christmas presents. We buy the tree and decorate and buy the presents for this event. Rob motions for the League to buy the tree and members to buy the presents. Joe motions for \$200 to buy the tree and make it a kids tree which needs kids presents bought by the members and brought to the detachment for Ernie to pick up. **Please have presents to the detachment for 11/17/2025.** The two motions are second by Dan Bishop and unanimously approved.

Good of the League:

WW2 Marine uniform brought in by Barbara Dymond and it will be presented at a later meeting how much it will cost for preservation funds. It will be added to the detachment museum. Once costs have been determined this will be brought up again.

Children's Christmas Party needs to be planned ASAP. Please reach out to Keith or Chris to let them know if they need a Santa for a party. Please respond quickly.

Veterans Day in Agawam is at 10:45 at School Street Park because of the changes to Agawam parks.

Proposal to think about for next month meeting. To allow those who can't drive at night meetings could be changed to Saturdays at 11am after the Breakfasts in the Months of January/February/March. If it was found to be helpful this would become permanent but that will be a later discussion as well. This will be discussed further in December and open to discussion.

Joe Delaney motioned for suspension of the meeting for the cake cutting ceremony. Second by JB Stern. Michael Clingerman and Hal Danielson cut the cake.

Dan Bishop motioned for the return to the meeting. Second by Joe Delaney.

40/8th has a chowder cookoff November 16th at noon at the Easthampton Legion #224. Please let Brian



Dupee know if you would like to enter a chowder for people to test. 10 chowders will be entered and \$5.00 per person to test the 10 chowders.

CLOSING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 20:50 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 December 8, 2025.

Brianna Torrey, Adjutant
Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
Marine Corps League