



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

Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month [www.mclwrv141.com](http://www.mclwrv141.com)

## Minutes of Monthly Meeting

14 April 2025

**OPENING CEREMONY:** The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1900 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. Nine regular members, and ten associate members were present.

**Membership:** none at this time. We did have a swearing in of a past member. There was not a good time to get this Marine for the swearing in portion so it was done at tonight's meeting even though he was voted in and has paid dues for some time. The "New" member is Chris Lanski from Agawam. He was 22 years in the Marines, 8 years as a police officer in Agawam and now the Veterans agent for five towns including Agawam.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted unanimously. Motion made by Dan Bishop, seconded by Bill Federman.

**Correspondence:** Thank you from the VA for 27 food item donations. They enclosed a wish list along with the Thank you that is on the bulletin board at the Barracks if you need ideas for items. Memorial Day Foundation looking for a donation for the Wreaths laid on graves overseas. Veteran T-shirt sale flyer came in. Agawam Veterans Council looking for a donation to help fund their new monument including 1990-present Agawam veteran names.

**Sick or In Distress:** Keith is walking a bit and will be back to driving in a few weeks time.

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

**Commandant:** Brandon's Eagle Court date is set for Saturday June 21, 2025 at 3:30pm in Westfield at the Evangelical church. Reach out if you are interested in going since a headcount will be needed. Everyone is invited to attend. Geisslers and Walmart are all set. Please stop by the Barracks and sign up for Mothers day/Fathers day Flag pin days.

**Junior Vice:** Joined the YMCA and found many Marines there. Hoping it is a place to recruit people from. Robert Vigneault is taking the Building Committee. The Golf Tournament is coming quickly. Hoping to have a 9:30-10am Saturday meeting soon for the August 9th Golf Tournament. There are forms at the Barracks for either Golf teams or sponsors. There will be a carving station instead of steak or chicken this year. The dinner tickets will be \$30 per person because of this change. The store opened



today. Check it out. Many new shirts were added. It is open until May 4.

**Paymaster:** Commandant renewed CD for 5 more months at 3.7% interest. At Westfield Bank anyone can get a CD at this high % right now.

**Flag Service:** Separated all flags. A Veteran from Agawam is asking for all used veteran cemetery flags. He is washing and folding them to hand out at Thunderbirds games as reminders of veterans. Any used cemetery flags are welcome for this cause. There are 3 nylon, 9 cloth bags ready to retire. There are 3 bags of cemetery flags ready in the back room upstairs for the veteran as well. We need to contact the Westfield Sportsman's Club to get a flag cremation ceremony in the works.

**Historian:** Flag law has only changed one thing in 118-74 and it requires all government agencies fly US made only. Donating a memorial wreath for the barracks to have in case of need for the barracks.

**Photographer:** Posts up and emails out. Store links sent at the end of the meeting.

**Scholarship Chair:** Bill Federman is taking over for Elizabeth who is stepping down. Letters are done and sent for this year. There are three scholarships to hand out this year. These will be handed out at the dinner portion of the June meeting.

**Scuttlebutt:** The Commandant made it on time to the edition this month. Bill Federman will work on getting Roger what is needed for next month.

**Westfield Veterans Council:** Holding a car show every Tuesday starting in May. These car shows are from 4p until dusk. They are at Shortstop Bar and Grill by Walmart. If you volunteer to help that day you have some of the proceeds to whatever organization you are there for.

## **New Business:**

EB in Agawam holds Give Back Wednesdays. CarrieAnne is looking into more information to possibly do something in the fall.

Agawam Veteran Council has been fundraising for a new granite monument with brass with honor rolls from 1990-present. The monuments are being moved from where they are to new locations. They are short \$2700.00. They would like to try and get this amount to buy the monument as soon as possible to make sure they can have the monument ready at the time of celebrating the new placement of all the monuments. Dan Bishop motioned we pay the needed \$2700.00 and second by Rene Cote. This motion was accepted and will be paid as soon as the paymaster is back.

Friends of the Agawam Veterans Council selling lottery tickets for a lottery ticket tree. These lottery tickets are \$5.00 per ticket for a chance at a \$200.00 lottery ticket tree. This lottery will be drawn on May 22nd at the free Lunch at the senior center at 11:45am. Please call the senior center to reserve a spot for lunch if interested. Fran, Aldo, or the Veteran Office have lottery tickets if interested in helping the fundraiser.

Dan Bishop motioned for \$650.00 for the Veteran Westfield Technical Breakfast to continue in the fall. Rene second and motion passed. To be paid when paymaster returns.

## **Good of the League:**

Honor Flight is coming May 3rd to Bradley. Meeting at the baggage claim for 7:30am to see them off and at 11pm for their return from their flight. Email Robert Vigneault if interested for more information.



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Thank you to Paul and Chuck for Saturday breakfasts and Paul for dinners at the barracks on meeting nights.

**CLOSING CEREMONY:** The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 19:55 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 May 12, 2025.

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