**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

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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

**SEMPER FIDELIS**

Minutes of Monthly Meeting

9 January, 2023

**OPENING CEREMONY**: The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1912 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. Fourteen regular members and four associate members were present.

**ROLL CALL OF DETACHMENT OFFICERS:**

| **Detachment 141 Elected Officers (Board of Trustees)** | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Commandant | Christopher B. Cekovsky | P |
| Senior Vice Commandant | Joseph R. Delaney | P |
| Junior Vice Commandant | Sophie F. Bartosik | P |
| Judge Advocate | Keith A. Buckhout | P |

| **Appointed Staff Officers** | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Junior Past Commandant | Keith A. Buckhout | P |
| Adjutant | William W. Federman | P |
| Paymaster | Roger Beer | P |
| Sergeant at Arms | Aldo Mancini | P |
| Chaplain | Dan Bishop | P |
| Historian | John S. Rutovich | P |
| Auditor | Sophie F. Bartosik | P |
| Public Relations | Trudy Tynan | E |
| Scuttlebutt Editors | Roger Beer, William Federman | P |
| Web Sergeant | Carrieann D. Bailey | E |
| Armorer | Christopher B. Cekovsky | P |
| Color Guard | Keith A. Buckhout | P |
| Quartermaster | William W. Federman | P |
| Flag Service | John S. Rutovich | P |

| **Past commandants** | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Richard Greene 1977 |  | Joseph Mucha  1994 |  | Donald Wielgus 1999 |  | Joseph Willis 2004 |  |
| Fran Curnow 2005 | P | Brian Dupee | P | John Rutovich 2011 | P | Dan Bishop 2013 | P |
| Keith Buckhout 2017 | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Before the meeting was called to order**, an attorney from a New York law firm gave a short presentation about filing a lawsuit in response to issues arising from drinking contaminated water at Camp Lejeune.

**MINUTES:** Because the December meeting lacked a quorum, the minutes we accepted “as posted.”

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The usual Costco sales flier, as well as a holiday card from Westfield Mayor McCabe that unfortunately misspelled Corps.

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

**Commandant:** The Christmas party was a success and enjoyed by all. Turnout for the skating party was small but plenty of detachment members were present. Meetings of various committees – scholarship, financial and others – will be scheduled, and now is the time to plan for the Westfield Fair.

**Senior Vice Commandant:** The Quad State Convention will be held in Vermont in April.

**Junior Vice Commandant:** Solicitation letters for scholarships and general donations are ready for distribution.

**Judge Advocate:** A few detachment members participated at the Pearl Harbor Day commemoration in Westfield.

**Paymaster:** The November and December reports were accepted unanimously.

**VAVS:** Canned goods are needed for the food bank at Leeds and members are encouraged to bring non-perishable items to the next detachment meeting.

**Public Relations:** Various Google accounts have been set up for the detachment.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Rifles are being inventoried and some of the ‘03s will be retired. A ceremony at Barnes ANG base to dispose of unserviceable flags is being planned. Letters to Geissler’s and Walmart requesting space for our summer flag pin sales will be sent. A nonprofit organization called Backpacks for Life, which services homeless veterans, seeks our help in collecting donations; the request will be considered at the next detachment meeting. By unanimous vote, the detachment approved a motion to have 500 raffle cards printed for fund-raising this summer. Detachment members also voted unanimously to collect food for several area food banks.

**GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:** Meritorious commendations were awarded to detachment Marines. Four Chaplains Day will be February 3 and a ceremony is planned for the Leeds VA facility.

**CLOSING CEREMONY**: The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 2019 hours and the Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The closing statement was read and the proceedings were adjourned until the next scheduled detachment meeting, on Feb. 13, 2023.

William W. Federman, Adjutant

Westfield River Valley Detachment 141

Marine Corps League