

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
71 North 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 12 April, 2021

OPENING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1909 hours, posted the Colors, and led the detachment in the Pledge of Allegiance; the Acting Chaplain then read the opening prayer, after which the meeting was declared open for official business. Twelve regular members and three associate members were present.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS :

Board of Trustees		
Commandant	Keith A. Buckhout	P
Senior Vice Commandant	Joseph R. Delaney	P
Junior Vice Commandant	Sophie Bartosik	E
Judge Advocate	Christopher Cekovsky	P

Appointed Staff Officers		
Junior Past Commandant	John S. Rutovich	P
Paymaster	Roger Beer	E
Adjutant	William Federman	P
Chaplain	Lawrence Holbrook Stanley Lachtara	E E
Sergeant-at-Arms	Aldo Mancini	P
Historian/Photos	John S. Rutovich	P
Auditor	Sophie Bartosik	E
Public Relations	Trudy Tynan	E
Scuttlebutt Editor	Roger Beer William Federman	E P
Web Sergeant	Carriann D. Bailey	P
Armorer	Chris Cekovsky	P
Color Guard	Keith Buckhout	P
Quartermaster	Chris Cekovsky	P

Past commandants							
Brian P. Dupee	P	Francis J. Curnow	P	Joseph C. Willis		Steven Snow	
Donald E. Wielgus		Daniel Bishop	P	Joseph F. Mucha		John S. Rutovich	P

Attendance for the April meeting was sparse, as detachment members continue to take precautions against the Coronavirus. Masks are still mandated for detachment gatherings and social distancing guidelines are followed.

MINUTES: Minutes of the March meeting were accepted, without changes, unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Holyoke Soldiers' Home, in a letter dated January 7, thanked the detachment for its donation of \$150 to the home's recreation fund. Solicitations for donations were received from The Memorial Day Foundation, the American Cancer Society and Baystate Health Foundation.

SICK OR IN DISTRESS: Sophie was back in the hospital for more treatment and has since returned home, where she is recuperating.

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

Commandant: Keith noted with regret the passing of James Laskey of Rhode Island, past Marine Corps League national commander. He had been a member of the MCL for 53 years.

Paymaster: In the absence of Marine Beer, the paymaster's report was delivered by the commandant, who said that all bills have been paid.

Judge Advocate: The revised bylaws have been approved, printed and distributed. A copy is available for inspection at the barracks, and online.

Armorer: All rifles are accounted for.

VAVS: Construction at the Leeds facility continues, with old buildings and parking lots disappearing and a new campus rising as part of this long-term and much needed project; Covid vaccinations are being given and all veterans are encouraged to make an appointment.

Holyoke Soldiers Home: Two staff members were reported to have contracted the virus so the facility was locked down. Access is restricted but some family members are being allowed to visit.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: Keith and Joe marched in the Bataan Death March commemoration on the rail trail in Westfield, a grueling and worthwhile event in remembrance of the infamous World War II atrocity. The department convention will be held on June 3-6 at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel Hyannis. A Covid clinic for veterans was held in Westfield at the high school on April 17. Spouses and caregivers were also eligible.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion to donate \$50 for furniture in the former American Legion building was offered and unanimously passed. The Holyoke detachment of the Young Marines has ceased to operate; the reason is unclear. A Memorial Day ceremony will be held at Parker Park; color guard volunteers will be needed. Agawam and Hatfield will stage Memorial Day parades; the one in Hatfield will be drive-by. The barracks needs a new flag for display out front; Keith will buy one.

CLOSING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 1951 hours and the Acting Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The Senior Vice Commandant read the closing statement and the proceedings were adjourned until the next detachment meeting, scheduled for May 10.

William W. Federman
Adjutant
Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
Marine Corps League