

September 2, 2019

Minutes of the 17 August 2019 Board of Directors (BoD) Meeting - KOC

BoD Members Present: BG Caruana , CDR Balunis and Mrs. Balunis, CAPT Concannon, Col Pecoraro, MAJ Privitera, LTC McGuire, CDR Zuffoletto, Lt. Col Scotland (NYS Council of Chapters), CAPT Roche, LTC Sparacino, LTC Ventura

Visitors Present: Col David Roll – USAF (Ret) (vacation)

President’s Opening Remarks: Col Pecoraro, Chapter President, opened the meeting’s breakfast with introductory remarks at 0855 hrs. after an extended and hearty breakfast. Father CDR Zuffoletto provided opening prayers. The Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence offered by Col Pecoraro

Treasurer’s Report: MAJ Privitera reports in CDR Lichwala’s absence a balance of \$8,551.10. Dock Party brought in revenues of \$2,115.00 at a cost of \$ 1,092.67. There appeared to be a discrepancy on the net profit, thus MAJ Privitera requested a motion to table finance report until next meeting. Motion to table seconded by LTC Ventura. Passed.

Chapter Report: Submit Newsletter by 4 Oct 19.

Secretary’s Report: Motion made by CDR Zuffoletto to accept May MOAA WNY meeting minutes; seconded by LTC Sparacino. Motion approved by BoDs. LTC McGuire pitched “Ship N’ Shore party” held on 28 Aug 19, a fundraiser for The Naval Park.

Membership Report: MAJ Privitera reported 179 MOAA WNY members and auxiliary members. Discussion ensued on membership for local MOAA members and how they relate financially to life memberships. Col Pecoraro will consult with CDR Lichwala to review membership policy as it relates to National policy. MAJ Privitera also reported contact with SSG Dave Bellavia (recent MOH recipient) to help promote Armed Forces Week Next year. Motion made by LTC Ventura to accept report and seconded by CAPT Roche; approved unanimously by BoDs.

Personal Affairs Report: Col Dick Peters was reported ill.

Legislative Report: Col Pecoraro and BG Caruana reported that our MOAA WNY by-laws are finished. Link for them can be found on website. BG Caruana gave extensive update on “Widow’s Tax” and Tricare Benefits. All local political reps are co-sponsors of the Bill to support widows. BG Caruana also mentioned that NY State MOAA could be more effective. “Blue Water Navy” Agent Orange Bill passed a few months ago; however, implementation will take several months.

ROTC: Col Pecoraro attended UB/Canisius ROTC graduation. Niagara ROTC Cadet sent appreciation letter thanking WNY MOAA for his \$50 gift.

Level of Excellence: Col Pecoraro thanked the continued excellence of CAPT Concanon and MAJ Privitera on MOAA of WNY chapter standards and processes, hence, National MOAA Five-Star rating sustained. A “well done” was echoed by all!

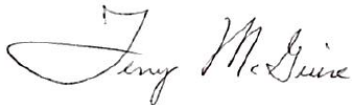
Events: MAJ Privitera to attend (along with the WNY MOAA Chapter President & Legislative Affairs Liaison too) the MOAA Leadership Workshop at Hershey, PA, on 6-7 Sept 19. LTC Scotland to attend MOAA NY State Council of Chapters at West Point from 23-26 September 19. He requested motion for chapter funds of \$50 dollars for gift basket raffle.

Motion seconded by LTC Ventura; motion passed. CDR Zuffoletto gleefully reported he is now the National Chaplain General for the Naval Order of the U.S. and that the Great White Fleet Week will occur this year in Buffalo at the Hyatt Hotel from 13-18 October 19. LTC Sparacino reports that the Saturn Club (Lorenzo Burrows American Legion Post) will host their annual Veterans' Day Celebration and luncheon on 8 Nov 19. The Buffalo Bills Tailgate Party at VA will be held on 10 November 19. LTC McGuire reported that an Army-Navy Game Watch Party fundraiser for Naval Park will occur at 3pm on 14 December 19; location TBD. Annual WNY MOAA Chapter Meeting and Dining event also to be held on 14 December 19 at about 6 pm (Salvatore's IGs).

New Business: Discussion led by Lt.Col. Scotland ensued on recent National MOAA grant denial of 5K for our WNY MOAA Chapter partnership with Veterans one-Stop of WNY (VOCWNY). CAPT Roche and LTC McGuire later suggested that future grant submissions should tie-in MOAA & WNY MOAA with Armed Forces Week for funding their annual event – it was discussed that future AFW committee leaders might want to reorganize their organizational charts and form a permanent AFW committee to improve efficacies and add stability to AFW in WNY. The intent is to save the deteriorating AFW venue and its sagging attendance, add new leaders and reverse its finances that were depleted heavily after last year's AFW event. CAPT Roche will be leading the AFW event this year. Veterans Day Concert at Riviera Theater in North Tonawanda may not occur as the 264th Legion Band and the Theatre have had a falling out. Consensus is to plan dinner and Purple Heart ceremony anyway. Col Pecoraro wants to appoint a new Nominating Committee. CAPT Concanon emphatically said that this info can be found on the WEBSITE!

Adjournment: The benediction was offered by CDR Zuffoletto. Motion made by MAJ Privitera and seconded by LTC Sparacino at 10:20 hrs. to adjourn. Motion approved. Next meeting scheduled for 2 Nov 19.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terence G. McGuire". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

TERENCE G. MCGUIRE, LTC, U.S. Army (Ret)
Secretary