

19 November 2017

Minutes of the 18 November 2017 Board of Directors (BoD) Meeting

BoD Members Present: CDR Balunis, BG Caruana, CAPT Concannon, Col Pecoraro, CAPT Roche, CDR Lichwala, LTC Ventura, LTC Kreyer, LTC Sparacino, MAJ Privitera, and CWO4 Scalfani.

Visitors Present: COL McGuire and JoAnne Lichwala.

Board Members Excused: COL Peters and LT Stitzinger.

CDR Balunis, Chapter President, called the meeting to order at 0903L. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was offered for those currently serving, for members who are recovering from illness (special mention/prayers for COL Peters recovery).

Treasurer's Report - CDR Lichwala reported a checkbook balance of \$10,133.99 and distributed a copy of his report. MAJ Privitera motioned to accept the financial report, seconded by CAPT Concannon and unanimously approved by the BoD.

Secretary's Report - Col Pecoraro highlighted the minutes from the September meeting. CDR Lichwala made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by CAPT Roche and unanimously approved by the BoD.

Membership Report - LT Stitzinger was unable to attend the meeting and MAJ Privitera presented the update. Currently, there are 184 members and 64 auxiliary members. MAJ Privitera will review the report based on information provided by the Chapter's Personal Affairs Representative CWO4 Scalfani. Col Pecoraro thanked MAJ Privitera for the completeness of reports for the annual meeting distribution - all letters contained the correct dues payment information. Col Pecoraro made a motion to accept the membership report, seconded by CAPT Concannon and unanimously approved by the BoD.

Personal Affairs - CWO4 Scalfani reported on the scholarships to MOAA in memory of recent deceased members. CDR Balunis thanked him for his great assistance to family members highlighting DoD benefits (benefits and funeral arrangements) after the death of a member. CDR Lichwala made a motion to accept the personal affairs report, seconded by CAPT Concannon and unanimously approved by the BoD.

Legislative Report - BG Caruana updated the BoD on the updates on MOAA's top legislative issues, with special emphasis on sequestration and the NDAA. MAJ Privitera made a motion to accept the legislative report, seconded by CAPT Roche and unanimously approved by the BoD.

Newsletter - JoAnne Lichwala will next publish a spring newsletter and added her thanks for the great information CWO4 Scalfani included for the winter newsletter. CDR Lichwala made a motion to accept the newsletter update, seconded by CAPT Concannon and unanimously approved by the BoD.

ROTC/JROTC - LTC Kreyer updated the BoD on the fall commissioning at Canisius, Niagara, and St Bonaventure and will prepare and send an update on the way ahead based on previous meeting decisions. CAPT Concannon made a motion to accept the ROTC/JROTC report, seconded by MAJ Privitera, and unanimously approved by the BoD.

Vets Day/VA Tailgate Party, and Dinner Concert Updates - CDR Lichwala gave an update to the 7th Chapter sponsored VA Tailgate Party held on 12 November 2017 that cost the Chapter approximately \$400. Modifications from previous years included raffles and partnering with the *Home of the Brave* Organization. LTC Kreyer mentioned that we might get

a better deal from La Nova Pizza vice Bocce Pizza and CDR Lichwala will research this for next year. Balunis gave updates to the Dinner/Concert held on 12 November – although the Riviera tickets were more expensive due to the addition of the “Bombshells” singing group, the evening was a big success. Col Pecoraro made the motion, seconded by CAPT Roche to accept the updates and this was unanimously approved by the BoD.

Events/Activities/Issues - Below is an overview of the upcoming Chapter events/activities/issues:

Annual Meeting/Christmas Party 2 December 2017: CDR Balunis presented a sequence of events list for the meeting and will coordinate all the loose ends. MAJ Privitera was given a key to check the WNY Chapter mailbox for any misdirected checks/RSVPs.

16 December 2017 Commissioning of the USS Little Rock – CAPT Roche gave an update of the USS Little Rock Commissioning Week.

2018 NYS Council of Chapters Convention in WNY from 10-13 September 2018: CDR Balunis gave a preliminary update to the convention held in WNY (billeting at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base) and is requesting Chapter volunteers to assist him with this project.

Other Business:

Philanthropic Subcommittee: CDR Lichwala met with his subcommittee and recommended the following:

- Use charitable contributions to fund the recent VA Tailgate Party.
- Use charitable contributions of \$250 to support Cpt Kasmer Honor Guard mission (ammo and repair of rifles).

CAPT Concannon made a motion to approve the subcommittee’s recommendations to spend \$633.33 of the \$716 available, seconded by LTC Sparacino, and unanimously approved by the BoD. Col Pecoraro will mail the check to Cpt Kasmer for \$250.

Level of Excellence Award: CAPT Concannon is collecting inputs for the LOE.

2018 BoD meeting schedule: CDR Balunis and Col Pecoraro will discuss the meeting schedule for 2019 and send out to the BoD members for comments.

2018 Armed Forces Week: LTC Sparacino gave an update to the 2018 Armed Forces Week

Board members need to notify MAJ Jerry Privitera at least one week prior to each Board meeting if they will not be able to attend. That will save on the cost of breakfast for the absentees.

Col Pecoraro made a motion to adjourn at 1031, seconded by CAPT Roche and approved by the BoD.

Respectfully submitted,



ROBERT E. PECORARO, Colonel, USAF (Ret)
Secretary