MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Delaware Department
Minutes of Department Meeting 18 January 2020

Department **Commandant Frank Mathers** called the meeting to order at 1000. Sergeant at Arms **Ralph Willis** posted the colors and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the opening prayer by Acting Chaplain **Dick Kollar.** The Sergeant of Arms **Ralph Willis** declared the meeting was open for official business.

Attendance – 16

Roll Call of Department Officers:

Commandant Mathers	Present
SVC Kollar	Present
JVC Del Piano	Excused
JA Farley	Excused
Adj Flood	Present
Paymaster George	Excused
Chaplain Beckford	Excused
SAA Willis	Present
SAA Pounsberry	Present
Historian Landon	Excused
Web Sergeant Shepke	Present
Toys for Tots Chairman Ertle	Present
Boy Scout Coord. Willis	Present
Boy Scout Coord. Jacobs	Present
Jr. Past Commandant Landon	Excused

All Officers are present and accounted for.

Commandant Mathers asked for the reading of the **Minutes**. The minutes from the last Quarterly Meeting have been distributed electronically. Copies are also available on the table. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as published. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjutant Flood reminded all in attendance that Quarterly Reports should be forwarded to him in advance of our regularly scheduled meetings.

Reports

The Paymaster's Report was sent out electronically and copies available on the table. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Paymaster's Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Commandant Mathers informed all in attendance that the importance of keeping **Chaplain Beckford** informed of any illness in your Detachments. Marine **Joe Fitzgerald** just passed away. Also Marine **Juan D. "Chief" Graciano** from the **Central Detachment** passed away on 15 October 2019.

Department Officer Reports

No Reports were submitted by the Sr. Vice Commandant, Jr. Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate. Commandant Mathers has been talking to **Judge Advocate Bill Farley** about the updating of the **Department Bylaws.**

Detachment Reports

Commandant Mathers added to the **Adjutants** request for the submission of the Quarterly Reports.

First State Detachment – Nothing to Add.

Diamond State Detachment – Nothing to Add.

Central Detachment – Nothing to Add.

Devil Dogs Detachment – Nothing to Add.

Holcomb Detachment – Nothing to Add.

Unfinished Business

Commandant Mathers discussed Fundraising and Marketing and the need for funds to send representatives from the Department and Detachments at National and MidEast Meetings. If you have any ideas, please send them to the Commandant. We just passed a Motion in October to send $100 a Quarter to the Department to build up the Fund. It was suggested that Marine **Bob Rogers** from First State has a Marketing Background and might be helpful in this endeavor.

The Division Annual Conference Meeting in April 2021 is in the Planning Stages. The Hotel has been selected and any help would be accepted in moving forward.

Commandant Mathers discussed the future need of a Paymaster. A **Financial Background** is desired.

Commandant Mathers reminded us that the need to update our **Bylaws** is most important.

Commandant Mathers requested that our Web Sergeant, **Tim Shepke** update us on the status of our Web Site. This is moving ahead and will be a giant plus for us as we move forward.

Commandant Mathers discussed the Future Meetings to be hosted by our various Detachments. Our next Meeting will be 9 May 2020 at Heritage Shores with a Continental Breakfast and a Hot Lunch provided. Representatives from National will be in attendance.

Commandant Mathers discussed the need to improve our Recruitment Goals. The Detachment Web Sites needs to reach out to Marines in their Area. Electronic Signs and local Radio Stations should be considered.

Commandant Mathers reminded all that **Chuck Landon** is heading up our Marine for Life Program. An example was made of a successful case to help a Marine in Need that was down and out. Assistance was made to pay some Bills, get Toys for his son and obtain employment at this Post.

Commandant Mathers discussed the effort to connect with the Marine Corps Reserve Unit in Wilmington. **Ray Snyder** and **Commandant Mathers** are actively trying to resolve the issues that are affecting the Toys for Tots Collection.

Commandant Mathers updated us on an effort to hold a Combined Marine Birthday Ball in the future in the Southern Delaware area possibility in Georgetown in the Future. **Chuck Landon** will be discussing this at our next Meeting.

Commandant Mathers updated us on the effort to establish a **"Devil Dog"** Detachment for Delaware. At this time, it appears this may not happen.

New Business

Ray Snyder, Commandant from Holcomb, informed us of a request just received from the **MJROTC Unit at Woodbridge High School** in Bridgeville for a contribution to send a Cadet to a Shooting Event out of State. They approved $200 and sent the check to **LtCol Smith** to support this Cadet.

First State Military Academy has requested Holcomb to sponsor the Trophies for a Fitness Competition that is going to be held. Holcomb is looking into prices to fund this effort. It is expected to be in the range of $400 to $500.

Commandant Mathers discussed the **Professional Development Program** that the **Department of Maryland** has for a one day seminar at a cost of $35.

Commandant Mathers further discussed the need to attend the League Conventions to stay informed of current issues. The $100 Quarterly Donation will help cover this and the upcoming Conference in 2021. Reminders have been send out on the 2020 Conventions.

Good of the League

Marine Richard Pounsberry, Jr. informed us about a case which a women requested a donation of $500 to assist a Marine. It's been determined that this was a scam and in the future more thought needs to be made in handling these types of cases.

Committee Reports

Marine Ralph Willis, **Boy Scout Coordinator,** has been submitting his Reports as requested to the proper contacts.

Marine Bill Ertle, Toys for Tots Chairman, has been collecting the Reports from the Detachments. **Marine Poundberry** will be taking over the Program next year for **First State.** He will contact **National** for the necessary Training needed.

Marine Corps League still has **License Plates** available. **Marine Weiss** is the Contact.

Closing

Commandant Mathers thanked Diamond State for hosting this Meeting. Elections will also be coming up at the May Meeting.

Commandant Mathers then proceeded to close. The Sgt of Arms **Willis** retired the Colors. Acting **Chaplain Kollar** closed with a prayer. **Commandant Mathers** then read the closing remarks. The Sgt of Arms **Willis** closed the Meeting.

Our Next Quarterly Meeting, our Annual Meeting, is scheduled for 9 May 2020 at the Heritage Shores Clubhouse in Bridgeville, Delaware. The Meeting will state promptly at 1000. Coffee and food available at 0900. A count from each Detachment needs to be forwarded to the Adjutant on or before 1 May 2020.

The meeting closed at 1110.