

Seacoast Detachment #394 Minutes of the 9 Jan 2023 Meeting at 1900:

1900 Opening Ceremony: The Opening Ceremony was conducted by Commandant (Cmdt) Geoff Corson, Acting Sergeant at Arms (SAA) Dick Lak and Acting Chaplain (Chap) Gary Gahan.

Officer Roll Call: Cmdt Geoff Corson, present; Senior Vice Commandant (SVC), Brad Howe, present; Junior Vice Commandant (JVC), Ray Maher, present; Judge Advocate (JA), Dick Lak, present; Junior Past Commandant (JPC), Bob Niver, present; the Adjutant (Adj) vacant; the Paymaster, George Dow, excused; the Web Sergeant, vacant; SAA, Randy McNally, excused; Chap George Lombardi, excused. There were eight voting members (Corson, Gahan, Howe, Lak, Maher, Morin, Niver, Schaaff); and three guests (John Flagler, Ken Mitchell (who later in the meeting became a member, Cherie Monnell). The meeting was conducted in person and via Zoom. There was a quorum.

Minutes:

- A motion to accept the 12 December Minutes from the meeting was made by Marine Gahan and seconded by Marine Howe. The motion passed with no dissenting votes cast.

New Members and Guests: There were three guests, John Flagler (prospective member), Ken Mitchell (sworn in as a new member) and Department Commandant Cherie Monnell (former member).

Paymaster Report:

- The checking account balance is \$11,632.67; the savings account balance is \$9,480.74.
 - A motion was made to accept the Paymaster's report by Marine Maher and seconded by Marine Morin. The motion passed with no dissenting votes cast.

Chaplain Report:

- Former member Paul Pratt has expressed an interest in renewing his membership and attending meetings.
- Marine Pete Cannell continues to visit with SVC Howe and is in good health.

Committees:

Scholarship:

- JA Lak presented a draft 2023 scholarship form for consideration.
 - Cmdt will review and route it to the BOT for review.
- JA Lak also suggested that we work up a budget for each scholarship year cordoning off an amount for each year's recipients.
 - Cmdt agreed this was a good idea and promised to mention it to the BOT for consideration.

MCJROTC:

- No report was provided.

Communications/Website:

- Marine Schaaff indicated that he had no official presentation for the Venmo brief and the potential utility of using this option to make online payments.
 - A decision is pending based on a better understanding of the merits of Venmo.
 - A BOT review will be conducted prior to presentation to the membership.
- A replacement Web Sergeant is needed as the website has suffered significant neglect.

Membership:

- Marine Ray Maher reiterated items listed on the Agenda for ongoing efforts to beef up membership and come up with a yearly schedule of recruiting events.
 - Business cards have been ordered for those who requested them.
 - One such event is the 75th Anniversary with a tentative date in June possibly at Warren's Restaurant in Kittery.
 - Marines Niver and Maher will take the lead on this effort.

Correspondence:

- As listed in the Agenda, nothing further to add.

Scouting:

- Nothing significant to report.

Public Information:

- No report was provided.
- A replacement Zoom operator is needed.

Marine for Life:

- Marine Hobert is very active on Linked In with updates to M4L activities and opportunities in the Northern New England area.

Donations and Gifts (Marine George Dow):

- Paymaster Dow provided a list of 2023 donators to the Cmdt in order to facilitate thank you letters.
- The Detachment netted over \$4,000.00 in 2023 donations.

Awards (Marine Geoff Corson):

- Cmdt is recognizing all 2023 donators with a personal thank you letter.

Honors (Marine Geoff Corson):

- After Action report for the late notice memorial for a Vietnam Veteran at Goffstown was given by Marine John Flagler.
 - Marine Flagler presented the colors to the next of kin in lieu of an active duty option because the family could not provide a DD 214.
 - Emphasis was given to making sure all NOK know where your DD 214 is and how to contact the Marine Corps in order to arrange for a final tribute from the active duty force.

Pease Greeters <https://peasegreeters.org/>

- Cmdt encouraged participation to include getting on the distro list for incoming flights.

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL) <http://nhmarines.org/>: <https://www.facebook.com/MCLNHMARINES/>

- Cmdt Monnell emphasized recruitment and need for replacement personnel at the Department level.
 - A replacement Department Paymaster, Honors Chair and Scout Chair are needed.
- Cmdt Monnell also indicated there will be a Quarterly Department meeting in March.

- Seacoast Det is scheduled to host this meeting, typically held on a Sunday.
- Other items of interest appear in the Agenda.

MODD #349 (Marine Brad Howe):

- There will be a Pound meeting during February.

OLD BUSINESS:

- SVC Howe reported on his efforts to get the National Museum of the Marine Corps to take notice and interest of the Guadalcanal flag.
 - There is interest but the sticking point is finding the surviving NOK of George Doore, the donator of the flag.
 - Marine Maher tracked down the obituary of one daughter of George and the Cmdt has a name and phone number for George's son, Carl.
 - Follow up is needed with both the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Pease Greeters and possible location of a surviving family member of George Doore.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Cmdt solicited volunteers for Appointed Officer Vacancies.
 - There are still vacancies in the Adjutant and Web Sergeant billets.
- JA Dick Lak will lead the next financial audit for 2022.
 - Cmdt indicated he will solicit volunteers to assist in the audit
- Marine Rich Pettengill has relinquished duties as Zoom operator.
 - A replacement is needed.
 - Cmdt has the camera, mic and login for Det Zoom account that Rich used.
 - Interested members should contact Cmdt if interested in performing these duties.

Good of the League:

- Marine Gary Gahan has been in contact with the NH Charitable Gaming commission.
 - Cmdt has received certification from MCL National of non-profit status.
 - Cmdt has forms to apply as a charitable donation recipient.
 - Marine Gahan has volunteered to undergo the background check in order to received charitable donation funds.

Future Dates:

- As listed in the Agenda and including the below:
- Next monthly meeting scheduled for 13 Feb 2023 @ 1900.
- Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900 at Grill 28 (<https://www.peasegolf.com/grill28/>) in Portsmouth, NH.
- Rochester Veterans Council Lunch @1130 suspended until further notice.
<https://rochesterveteranscouncil.vpweb.com/>
- "Together We Served luncheon" <https://www.gyrenes.org/> @ 1130 U.S. Marine Corps, New Hampshire & Southern Maine Chapter continues at Strafford Farms, Dover, NH (<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>) on 11 Jan 2023. All Marines, FMF Navy Corpsmen and Chaplains and Spouses are Welcome "Membership is Free." Time for the Gathering of Gyrene's 11:30 AM on the second Wednesday each month. We will be having our regular meeting and all safety protocols will be adhered to.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt Corson, SVC Brad Howe, Acting SAA Lak and Acting Chap Gahan conducted the closing ceremony at 2045. The raffle was won by Marine Gary Gahan who donated it back to the Detachment.



Seacoast Detachment #394
<https://www.seacoastmarines.org/>
Marine Corps League (MCL)
<https://www.mclnational.org/>
PO Box 690, Kittery ME 03904-0690

Monday 9 Jan 2023 Monthly Meeting Agenda
Portsmouth American Legion Post 6
96 Islington Street, Portsmouth

Uniform of the Day: Seasonal Uniform (Undress Uniform – Long Sleeve) or MCL Cover.

1900 Opening Ceremony: Commandant (Cmdt) Corson; Chaplain (Chap) Lombardi, Sergeant at Arms (SAA) McNally, "Marines' Hymn."

Officer Roll Call by SAA: Cmdt. ____; Senior Vice Commandant (SVC) ____; Junior Vice Commandant (JVC) ____; Judge Advocate (JA) ____; Junior Past Commandant (JPC) ____; Adjutant (ADJ) Vacant; Chaplain (Chap) ____; Paymaster __Web Sergeant Vacant; Quorum ____
____Members ____Guests ____

Minutes: Motion to accept the 12 December minutes (sent separately). Motion ____ Second ____ Vote ____

New members and guests:

- Swearing in of new members if present.
- Welcome guests who are considering membership.

Paymasters Report (Marine George Dow (george1845816@comcast.net)):

- Savings/Scholarship: \$ _____ Checking: \$ _____
- Motion ____ Second ____ Vote ____

Chaplain Report (Marine George Lombardi (geo-usmc@comcast.net)):

- Marine Rich Pettengill suffered a broken arm over the Thanksgiving holiday.
 - Rich is convalescing at home.
- Marines in Sickbay updates.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee (Marine Dick Lak (Dick_lak@comcast.net)):

- BOT discussion and decision pending on increasing the amount for scholarship recipients.

MCJROTC (LtCol Eric Drown (edrown@warriors.winnacunnet.org)):

- Update on MCJROTC activities/events.

Communications/Website and Social Media (Vacant):

- Replacement Web Sergeant needed.
 - Those interested please notify Cmdt, SVC or JVC.
- Update on additional online platforms to reach a wider audience of potential recruits to our Detachment (Marine Orion Schaaff).
- Venmo (<https://venmo.com/>) brief (pros and cons) (Marine Orion Schaaff).

Membership (Marine Bob Niver (revim167@gmail.com) and Ray Maher (maher-nh@comcast.net)):

- Members who need cards to aid in recruiting should give their info to Bob or Ray to use in their "recruiting kits."
 - They will prepare several "kits" for those who need them in recruitment.
 - In the kits, if membership cards are needed, interested members need to request replacement cards from Bob/Ray.
- Detachment "business" card also being finalized with social media sites listed, etc.



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- Event calendar that covers first part of the year (prior to picnic) is being looked at as a recruitment incentive.
- 75th Anniversary ideas solicited to celebrate the Detachment's legacy.
 - Ideas include a luncheon/dinner at a local venue (i.e. Warren's in Kittery), that also includes a tribute to the Guadalcanal flag, MCJROTC color guard, guest speaker.
 - Tentative dates are June 2023.

Correspondence

- VSO LnO stats on Veterans Crisis Line (sent separately).
- VFW National Home Flyeer (sent separately).

Scouting (Cmdt Corson (Geoffrey.corson.usmc.ret@gmail.com)):

- Nothing significant to report. .

Public Information (Rich Pettengill (Richard@ccbgroup.org)).

- Update on PIO activities.
- New Zoom coordinator/videographer needed.
 - Transfer of Detachment Zoom account from Marine Pettengill pending.

Marine for Life (Cmdt Corson (Geoffrey.corson.usmc.ret@gmail.com)):

- Update on M4L activities.

Donations and Gifts (Marine George Dow):

- 2022 results of Commandant's Appeal.

Awards (Marine Geoff Corson):

- Thank you letters for all donators (Marine Geoff Corson).

Honors (Marine Geoff Corson):

- After action report for last minute request for honors from DNHMCL Honors Chair 6 Jan 2023.
- Members input solicited, no known honors request pending.

Pease Greeters <https://peasegreeters.org/>

- Individuals (not groups) can now greet flights per new instructions that were sent separately and are restated below.
 - Upon arrival at the airport, Greeters must sign in on the Greeter Log. The Log will be maintained in the coffee area.
 - Please wear your Greeter name tags.
 - Masks MUST be worn at all times while at the airport.
 - Please... no hugs or shaking hands. Fist bumps are allowed.
 - Maintain Social Distancing during interaction with the troops.
 - Try to stay outside as much as possible.
 - Greeter gear: shirts, hats, ID, etc. may be worn at the airport.
 - As individuals, you are not allowed to give anything to the troops. This includes food and any personal items: hats, scarves, coins, even stars.
 - No solicitation of any items from the troops, such as: pins, coins or patches.
- Pease Greeters has resumed sending flight alerts.
 - There is a significant increase in flights due to ongoing troop movements triggered by European turmoil.

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL) <http://nhmarines.org/>: <https://www.facebook.com/MCLNHMARINES/>

- DNMC soliciting volunteer for Department Paymaster (passed separately and urgent).



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- Note from National Public Relations, Marine Corps League:
 - Good Day Marines,

Happy New Year to you all!

We are starting this year with new topics of discussion at our monthly Commandant's Corner. We will be re-visiting some older topics during the "MCL Membership Unplugged" monthly sessions which are not recorded. The unplugged versions are open chat rooms with no topic off limits.

The upcoming meeting information is as follows:

Commandant's Corner:

January 11th @ 1900; Topic is USMYF Guest Speaker(s) - Members of the Foundation

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4164288328?pwd=OVFsRVVaZm9wVURIRUR6Y1Q3NIB2UT09#success>

MCL Membership Unplugged:

January 28th @ 1900; No Topic = "Saturday Night Social"

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4164288328?pwd=OVFsRVVaZm9wVURIRUR6Y1Q3NIB2UT09#success>

Both of these Zoom calls have the same manual login information:

Meeting ID: 416 428 8328

Passcode: MCL2023 (all caps)

Please disseminate widely and ensure that you state that **ALL members are welcome to attend these and any future Zoom meetings hosted by the National Public Relations Committee.** Feedback has been that because of its title, some think that the general membership is not welcome to attend. That is not the case, if anything it's the newer membership and especially newly elected officers that can benefit the most from the information shared.

I look forward to amazing attendance at both of these, and all zoom meetings moving forward.

"Semper Fidelis" is not just something we say, it's how we live our lives!

Victoria McCoy
National Public Relations
Marine Corps League

MODD #349 (Marine Brad Howe):

- Update on MODD 349 activities.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Guadalcanal flag interest by Marine Corps Historical Division (Marine Brad Howe).



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NEW BUSINESS:

- New Commandant financial audit (Marine Geoff Corson).
- Continuation of Zoom broadcasts (Marine Geoff Corson).
- Update on transfer of unserviceable rifles (Marine Brad Howe).

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Update on NH Lottery proceeds/process (Marine Gary Gahan).

FUTURE DATES:

- Next monthly meeting: 13 February 2023 @ 1900.
 - Zoom attendance is TBD.
- Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900 at TBD.
- Rochester Veterans Council Lunch @1130 **suspended until further notice.**
<https://rochesterveteranscouncil.vpweb.com/>
- "**Together We Served** luncheon" <https://www.gyrenes.org/> @ 1130 @ Strafford Farms, Dover, NH
<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>. U.S. Marine Corps, New Hampshire & Southern Maine Chapter will have their next monthly meeting on 11 January 2023. All Marines, FMF, Navy Corpsmen, and Chaplains and Spouses are welcome "Membership is Free". Time for the **Gathering of Gyrene's** 11:30 AM on the second Wednesday of the month. We will be having our regular meeting and all safety protocols will be adhered to.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt. Corson, SVC Howe, Chap Lombardi, SAA McNally.