

Seacoast Detachment #394 Minutes of the 14 March 2022 Meeting at 1900 (Hybrid):

1900 Opening Ceremony: The Opening Ceremony was conducted by Commandant (Cmdt) Geoff Corson, Acting Sergeant at Arms (SAA) Jay Tennant and Acting Chaplain (Chap) Dave Winters.

Officer Roll Call: Cmdt Geoff Corson, present; Senior Vice Commandant (SVC), Brad Howe, present; Junior Vice Commandant (JVC) Dave Winters, present ; Judge Advocate (JA), Dick Lak, present; Junior Past Commandant (JPC), Bob Niver, present; the Adjutant (Adj) remains vacant; the Paymaster, George Dow, present; the Web Sergeant Tara Sue Myers, absent; SAA, Randy McNally, absent; Chap Roland Morin, absent. There were nine voting members (Cannon (R), Corson, Dow (R), Howe, Lak, Niver (R), Pettengill, Tennant, Winters) and one guest (Cole Poth) who became a member during the meeting. The meeting was conducted in person and over Zoom. With the addition of Marine Cole Poth being sworn as a new member, it was determined that there was a quorum.

Minutes: A motion to accept the Minutes from the 15 November, 13 December, 10 January and 14 February Detachment meetings was made by Detachment member Marine Dave Winters and seconded by Detachment member Marine Dick Lak. Discussion ensued where it was suggested that the entire membership present did not have access to the voted on minutes. A point of clarification was offered in that all minutes are published to the membership via email once they are finalized and that all, including Marine Poth, had access to the minutes being voted on. There were no questions about the contents of the minutes and the membership present voted to accept the minutes as written.

New Members and Guests: Marine Cole Poth was initially a guest, but sworn in as a member.

Paymaster Report: The checking account balance is \$11,526.48; the savings account balance is \$8,477.97. A motion was made by Marine John Cannon to approve the Paymaster's report and seconded by Marine Dave Winters. All present voted to accept the report. There were no objections or questions.

Chaplain Report:

- Marine Bob Leister remains in an Assisted Living facility in Dover.
 - Marine Brad Howe visited him recently and indicated that he is lucid, talkative, but has dementia and has trouble remembering.
 - Detachment members are encouraged to visit as their schedules permit.
 - Marine Cole Poth indicated that he intended to visit shortly.
- Marine George Lombardi is on the sick list recovering from serious neck surgery.
 - George has been able to attend Wednesday morning breakfasts, but has been cautioned to limit his activities until he fully heals.
- Marine Spider Soiett continues to suffer from a blood disorder and has been unable to attend meetings.
 - Cards of support are encouraged to motivate Spider to get well soon.

Committees:

Scholarship:

- The final version of the 2022 scholarship Application was sent out via email to all members, it has yet to be posted on the website.
 - In order to expedite applications, Detachment members are encouraged to send the email version of the application to all interested family members until such time as it is posted on the website.

MCJROTC: No report was provided.

Communications/Website:

- No report was submitted.
- The site now has a members' only link, but a shared password needs to be passed to all members.

Membership:

- Former Corpsman Chris Sawyer and his wife Esther joined the Detachment via mail, but were unable to attend due to prior commitments
 - They will be sworn in at a later date.

Correspondence: Nothing significant to report.

Scouting: Nothing significant to report.

Public Information:

- A proposal is on the table to conduct a 75th anniversary celebration in 2023.
 - Discussion ensued on the scope of such a celebration relative to the last one (70th anniversary) and what it entails.
 - Member input is solicited in order to decide whether or not to proceed.
 - Marine Rich Pettengill suggested the Detachment could make it a PR event by including the Guadalcanal flag/story in a celebration.
 - Marine Rich Pettengill suggested we honor Mr. Greg Comeau with a firing detail for his recent donation of \$1,000.00 to our Detachment.
 - All present seemed to agree that this was a good idea but are reliant on those who know Mr. Comeau (Forrest Hardardt) to facilitate a fitting ceremony.

Marine for Life:

- Commandant briefed the new program Expiration of Term of Service – Sponsorship Program (ETS-SP) that centers on a personal relationship between the service member, who is leaving the military, and a sponsor, who is trained and VA-certified, and perhaps equally important, empathetic and dedicated to helping the service members and family members.
 - Discussion ensued on the qualifications of a sponsor.
 - Membership was encouraged to check it out at: Website: <https://etsponsorship.com/>
- Commandant also briefed membership on the VA Solid Start program which aims to proactively contact Veterans three times during their first year of transition from military to civilian life at the 90-, 180- and 360-day mark after separation.
 - Discussion ensued where it was recommended that all members research the program and reach out to transitioning veterans to give them a helping hand.
 - Website for VA Solid Start Website: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/transition/solid-start.asp>

Donations and Gifts (Marine George Dow):

- \$500.00 was sent to former Marine Robert Skinner who lost his home and pets to a house fire.

Awards (Marine Geoff Corson):

- Certificate of Appreciation prepared for Mr. Greg Comeau, owner of Am Tech LLC and donor of \$1,000.00 to the Detachment.
 - Awaiting Detachment decision on delivery of the certificate (i.e. in person with a ceremony or by mail).

Honors (Marine Geoff Corson):

- Honors for former Detachment member Dan Hildreth will be during 2022 at a date yet to be determined (Marine Roland Morin).
- Honors for long time Granite State/Department of NH Marine Frank Diekmann at Camp Carpenter, Manchester, NH (<https://nhscouting.org/camp-carpenter/>) at 1000 on 21 May 2022.
 - Marine Roland Morin will be the NCOIC for the firing detail.
 - Further coordinating instructions will be provided closer to the event.
- Run for the Fallen 2022: American Legion Post 35 (Hampton) requests a firing detail for this year's opening ceremony, which will be held on September 24, 2022, at 9:30 am at the Waterville Valley Resort.
 - Request includes a bugle player who could play "Taps."
 - Website: <http://www.runforthefallennh.com/>
- GWOT memorial re-dedication firing detail, Post 35 Hampton, 11 Sep 2022.
 - Further coordinating instructions will be provided closer to the event.

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.
 - Does the Detachment want to start getting flight alerts as they happen via email?
- Background on WW II Guadalcanal Flag at Pease terminal (Marine Geoff Corson).
 - Marine Brad Howe contacted Pease Greeter Sandra McDonough who indicated the flag is still hanging in the terminal but the plaque was taken down due to recent construction.
 - Ms. McDonough agreed that the flag was only on loan to the Air Terminal and that it will not be an issue if either the family or the Detachment want it back.
 - The intent for the plaque is to place it in a display case near to where the flag is currently hanging.
 - Contact info is needed for the family who donated the flag so that they can be made aware of its current status and that they concur with the Pease Greeters' plan.

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

- The Department Quarterly Meeting will be held on Sunday March 27, 2022 at the Dillon Detachment meeting place: Old Town Hall, 91 Bow Center Road, Bow, NH 03304 (<https://www.mapquest.com/us/new-hampshire/bow-old-town-hall-407875297>)
 - "The Dillon Detachment will be providing a brunch, and a lunch for the department meeting and growl. Please spread the word."
 - The breakfast will be at 10am and the meeting will start at 11am.
 - The Department Commandant will put together an agenda (this will be passed separately) that will include:
 - The upcoming Memorial Day Ceremony that will be on Monday May 30th at the State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen.
 - The Department of New Hampshire is this year's host.
 - There will also be nominations for Department Commandant as current Department Commandant John Jenkins is stepping down.
 - A special election will be conducted at the following Department Quarterly meeting to be held in June.
 - Because of these important issues, Department is requesting that all Commandants, along with their senior staff, attend this meeting.
 - As always, all other MCL members are welcome to this gathering.
- 2022 Quad State Convention (22-24 April) hosted by the Department of Rhode Island at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick, RI.
 - Details sent separately.
 - More info at: <https://rimcl.org/>.

MODD #349 (Marine Roland Morin):

- Nothing Significant to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Replacement needed for Ceremonial Weapons Custodian (see discussion in new business).
- Disposition of old Detachment Display Case.
 - Detachment will seek approval to mount the display case in our meeting area at Post 6.
- Reaching out to the "unreachable" and phone tree ideas (Marines Geoff Corson, Rich Pettengill, Dave Winters).
- Annual financial audit progress report.

- Marine Dick Lak finalizing the report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- New Detachment Chaplain (Marine Dave Winters) was sworn in.
- Discussion ensued on whether or not to allow an existing officer to perform duties as Adjutant.
 - Bylaws indicate that Adjutant should hold no other office.
 - JA review indicated that it was okay to allow another officer to perform the duties of Adjutant, without designation as Adjutant.
 - Marine Bob Niver, current JPC has volunteered to perform these duties.
- Market Square Day Date 11 Jun 2022 Time 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (<https://proportsmouth.org/events/market-square-day/>).
 - A motion was made from Marine Dave Winters to form a committee to discuss Detachment participation.
 - The motion was seconded by Marine Dick Lak and was accepted by the membership present.
- A date needs to be established for the August 2022 Detachment picnic.
 - SVC Brad Howe indicated it is traditionally the 1st or 2nd Saturday in August.
 - Detachment members are encouraged to weigh in soonest in order to reserve a date for the Picnic Pavillion.
 - Please do so prior to the 11 April meeting via e-mail.
- A motion was made by Marine Dave Winters to establish a Storage Committee to recommend where Detachment gear, to include ceremonial firearms, would be stored in the future pending the move of Marine Winters and Marine Morin who can no longer store Detachment gear at their residences.
 - The motion was seconded by Marine Poth who also volunteered to store the ceremonial firearms at his residence pending a final solution.
 - The motion was accepted by all in attendance with a deadline of achieving a permanent solution no later than June of this year.
 - The Comdt will be the Committee chair.

Good of the League:

- The Paymaster reimbursed Detachment Marine Rich Pettengill for purchase of the Zoom equipment.
 - Rich will be the steward of this equipment until such time as he turns over his duties as Public Information Officer.

Future Dates:

- Next monthly meeting scheduled for 11 Apr 2022 @ 1900.
 - We will continue in-person/hybrid meetings.
- Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900 will resume on Wednesday 16 March at Brickstones in Gonic, NH (<https://www.facebook.com/Brickstonesnh/>) at 0900.
- 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 will be continuing at Strafford Farms, Dover, NH (<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>) on 13 April 2022. 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.
- Seacoast Veteran's Conference 2022 Service Credit Union not Scheduled but indications are that it will resume this fall (no set date yet): (<https://www.facebook.com/SeacoastVeteransConference/>)

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt Corson, SVC Brad Howe, Acting SAA Jay Tennant and new Chap Dave Winters conducted the closing ceremony at 2045. The raffle was won by Marine Dave Winters who donated the winnings to the Scholarship committee.



Seacoast Detachment #394

<https://www.seacoastmarines.org/>

Marine Corps League (MCL)

<https://www.mclnational.org/>

PO Box 690, Kittery ME 03904-0690

**Monday 14 March 2022 Monthly Meeting Agenda
Portsmouth American Legion Post 6
96 Islington Street, Portsmouth and remote via Zoom**

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

1900 Opening Ceremony: Commandant (Cmdt) Corson; Chaplain (Chap) Morin, 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 ___ Quorum ___
___ Members ___ Guests ___

Minutes: Motion to accept the 15 Nov 2021, 13 Dec 2021, 10 Jan 2022 and 14 Feb 2022 minutes. 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 ___
- Yearly IRS reporting requirement for 501(c)(3)?
- \$225.00 Emergency Payment authorization to Public Information Officer (receipt sent separately) for Zoom equipment.

Chaplain Report (Marine Roland Morin (mounted90@comcast.net)):

- Marines in Sickbay.

Committee Reports:

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

- 2022 Final version of Scholarship application distributed via email.
 - Final version has yet to be published on the website.
 - Provided email version to all who may have interest.

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

- Update on MCJROTC Winnacunnet activities.

Communications/Website and Social Media (Honorary Marine Tara Sue Myers (tara.sue@gmail.com)):

- Update on status of website and activities.
- Password for members only portion of website?

Membership (Marine Bob Niver (revim167@gmail.com)):

- Update on membership applications.

Correspondence

- Nothing significant to report.

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

- Nothing significant to report.

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

- 2023 is 75th anniversary of the Detachment, should we start planning a celebratory event? (Marine Richard Pettengill)

Marine for Life (Dave Winters (dpwintersnh@gmail.com)).

- Expiration of Term of Service – Sponsorship Program (ETS-SP): The program centers on a personal relationship between the service member, who is leaving the military, and a sponsor, who is trained and VA-certified, and perhaps equally important, empathetic and dedicated to helping the service members and family members.
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Donations and Gifts (Marine George Dow):

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Awards (Marine Geoff Corson):

- Certificate of Appreciation prepared for Mr. Greg Comeau, owner of Am Tech LLC and donor of \$1,000.00 to the Detachment.
 - Should we arrange for a “public” presentation ceremony? (Marines Ray Maher/Rich Pettengill).

Honors (Marine Geoff Corson):

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MODD #349 (Marine Roland Morin):

- Update.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Replacement needed for Ceremonial Weapons Custodian (Marine Roland Morin).
 - American Legion Post 35 in Hampton has volunteered to house the weapons.
 - What does the membership think of this idea?
 - Even if Post 35 houses the weapons, Detachment membership must maintain them in operating order.
 - A custodian is also still needed for accountability purposes.
- Disposition of old Detachment Display Case (Marine Randy McNally).
- Reaching out to the "unreachable" and phone tree ideas (Marines Geoff Corson, Rich Pettengill, Dave Winters).
- Annual financial audit progress report (Marines Dick Lak/George Dow).

NEW BUSINESS:

- Appointed Officer billet of Adjutant and Chaplain swearing in. (Marine Geoff Corson).
 - Vote on allowing Adjutant select to perform additional officer duties.
 - Bylaws state Detachment Adjutant is not supposed to perform any other duties.
- Market Square Day Date 11 Jun 2022 Time 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (<https://proportsmouth.org/events/market-square-day/>).

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Update.

FUTURE DATES:

- Next monthly meeting: 11 Apr 2022 @ 1900.
- Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900 are temporarily being held on Tuesday to accommodate the restaurant choice (Sunrise Grille, Kittery, ME).

- New location for April?
- 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 13 Apr 2022. 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.
- Seacoast Veteran's Conference 2022 Service Credit Union currently does not have a date on the calendar for their event but are looking to possibly hold something in September
(<https://www.facebook.com/SeacoastVeteransConference/>).

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