

MINUTES OF THE MEETING: November 15th, 2015 SEC Haverhill, MA.

MEETING called to order by Commander Steven Dugan at 1:02 PM.

OPENING PRAYER led by David Spencer, PNC, PDC. During this Opening Prayer a moment of silence was observed for the victims, families and loved ones of the massacre in Paris, France

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Provost Marshal Jim Jones.

PREAMBLE led by Commander Steven Dugan

ROLL CALL led by Adjutant Michael Bruno, PDC

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from SEC Chicopee held on Sept.20th, 2015. During review of these Minutes by the body present, David Spencer, PNC ,PDC noted they were rather lengthy. Mark Serpis, PDC informed the body present he also had reviewed these Minutes and that they were submitted to him by the Adjutant within the prescribed time limit\*. No spelling errors or substantive mistakes were presented by the body present for correction.

Motion made to accept these Minutes made by David Spencer. Seconded by Michael Bruno. Motion passed.

#### BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Bills: Commander Dugan submitted receipt(s) regarding budgeted expenditures allowed. Finance Officer David Spencer informed Commander Dugan that his voucher form paperwork was in error and that they would correct this issue after the Meeting,

Communications: None Reported

#### OFFICERS REPORTS:

Commander Steven Dugan submitted a written report. Motion to accept the Commander's report made by Michael Bruno. Seconded by David Spencer. Motion passed.

1<sup>ST</sup> Vice Commander Dave Prescott submitted a written report. Motion to accept the 1<sup>ST</sup> Vice Commander's report made by Clifford Kaizer. Seconded by Michael Bruno. Motion passed.

2<sup>ND</sup> Vice Commander Mark Serpis submitted a written report. Motion made to accept the 2<sup>ND</sup> Vice Commander's report by Michael Bruno. Seconded by Dave Prescott. Motion passed.

3<sup>RD</sup> Vice Commander Floyd Francis excused. No report submitted.

Adjutant Mike Bruno submitted a written report. Motion made to accept the Adjutant's report made by Michael Bruno. Seconded by Dave Prescott. Motion passed.

Finance Officer David Spencer submitted a written report.. Motion made to accept the Finance Officer's report made by David Spencer. Seconded by Michael Bruno. Motion passed.

Judge Advocate Clifford Kaizer gave a verbal report\*\*. While nothing to date has been brought forward that has required his intervention he informed the body present that he is available for whatever he can do to assist the Membership and that his report is a work in progress. Motion made to accept the Judge Advocate's report made by David Spencer. Seconded by Mark Serpis. Motion passed,

Provost Marshal Jim Jones gave a verbal report.\*\* Motion made to accept the Provost Marshal's report by Clifford Kaizer. Seconded by Mark Serpis. Motion passed.

Immediate Past Commander Ken Moniz excused. No report submitted.

NEC Ken Moniz excused. No report submitted.

Webmaster David Spencer gave as a verbal report that his is a work in progress. Mark Serpis directed to David an inquiry regarding his inability to access his PDC biography on the Department's website. After discussion, Mike Bruno agreed to independently corroborate a possible user error by checking this out himself. Follow up is forthcoming. Motion to accept the Webmaster's report made by Mark Serpis. Seconded by Clifford Kaizer. Motion passed.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

David Elms, Squadron 2012, Westminster stated that his Squadron, to date, has not received Membership card for Paul Farmer. Mike Bruno, stating that this was his responsibility, apologized for the oversight. Mr. Bruno stated that the card is in his possession. He stated he will mail this card for Mr. Farmer IMMEDIATELY to the post office box number provided by Mr. Elms.

Mike Bruno asked general question regarding whether or not the Forms on the National website have been updated to include new address and contact information. Both Mark Serpis and David Spencer have indicated that all National Forms have been updated.

As a follow up question Mike Bruno asked if a location has been announced for the upcoming January SEC Meeting. Commander Dugan informed the body present that there will be NO SEC held in January. Further discussion revealed that as of this date the AMVETS will be voting to dispense with any future January SEC Meeting. He also informed all present that the Ladies Auxiliary will be holding an EBoard Meeting in January and put forward the suggestion that our Department should do the same. After further discussion it was agreed upon to do so and we have agreed to hold an EBoard Meeting on SUNDAY, JAN. 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2016 at POST 51,

RANDOLPH, MA at 11:00 A.M. THIS MEETING IS CASUAL ATTIRE HOWEVER COVERS ARE STILL REQUIRED. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND !

Commander Dugan informed the body present that the Department car magnets are now in his possession.

Commander Dugan informed the body present that a Joint Department fundraiser is still a work in progress and that they are seeking a date and function to be held sometime in March. He may have further information on this coming Thursday.\*\*

Discussion was held regarding upcoming 20<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary commemoration.\*\* The topic was primarily focused upon a design to be developed either for pin or coin. Scott Soucy, Squadron 147 Haverhill has agreed to bring forward some design ideas. THIS MATTER has been tabled until the January EBoard Meeting.

Commander Dugan, while acknowledging the presence and support of Michael Veator, Commander, Squadron 32 Gloucester, expressed his PROFOUND disappointment at the complete lack of presence from any Son at the Pilgrim Awards Dinner held on November 7<sup>TH</sup>. 2015.\*\*

In response to a question posed by Mike Bruno\*\*, ticket price, availability, etc. for National Silver Helmut Awards in March\*\*\* will be available to Commander Dugan, NEC Ken Moniz and Squadrons sometime after the Fall NEC in December.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion was held regarding Mark Serpis.\*\* He notified the body present that it is his intention to run for the Office of Commander, National Sons of AMVETS, during the upcoming National Convention to be held in August.\*\*\* Commander Dugan announced that Squadron 51, Randolph will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, February 21<sup>ST</sup> 2016 at 1:00 PM. PROCEEDS from this fundraiser will go directly to help defray cost(s) for any eligible Squadron 51 delegate(s) able to attend the National Convention.

\*In accordance with National By Laws, Article II, Section 4, Revised Aug., 2015

\*\*While there were issues with the digital recorder during the Meeting, it was turned off at this point (2:02 PM). While there are lapses in the recording, information provided in this transcript does include any and all information available and is provided in its entirety to the best of my knowledge

\*\*\*Please refer to UPCOMING EVENTS

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

A. November 26, 2015 Thanksgiving

- B. December 4 – 6, 2015 Fall NEC Alexandria, VA
- C. December 7, 2015 Pearl Harbor Day
- D. December 25, 2015 Christmas Day
- E. January 1, 2016 New Year's Day
- F. January 17, 2016 Executive Board Meeting, Post 51, Randolph, MA @ 11:00 AM.
- G. February 13, 2016 AMVETS Passion Plunge to benefit MA Special Olympics to be held at Post 79, Natick, MA. Event begins at 9.00 AM. Sponsorship information and pledge forms should be available through your Post, by contacting Commander Dugan and/or Leon Proctor.
- H. February 21, 2016 Squadron 51, Randolph, MA @ 1:00 PM Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to support Mark Serpis' Election as National Sons of AMVETS Commander 2016. Proceeds being raised will be used to allow this Squadron to provide some funds to assist Squadron delegate(s) attending National Convention at Reno, NV\*\*\*. Tickets are \$10.00 pp and can be purchased from Commander Dugan or Heidi Dineen – Serpis.
- I. March 1 – 6, 2016 Spring NEC Alexandria, VA
- J. March 4, 2016 National Silver Helmut Awards Dinner Alexandria VA
- K. March 20, 2016 State Executive Committee Meeting, Post 79, Natick MA @ 1:00 PM. All Department Officers, PDC's and Sons currently on AMVETS committees please be at Natick between 10:30 and 11:00 AM for Convention Book photos.
- L. April 23, 2016 Joint Testimonial to be held at the Randolph Elks from 7.00 PM to 12.00 AM. Ticket cost and availability TBA
- M. May 15, 2016 State Executive Committee Meeting, Location TBA
- N. May 22, 2016 Memorial Day Observances at Bourne National Cemetery @ 1:00 PM
- O. June 11, 2016 20<sup>TH</sup> Annual State Convention, Sturbridge, MA
- P. August 7 -14, 2016 National Convention, Reno, Nevada
- Q. September 10, 2016 AMVETS Annual Golf Tournament @ Westminster Woods. Best ball format. \$50.00 pp. Teams welcome. Further details TBA

#### GOOD AND WELFARE:

Earlier during this Meeting Clifford Kaizer informed the body present he believes Bill Barry is feeling better.

Mike Bruno informed Commander Dugan, while not immediately imminent, he will be required to undergo additional surgery in the future. He stated that he will notify the Commander well in advance should that process interfere with or impede his ability to serve as Department Adjutant.

BENEDICTION given by David Spencer, PNC, PDC

RETIRING OF COLORS by Provost Marshal Jim Jones

MOTION TO ADJOURN Motion made by Michael Bruno

MEETING ADJOURNED at 2:35 PM November 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Bruno, PDC

Adjutant, Sons of AMVETS, Dept. of MA