

**MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER, MOAA**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
South County Center, 8350 Richmond Highway  
November 1, 2016

**MINUTES**

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**Quorum Call:** @1902

In attendance: President Rex Maddox, 1<sup>st</sup> VP George Wallace, Treasurer Mark Cohen, Directors Jim Isitt, Bob Patrick, Stu Williams, Cerie Kimball, Jose Harris, Chaplain Arnie Porter and Mike Broderick. Volunteer Penny Wallace was tasked with taking minutes in the absence of Secretary. *Absent: Secretary Peter Chen, Director Joyce Davis, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Earl Henderson*

**Invocation:** Chaplain Arnie Porter read a Sir Francis Drake prayer from the battle of Cadiz harbor

**Announcements:** R Maddox displayed the most recently awarded Level of Excellence banner, with the new style which included a large badge. The banner will be added to the flagpole at the next meeting which will be Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>

At the November meeting, the annual election of officers and board members will be held. Immediately following the election, the new officers will be ceremonially installed, although the term of office is from Jan-Dec. COL Jess Ramirez, USA (ret) from MOAA national office will speak and conduct the swearing-in ceremony. Rex stated that there would be a new procedure, including the secretary calling names of nominees, followed by the chaplain formally asking for a blessing on the officers and directors.

**Old Business:**

- October BOD meeting minutes had been distributed via email for comment, with only two people responding with minor corrections. The revisions were incorporated into latest version and distributed at the board meeting. Motion to approve, Mark Cohen, Bob Patrick 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion: Approved.
- President sent invitation letters for Holiday Dinner Dance to 8 groups: Heritage Chapter , NOVA Chapter, MOAA national staff, VCOC, Knights of Columbus, Warrant Officers Assn, Naval Submarine League, and Ft. Belvoir Command.
- Report of Officer/Director Nomination Committee: Bob Patrick. New member Mike Broderick is willing to be treasurer, no one has yet agreed to be secretary. Fred Latrash might be interested in Legislative Affairs, a correction from earlier information.

**New Business:**

- Reviewed 2017 National Objective proposal from VCOC – Stu Williams  
Stu distributed 3 documents via email on 26Oct regarding 2018FY Defense Authorizations. No national defense appropriation or budget to start fiscal year creates numerous problems. Stu asked for a vote of approval from board stating MVC concurs with the position outlined in the report, which will be sent on to VCOC. Motion: Cohen, Kimball 2<sup>nd</sup> , approved.
- Board Calendar reviewed for November requirements:
  - a. 1st week, President send out holiday letter invitations, completed;
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> week, Arlington National Cemetery wreath laying ceremony on Veterans Day. President, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP will attend, formal invitations needed for access coming from MOAA national office.
  - c. Legislative committee: Stu Williams-see report later in minutes

- d. Confirm board meeting meeting room reservations at South County Gov CTR' Bob Patrick stated we're on the schedule through June 2017.
- e. Marty Schaller, not present. Needs to confirm Scholarship schedule going forward

### **Officer Reports:**

- **Secretary: Peter Chen** Monthly membership report sent out via email
  - See emailed report: Losing members at greater rate than replacing them with new members. Need improved notification and renewal process. Added 2 members due to Gettysburg event. Suggested we start earlier, be specific about chapter renewal being separate from National dues. There continue to be problems with website membership link. Jim Isitt, and Earl Henderson continue to investigate. This problem may also affect end of year donations to the Scholarship fund.
  - Despatch needs notice both for renewal and scholarship, separate checks. Going forward, first renewal reminder should be in October newsletter with invoice in November. Jim Isitt directed to send out Email blast this month.
- **Treasurer: Mark Cohen**
  - Treasurer had distributed monthly statements and reports, including Profit and loss YTD via email prior to meeting. Inadvertently overpaid Fairfax for dinners because they sent bill twice. The Fairfax is in the process of refunding. In general, we are at a little below break-even on dinners, which is partially made up with dues collection. There have been no bills from Bob's printing for the Despatch in some time. But without an invoice, the treasurer can't pay for the service.
  - Of concern, the Holiday dinner is always a loss and has become a highly subsidized event. This year, Mark plans to account for the event separately in order to have a clearer picture of the true costs going forward.
  - Wreaths across America has requested MVC submit a W-9 tax ID form. Mark will provide information and Bob will forward to Wreaths Across America.
- **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: George Wallace:** no report
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Earl Henderson:** absent
- **Immediate Past President: Vacant**

### **Committee and Liaison Reports:**

- **VCOC Representative: Bob Patrick**
  - Bob and Rex attended recent meeting in Oct in Richmond, next meeting Jan 22/23, details to follow, will include Storming Richmond, the visit to Commonwealth Delegates and Senators. Board members are especially encouraged to participate.
  - Wreaths Across America-Only 11 wreaths have been purchased so far. Despatch and Website notice to remind members of opportunity to participate.
- **Congressional Luncheon Coordinator: Stu Williams:** too early to update, usually held in April or May.
- **Personal Affairs:** Follow-up on request from National office regarding George Randolph. (see email) Arnie Porter had visited, national MOAA office sent "atta boy" message, thanking chapter for follow-through.

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**Legislative affairs:**

Distributed copies of Top 5 Military-Heavy Congressional Districts report dated October 28, 2016. Other than Florida, Virginia ranks at the top of military retirees per congressional district, with Virginia's 1<sup>st</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 8th districts being home to 3 out of 5 of the highest number of retired officers.

**Scholarship:** Marty Schaller: not present

**SPEAKER:** CERIE Kimball: distributed proposed and completed schedule. She had ordered GW cufflinks as speaker's gift for COL Jesse Ramirez. Has received bio for CAPT Jeff Curren (January), still needs bio information re:VADM Bill French (February). George Wallace to provide.

**Fairfax Liaison:** Joyce Davis: not present. Penny Wallace gave an update on her last visit with Joyce, who was released from Inova Fairfax and is now in Health Center at The Fairfax.

**JROTC medals:** Arnie Porter reported that we now need to purchase medals, National no longer will provide. He had searched the record and found that the number awarded ranged from 6-10 per year. He also had contacted Heritage Chapter who had taken over a number of schools since Heritage formed. Heritage does not cover Fairfax county. However, Marty Schaller has different list for our scholarship program since other chapters may or may not award scholarships. Arnie to coordinate with Marty.

**Public affairs:** no report.

**Meeting arrangements:** Peter Chen absent. Two items for follow-up:

First RE:Fairfax shuttle: Evidently, Joyce had been responsible for arranging for the shuttle between the parking lot and the Community Center on dinner meeting nights. With Joyce hospitalized, that detail had been missed. Need to put item on Meeting Arrangement to-do list for future.

Second, Rex Maddox has copy of an MOAA video on flash drive to show at next meeting, Earl Henderson projector and laptop needed at meeting.

**Tops:** Jose Harris: no report, except that he will not be at dinner meeting in November.

**Despatch and Webmaster:** Jim Isitt

Jim Isitt will be traveling a lot the next few months. He is anticipating a move to Florida in the near future. Therefore, all deadlines for the Despatch are being moved up from 20<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of month through February.

Regarding the dues renewal notice, he needs a copy of the dues and scholarship notice from previous years to use as a template for 2017 notice. The by-laws state that to be a member of the MVC chapter of MOAA, one must also be a National member.

Application or renewal form need to require national membership number and remind members that dues are separate for each group.

Website: Jim reported the highest number of hits in one month  
Top downloads were information on voting, medical, membership, recent MVC activities  
Earl signed up young captain from retiree appreciation day at FT Belvoir, who was especially interested in the Gettysburg battle ride event. That person couldn't attend on the scheduled date, but was able to put the word out via social network. Need to follow-up.

**Surviving spouse:** Joyce Davis, no report

**Upcoming events:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Manassas battle ride has been shifted to spring.

**Next board meeting will be December 6.**

**Meeting adjourn @2015.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Penny Wallace