

Marine Corps League

Department of North Carolina



Executive Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

01 December 2023

Presided by: Commandant Ric Ledford
Department of North Carolina
Marine Corps League

Meeting start time: 1908
Meeting Location: zoom Call

A. EBOT attendees

1. Commandant – Ric Ledford
2. Sr. Vice Commandant – Robert Hare
3. Jr. Vice Commandant – AJ Pitts
4. Judge Advocate – Bill Brown
5. Jr Past – Rick Thomason
6. Adjutant – Laura Hamilton
7. Paymaster – Scott Shermeyer

B. Subject of discussion

1. Humanitarian assistance for Marine Paul Longo.
 - a. Rick Thomason vetted this marine along with the commandant in that area.
 - b. Passed out information about ‘passing the hat’ donation.
 - c. Marine is asking for hand up, not hand out.
 - d. If providing aid, we would not expect repayment.
 - e. He had emergency surgery due to brain bleeding. He tried to cover his issues on his own.
 - f. AJ Pitts asked how much money in fund? \$2,500.
 - g. Scott Shermeyer stated that we have disaster relief (\$4,000) but \$0 in humanitarian fund. Approved budget has Marines Helping Marines \$2,000.
 - h. Robert Hare asked if we could move it over.
 - i. Scott Shermeyer stated there were two different funds created over time.
 - j. AJ Pitts stated we need to be careful where the money comes from.
 - k. Robert Hare made the motion that we give \$1,000 from the Marines Helping Marines line item. AJ Pitts seconded this motion. Approved by EBOT unanimously.
2. Tarheel Detachment 733 that some of you received an email about last night.
 - a. Tarheel has had a past history of some turmoil issues. Their current JA (Jim Mitchell) is also their DVC. Bruce Rakfeldt has been asked to be the mediator.

- b. Russ Barber is the current detachment commandant.
 - c. The findings from Bruce Rakfeldt are basically personality conflicts.
 - d. There is information via email that Chapter 9 charges could be brought forward if push comes to shove.
 - e. At this point, there is no merit in the issues unless charges are brought forward.
 - f. AJ Pitts will go to the meeting next week. Anyone else is welcome to attend. We need to be honest about the conflicts and that some are hinting at shutting down the detachment.
 - g. The commandant, Sr Vice, and Jr Vice are the biggest part of the issues.
 - h. We are awaiting for responses to the email sent by Bruce Rakfeldt.
 - i. They have a good number of members on their roster, so closure should not be an issue.
 - j. Their next meeting is more of a social event and not a regular meeting. January will be the next regular meeting.
3. DVC meeting next week is to re-work the districts to accommodate for lesser travel the DVCs to attend all of the detachments.
4. A/V equipment invoices / receipts
- a. Denny Mathias did send an email to the EBOT yesterday.
 - b. All officers need to look at this to be able to discuss it.
 - c. Scott Shermeyer gave everything to the A/V committee back in July. He has not had any indication that any refunds went back through the paymaster accounts.
 - d. Bill Brown noted that these things were made on American Express and reward cards by Denny Mathias and his wife's card. This needs to be noted on the documentation. He earned a substantial reward amount on \$20,000.
 - e. Unfortunately we didn't meet the 30-day deadline. Ric Ledford will draft an email to be sent out that this is still being worked on.
 - f. Robert Hare is to do a complete inventory of the items in the trailer and highlight on the list.

- g. There was some discussion about keeping some of the items such as cords and speakers. This means we need to keep the trailer.
- h. This should also be a large lesson learned about the process of purchasing anything of any substantial amount and a purchase order should be done.
- i. Scott Shermeyer has sent a spreadsheet to the EBOT with all of the A/V equipment from the paymaster files.
- j. There should be an expense report.
- k. Scott Shermeyer isn't sure that Randall Rempfer did enough breakdown for each of the expenses. Scott has also done some breakdown when able. He will provide a detailed report also.
- l. Robert Hare is concerned about some of the receipts from Denny Mathias as not being the original receipt but copy / paste reports.
- m. Scott Shermeyer remembers some discussions with Patrick Melton about the expenses and some returns and Denny Mathias argued that things were not as bad as it seemed because of the returns.

5. Budget

- a. Scott Shermeyer stated that we also need to address the reimbursement forms need to be clean. They should not put more than one line-item type of expense on a request.
- b. Bill Brown has been asked to create an SOP for expense account reimbursement.
- c. Ric Ledford and Bill Brown have had to really look at procedures this past year and what kind of SOP needs to be created for those taking over from us. There have been some lax processes in the past.

No other topics discussed. Meeting was adjourned. 2019.