

Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment #924 Marine Corps League
Minutes of Meeting of 24th of September 2019

Jim Williams, Commandant

Time: 18h00 Location: The pavilion at Melton Hill Lake Park, TN

Meeting was held at the park so that Mud Run Construction would not be interfered with.

Presentation prior to the meeting: Food was provided at the meeting from the Detachment with Commandant Jim Williams manning the grill.

Joint meeting was held with the MCLA.

Call to order: Commandant Williams called the meeting to order at 18h30, and ordered Sgt-At-Arms Saathoff to Advance and Post the Colors. Detachment colors were not available substituted by the large American Flag on PDC Howard Raines Truck. And to lead the membership, in The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Sgt at Arms Saathoff: "The quarters are as secure as were going to get". Chaplain led us in the opening prayer. Commandant Williams asked Sgt-At-Arms to declare the meeting open for the transaction of official business.

Adjutant called the Roll of Detachment Officers:

Commandant: Jim Williams (JW)	Present
Sr. Vice Commandant: Travis Bryan (TB)	Present
Junior Vice Commandant: David Terwell (DT)	Present
Judge Advocate: David Hatfield (DH)	Present
Junior Past Commandant: Tim Eichhorn (TE)	Excused
Adjutant: Eric P. Nash (EPN)	Present
Paymaster: Lee Rhinemiller (LR)	Present
Chaplain: Gordon Adams (GA)	Excused
Sergeant-At-Arms: John "Stony" Saathoff (JS)	Present
Web Sergeant: Tim Shea (TS)	Excused
Acting Officers: Chaplain; Ron Naugle.	

Applications for membership: None

1. Adjutant's Report: Eric Nash. Minutes of previous meeting accepted as posted on the web site.
2. Correspondence: Adjutant was instructed to read a letter to all League Members from Dennis Tobin National Commandant. (Attached).
 - a. JW: Paymaster the ROI and all other items are in compliance? DH: I did the ROI and the installation of officers within two days of the installation of officers. JW: The IRS? DH: Our accountant does that.
 - b. Most of what this refers to. If you go to a convention, there will be someone there who will look you up and down. And if you're not in dress you will hear about it.
3. Paymaster Lee Rhinemiller:
 - a. Dues are coming along very well. It looks like we will only lose 6 members for lack of paying dues. And they will cover the current delinquencies.

- b. The detailed breakdown of the financial report of the paymaster is on file with the official copy of the minutes and available upon request by members in good standing.
- 4. Sam Ruble (SR): Tim (Eichhorn) is not here right now. You all know what he would be saying if he was. Thank you everyone. This is shaping up nicely. It's only Tuesday, and we're in really good shape despite a "Murphy" trying to show up yesterday. (Busted hydraulic line on the Bobcat.) Everybody's making it happen. Pitching in. Thanks to Betty Jean (Berry) for coordinating the volunteers. We have two golf carts to pick up Friday.
 - a. H. Raines: I just need to get a trailer. DH: We have a 16-footer trailer. HR: Good to go.
 - b. SR: We originally were going to suspend racing at 12h00. Due to response we have added a 12h30 relay.
 - c. Last year on race day we had 1,043 registrations. I just checked. We added even more tonight. We're at 1,114! (General Oorah). We still have several days to go. Thanks everyone its coming together nicely.
 - d. EPN: We need help all week with construction.
 - e. Jeff Tegzes: I need to say one thing. I am probably stealing David's (Hatfield) thunder. After the race is over the Mud Run is not done. It's not done by a long shot. We got to take this whole thing down. Fill in the holes. Take everything apart put it back on the trailer and put it back in storage. So beginning Sunday, we're going to need people out here. Pulling this thing down. And for several days after that. So if you got time get out here, to pull this thing down. It goes a lot quicker with a lot of extra bodies. Then the following week will be driving all the trailers down and off loading. So it is really another 10 days before we get everything secure after the race.
- 5. Commandant: Jim Williams: Sick and distressed. Keep Patty Mullins and Frank Waller in your prayers. TB: I have a surgery again next month.
- 6. Jr Vice Commandant David Terwell:
 - a. We're down to about 6 not paid. They have been contacted many times and will see what happens.
 - b. I have the pleasure of talking to a lot of regular members and life members, who are not very active and can't get out.
 - c. I also talked to Clayton Narveson about 4-5 weeks ago. He said he turned 18 when he was at Tarawa and was also at Iwo Jima. And then low and behold I get a call and he said this Clayton. I'd like to get together for lunch with some Marines. He 95 years old. He has really strong voice, and a really strong heart. He hard of hearing like most of us are. He'd like to get together Wed or Sat. I told him we were involved with the Mud Run but that we would get together after that. I'd like to be able to do something with him. Let me know if any of you are interested in getting together. We can arrange something. Maybe up in Maryville.
- 7. Judge Advocate David Hatfield:
 - a. When is our next meeting? October the 29th. And what happens three days later? The Marine Corps Birthday Dinner. And we don't even have a signup sheet. We need a signup roster for the Dinner 1st November, going around. Got to pay. We need an e-mail out to the other 90% of the Detachment that's not here. The reserves are doing that Saturday November 9th. 3 days after the meeting. We need to have the count in before then. Have we decided on a cost Commandant? JW: Last year it was \$20.00. If you look at the Reserve ball the cost is \$52.00.

- b. The discussion at the National Conference about By-laws. We do all that. We have done it for years. I can't believe they just now figured it out, that Detachments should discuss by-laws. We've done it for years.
 - c. One heated discussion. They tried to take away ribbons. You should go out there in a blank shirt; you should not try to show your personal history at a funeral. Get the heck out of here. Yes, we are going to show our personal history. We are proud of our DOD service. We won't wear our ribbons for Color Guards. But that's about all. We will wear them.
 - d. The only conflict I heard of for Saturday is the Boys and Girls Club 1 mile run.
 - e. I now have the Word Document with the Detachment by-laws. We're going to discuss those at the Officers meeting in October and November meetings. Hopefully they will be on the street for you to look at on your own computer. And hopefully will vote on those before the Commandant leaves offices. There's going to be some changes made. So please read them. If you got changes come to the Officers Meeting. Will discuss it. Like they say at National. Get the work done before the meeting. We are not going to read 40 pages at the meeting.
 - f. The midyear budget review will be at the January meeting. We realign the figures based on the Mud Run, based on whatever participation. How we're going to go. Correction of where are budget is at the mid-year review.
 - g. Like Jeff said we do need a tear down crew. We've got 5 here for a break down crew. And with just five it's pretty dangerous. It's going to be so easy though. No measuring. Just take out the bolts, yank the poles out of the ground. And start loading. So it's going to be pretty easy work for us. But it does need sufficient people, so we don't get anybody hurt.
 - h. Who's going to help us fill in the pits? Howard? HR: I was just going to ask, is the Kubota going to be here? Yes. DH: What will do is pump all the water out of the pits. Except for the big one up there. Make it easier to fill up with dirt. We've tried it before with water. No it just bubbles up. We don't have enough 16 trailers to do everything in one day. We'll unload some of it on Sunday and come back for the rest of the equipment. Every day I bring stuff out here so I can't take it back in two loads. At least we can get it staged over here, by the first obstacle we built.
 - i. We thought we we're going to be behind. But we are way ahead. Everything on that side of the road is done except the cross beam and rope swing. We appreciate the volunteers we've had the last couple of days. And Rick (Freytag) That tractor came in real handy on Sunday off loading everything.
 - j. Like Jeff said. The following Saturday after the run. We need as many people as can come to meet at the mini storage and pack ever thing away. And we have to take the concession trailer and put it back together. Because the following weekend we have a safety break.
8. JW: On November the 8th is the Veterans Day Luncheon. We have a full table with 10 seats like we do every year. The cost is \$30.00. I would like a show of hands for people who are going to that. 3 that's not looking good. I'll re-mention that at the meeting. Send out an e-mail on that too. LR: Send me what you want sent. JW: Ok. DH: We need to start collecting money. JW As far as ours go bring your money. And let us know it for what event.

9. LR: The 1st November dinner is \$20.00 per person. Mr. Vice David Terwell. (List was going around).
- a. LR: Who's in charge of making the arrangements with the venue?
 - b. DH: Mr. Vice. Jr Vice Commandant David Terwell.
 - c. DT: What do I do? JW: Collect the money. DH: No. Lee collects the money. LR: Not collect the money. Interface with the people at the venue so we get a meal. And decorate.
 - d. JW: Contact to make sure of the date. LR: It has been confirmed.
 - e. JW: You need to get with the MCLA. They usually decorate the venue. LR: Tim's (Eichhorn) Wife may have the folder from previous years.
 - f. George Helton: Are we going to have the good dinner again this year? JW: Yes. Shrimp and prime rib.
10. Commandant presented Ron Naugle with his Life member card.
11. JW: Did any one attend the pistol Shoot? Tegzes: It went great.
12. Marine Nash told a sea story about Marines and the day care center at the Pentagon on 9/11.
13. Bill Henson: Mentioned that two coffee pots had unserviceable on them and should be disposed of. DH: Coffee pot work fine. It was recommended that the message be covered over with a marine bumper sticker.
14. There is a rifle shoot on the 12th.
15. The awning on the trailer does not work. So do not pull on it.

End of Meeting: Sgt-At-Arms retired the colors. Chaplain led us in the closing prayer. Commandant Williams adjourned the meeting at **19h14**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric P. Nash
Detachment Adjutant



Marines,

Thank you for your vote of confidence, I will continue to move our league forward. Richard Gore and Wendell Webb have done an outstanding job the past four years developing good business practices and fixing our IRS problems. We will continue to work forward for the good of League.

There's a few things I want to work on as we go forward. Our Mid- Winter conference and Convention business meetings are too long. At times there seems to be more members in the halls than in the meeting. Officer and committee reports, all reports will be written and submitted to National Hdq's to be placed in the library. The top four officers will also give a verbal report. Only certain committee's will also give a verbal report with a time limit (TBD). My goal is to cut a business session in half and to institute a leadership/training session.

Awards are another time consuming session, I'm going to work with the MODD and Aux. and see if we can put together a combined awards night, maybe some music and fun. We need to trim sessions down so members aren't rushing to make events and trips.

By-Laws, another time consuming, out of control session. How do we shorten it? We start at the Detachment and Department level. When the proposed by-laws go out it's the Detachment's responsibility at a meeting to go over each proposed change and decide how they want to vote on each one. Then, at the Department convention the Commandant reviews them again with all the Detachments and decides how they will vote at the National convention.

Now, at the National Convention, the by-laws will be on the big screen for your reading pleasure, the National Judge Advocate in the interest of time will not read the entire by-law and the change. He will read, "proposed change #1," the committee recommends accept or reject, motion, second then during the discussion we will deal with any amendments. Again Marines it is the Detachment and Departments responsibility to review with their members and

know how they want to vote on each proposed change before they get to the National convention. These are few ways I want to change up our conference and convention to give us a little more free time.

Now some serious issues that need to be dealt with. Let's start with IRS non-profit status. All Detachments and Departments must be a 501c4, under the National Parent Group 0955, with a deductible of 1, this allows corporations, companies and individuals to donate to you the same as a 501c3. If there is a problem we also have a letter of exemption from the IRS to verify they can donate. If your detachment or Department is not a 501c4, Parent Group 0955 deductible of 1 you risk having your non-profit status revoked and your charter suspended. If you are having trouble getting your status corrected please contact the COO for assistance. Also if you are not operating correctly the entire local board is subject to fines by the IRS.

Another serious problem is the ROI's. There are Detachments operating that have not sent in their ROI in years. No ROI, you are not a Detachment in good standing and your charter will be suspended. I will be comprising a list of every Detachment and Department not with the proper IRS status and without ROI's and will be reaching out to each to try and correct the situations. These issues can be corrected.

Uniforms, Marines please before you put on one of our uniforms, if you're not sure what it consists of check the uniform code. Our cover is our main uniform, worn with civilian attire and you are in uniform. If you are going to wear any of our other uniforms please wear them correctly. If you are not wearing a uniform correctly you will be stopped by the Sgt/Arms and told to correct it or take it off.

In closing Marines, overall you are all doing an outstanding job. The work you do with T4T's, Marine 4 Life, community, and funerals "is exemplary." You are putting the Marine Corps League name out there. The Marine Corps knows what you are doing and they thank you and I thank you. Keep doing what you do.

Semper Fidelis
Dennis Tobin
Dennis Tobin
National Commandant Marine
Corps League