

CLEARWATER CHAPTER

Agenda: Board Meeting Agenda 16 March 2022 [REVISED]

Location: Perkin's Restaurant, Clearwater, FL

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: 10:00am

Attendance – Jane Belson, Steve Hodges, Jeff Doll, Dave Apt, Rob Risberg, Pat Hughes, Bob Behm, Sandy Behm, Aaron Middleton

Previous Month Secretary Minutes –February Minutes prepared by Sandy Behm. There was a motion made by Bob Behm to approve the minutes as written and seconded by Rob Risberg. It was approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report – Jane Belson reported the Treasurers report, there was \$13,879.59 in the **Charitable Account** and \$13,964.01 in the **Checking Account** for a **Total** of 27,843.60. A motion was made by Rob Risberg and seconded by Bob Behm to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and was approved by the Board.

\$61.00 was deposited into the Charitable account from the 50/50 raffle. Jane paid from Checking account \$225.00 for advertising, \$8.47 for badges, and \$604.80 for luncheon. There was a deposit made of \$685.50 for the February luncheon.

Drumbeat Report – Aaron-Nothing to report. Jeff is going to put a message in his President's message about the dues.

Membership Report – Rob Risberg reported that there were Total Voting Members of 108, net gain of 3, we gained Mike and Rosemarie Piedmont and Dwight McEntire. Bob and Dara Flanagan came back on to the active roster. We lost George and Pauline Warren, they told Jane that they were not going to reup this year. Rob got all of them added to the appropriate National and Florida Counsel Websites except for Dwight McEntire who says he is a member but the email he provided is not recognized by National MOAA. The system only allows for you to search for people in their database based by their MOAA number or email address, if you don't have either than you can't do a search. Jane said Dwight gave her a number and she will give it to Rob. On dues side 55 of 108 are paid as of Monday, that is 51%, like Jane and Pat said we are going to have to hit people up, it is the same every year, half the people don't normally pay their dues until midway into the year. Jeff asked if we have been able to identify those people that are members of our chapter but not National members. Rob does go through it once a year but on the roster, it shows what type of member they are and if it is in red and there is nothing in there that means that they are not members of the National but are they are eligible to be members. That is on the roster every month. Jeff will target those people because one of the things they can do is join basic membership program for one year for no cost be a MOAA National member and then on year two they will have to start paying dues.

Web Report – Rob has been trying to put the updated Florida Veteran's benefits guide onto the website, he has been trying for two weeks and it keeps failing. John Snyder the webmaster can't figure out why and is working on it. It is on our website but creating a link to it is not working.

Spouse/Surviving Spouse Report – Bob reported that he had a Surviving Spouse Zoom meeting on 15 Mar 22. He stated that LTC Mark Belinsky from MOAA talked about the Virtual Advocacy on the Hill this year. This year's advocacy topics:

Support the Major Richard Star ACT (concurrent receipt for combat injured servicemembers), Reduce TRICARE Mental Health Copayments, Enact a 4.6% Military Pay Raise in the FY2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) In FL good response from Congressman Gus Bilirakis and Charlie Christ but little or no response from our Senators they are the ones that we need to reach out to. Get your chapters to reach out to them.

The topic came up about DD 214's - How to read them, how do you order them, what do you need them for. Bob provided a link where the spouses could go to get all this information.

Currently there are a 108 members in the chapter representing 36 states.

Programs Report – Frank J. Michael who is the Program Director-Council and Chapter Affairs is the speaker for our March luncheon and he would like to have a meeting after the luncheon to talk about the leadership of the organization.

Members in Distress Report – Nothing to Report

ROTC Scholarship – Steve said that the interview with the cadets is on March 23rd. Steve will be away so Dave Mason and Bob Behm will be attending. Major Jeff Hughes is the contact, there will be Three interviews. The winner will come to our luncheon in April to speak.

Legislative Liaison – Dave sent an email about the redistricting that is taking place in Florida, a lot of this has to do with making room for the new 28th district. There are some significant changes within our sphere within Florida, the 12th district which is Bilirakis's district has drastically increased in size.

Old Business

Form 990-N or 990-PF Pending IRS determination/tax filing: Steve is making progress, he found a form online it is a short form and easy, he is going to use that we started on 5 March of 2020 and tax year fiscal year ends 28 February of 21. May 15th is when our first tax return would be due, he put us in as a C3 not 19.

Jeff asked Bob Behm if he has received anything from the IRS, Bob said not for a couple of years now, so Jeff did file to change our status, he used Bob's address so it wouldn't get all messed up if they send anything back.

Jeff said that we are trying to get our designation changed from private back to public and until we do that just a reminder you cannot apply for a grant from any company as a private organization, so Jeff was unable to apply for any grants with any of the other organizations for the golf tournament this year besides the one we will talk about later.

Polo Shirts: Gary Williams has the Polo shirts and he will bring them to the luncheon. Gary wants the checks to be made out to the chapter.

Tri-Fold Brochure: No update per Jeff, he did have an example.

Convention Add and sponsorship-Jeff had an example of the ad that he submitted for us from our chapter for the Florida Council Chapters Convention, we paid \$75.00 for the ad, and then we paid \$150.00 for the sponsorship of a gambling table, that money goes to the MOAA Foundation and it is a fundraiser specifically for the MOAA Foundation which we used last year to get a grant for the K9 Partners with Dave which is off the table this year. If anybody knows another good charity where we have some involvement, we can compete for a grant again.

Meeting Location- Jane had an update, she contacted Rebecca, she suggested for us to go into the bar area for our meetings, but we would have to go in at 9:00 and out by 11:00.

A motion was made by Dave Apt to stay at Perkins for our board meetings, 2nd by Rob Risberg, all approved.

Any Other old Business?

WCA VP Benny Blackshire will be attending the March luncheon, but will not be bringing his wife.

USAA- A \$300.00 Grant to MOWW JROTC Gulf Tournament. The money has been deposited in our account per Jane. Rob Risberg made a motion that we will donate \$300.00 whether that is straight donation or whether it comes out of our take it can be decided later to be designated for the gulf tournament fund, Bob Behm 2nd, all approved.

Steve said players are coming in slow there is only 40 now but he expects 80. Steve said that out of both chapters that Bob Behm is the star fundraiser. Bob got \$1,000.00 from the Holiday Isle Elks and \$1,000.00 from the Largo Elks and is waiting for the Seminole Elks to get back to him and Steve is waiting to here from the St. Petersburg Elks

Noreen will be going to the luncheon and Jeff will give Noreen time at the luncheon to speak.

A motion was made by Rob Risberg to do a \$100.00 hole sign, Steve 2nd, all approved.

We have been offered by Rebecca to have a buffet in May but don't know what will be in the buffet, we would like hamburgers and hot dogs. We decided on Spaghetti and Meatballs for April and a Greek salad.

Jane needs paper for printing, Bob Behm made a motion for Jane to get paper, Rob Risberg 2nd, all approved.

Can I have Motion to Adjourn? The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 Rob Risberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting, was seconded by Bob Behm, all approved.

Upcoming Speakers:

March – Frank J. Michael USN (Ret) Program Director – Council and Chapter Affairs

April – TBD / Guy Roberts