



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Department of Delaware Meeting Minutes of 24 September 2022

Department **Commandant Frank Del Piano** called the meeting to order at 1000. The Sergeant of Arms **Ralph Willis** declared the meeting was open for official business. The **Sergeant of Arms** posted the Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance. **Neil Greenstein** read the Chaplain's Opening Prayer. The Commandant Led the **Singing of the Marine Hymn.**

Attendance – 19

Roll Call of Department Officers:

Commandant Del Piano	Present
SVC Pounsberry	Present
JVC Corbit	Present
JA Deddizio	Present
Adj Flood	Excused
Paymaster	Present
Chaplain Greenstein	Present
SAA Willis	Present
Historian Landon	Present
Marine 4 Life Landon	Present
Web Sergeant Mathers	Excused
Toys for Tots Chairman	Vacant
Jr. Past Commandant Mathers	Excused
Boy Scout Coord. Willis	Present
Boy Scout Coord. Jacobs	Present

All Officers are present and accounted for.

Commandant Del Piano put the Meeting's Business Portion on temporary delay to pass on comments from the **National Vice Commandant Rick Thompson** pertaining to the necessity of our conformance to the **National Flag Code (NFC)**. The correct procedure, as spelled out in the NFC, is as follows: The Commandant gives the Sgt.-At-Arms the order to advance and post the Colors, all members rise to attention facing the Colors, the Sgt.-At-Arms gives the command: "Hand Salute.....Ready, two" ! The salute is terminated and all present remove their covers and place their hand(with cover) over their heart and the Sgt.-At-Arms takes point" in beginning the recitation (by all) of the Pledge of Allegiance. (Because all are uncovered, it's a good segue to the Chaplains Opening Prayer). Also, at this meeting, the first stanza of the Marine's Hymn was sung by all.

Past Commandants were recognized. **Marine Chuck Landon** was in Attendance. There were no **Marines of the Year** present.

Minutes

The Minutes were posted on the Department Website. A Motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes. They passed Unanimously.

Adjutant's Report – Marine David Van Kavelaar is Recording the Minutes for the Adjutant. Marine Rick Schumann also assisted in these Minutes.

Paymaster's Report

Paymaster Neil Greenstein gave the Quarterly Report of Income and Expenses. Receipts Total should be **\$517.88**; Checking Balance should be **\$3,545.97**; CD Balance should be **\$5,544.39**; and Total of all Accounts should be **\$9,598.11**. A Motion was made, subject to Audit, and seconded to approve the Report. They passed Unanimously. Neil informed us the National wants all Reports to be filed Electronically

Chaplain's Report – No members or family members ill or in need of support at this time.

Department Elective Officers Reports

Commandant Del Piano – I attended the National Convention held this Summer in Daytona Beach, Florida. **Marine Frank Mathers** of the **First State Detachment** was selected as the **National Marine of the Year**. We were informed that there are 65,000 members in the MCL distributed among 1,150 Detachments Nationwide. The Budget Meetings revealed that \$1.6 Million in income was earned this year. The existing slate of officers was reinstated with the exception where **Russ Miller** replaced Phil Zamora as **Judge Advocate**. **Toys for Tots Programs** were discussed and it was reported that 2 million toys were amassed last year and, to date, 4 million toys are accumulated for 2023. Detachments are encouraged to renew their IRS Tax Exemption Form as fines of at least \$300 are assessed should the exempted time period lapse. It was highly recommended to keep the **Marine For Life Program** vibrant and active. **The Diamond State Detachment** was awarded a **Plaque for Growth** as their membership has significantly increased. Twenty seven (27) laws were voted on by the Laws Committee and assumed to have been approved by the membership. An attempt is underfoot to get a Star for **Gunny R. Lee Emery** on the **Hollywood Walk of Fame**. Outside activities at the Convention included a Banquet, two dinner cruises, a tour of the Artemis rocket on its pad at the Kennedy Space Center, a tour of St. Augustine, and a Baseball Game at Daytona.

Senior Vice Commandant – No Report.

Junior Vice Commandant – No Report.

Judge Advocate – No Report.

Marine For Life Program – No Report.

Detachment Activity Reports

Commandant Del Piano highlighted previously submitted Reports from the Detachments. They were sent out electronically in advance of the Meeting.

Unfinished Business

The January 2023 Quarterly Meeting is to be determined.

Our next year's Annual Meeting is scheduled for 13 May 2023 at Heritage Shores in Bridgeville.

Recruitment Goals – Every Detachment is reaching out to Marines to join the Marine Corps League. Notices in Local Newspapers are being used. First State has been making contacts at Grocery Stores looking for Marines that are wearing a Marine Jacket or Cover.

New Business

Commandant Del Piano is still looking for a **Paymaster** for the Department.

Commandant Del Piano then discussed the issue of the Newly Formed Detachment in Maryland. Much discussion followed and a Vote of No Confidence for the Senior Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate passed on a Vote of 7 For, 5 Against with 7 Abstains. At this point the Senior Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate stepped down.

Good of the League

Three Detachments, First State, Diamond State, and Central, were awarded the National Junior Commandant Citation for 100 % Membership.

Closing

Commandant Del Piano then proceeded to close. The Sgt of Arms Ralph Willis retired the Colors. Neil Greenstein read the Chaplain's prayer. Sgt of Arms Willis closed the Meeting.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be determined.

The meeting closed at 1125.