

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting 3 Oct 2023

- I. The Board of Directors meeting of the High Country Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America was conducted 3 Oct 2023 at Basils restaurant, Boone, NC. The call to order by President Frankie Groff occurred at 1720.
 - A. Directors attending:
 1. Mary (Frankie) Groff (President)(Surviving Spouse)
 2. George Brudzinski LtCol, USMC (Ret)(Treasurer)
 3. Lance Campbell LTC, USA (Ret)(Secretary)
 4. Douglas (Doug) May PhD, Capt, USMC (Fmr)(Immediate Past President)
 5. Frederick (Fred) Schmitt CAPT, USCG (Ret)(1st Vice President)(Chair Nominating Committee)
 6. Robert (Bob) Love LT USN (Fmr)(ROTC/MCJROTC Liaison)(Chair Membership)
 7. Adam Greene LTC, USA Professor of Military Science & Chair Military Affairs Committee ASU (Legislative Affairs aka Advocacy Chair)
 8. James (Jim) Fisher CAPT USN (Ret)(Chaplain)(Personal Affairs)(Newsletter)
 9. Patsy Alley (Surviving Spouse)
 - B. Directors absent:
 1. Richard (Rick) Williams CAPT USN (Ret)
 2. Melanie Trado MAJ USAR
 - C. Quorum (8req) - Yes (9)
 1. The BOD acknowledges & appreciates the early notification by Directors if unable to attend meetings.
- II. The Agenda (Frankie), Secretary's Report (Lance) & Treasurer's report (George) were sent electronically to the Board prior to the meeting.
 - A. BOD acknowledged receipt of same.
- III. The Pledge of Allegiance occurred at 1721 in presence of the American Flag.

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- IV. A thoughtful invocation was offered by Jim F. emphasizing MOAA fellowship despite divisiveness in National arenas.
- V. The Secretary's Report, for the 5 Sept 2023 BOD meeting, held at Basils restaurant, was received electronically by the Board prior to the meeting.
- A. The Secretary's Report was summarized by Lance including comments/edits to initial minutes sent subsequent to the 5 Sept meeting.
 - B. The report was accepted unanimously by the Board with no edits.
 1. Lance commented that when contacting National MOAA advising that our Member Col Ben Covington had passed, National responded that they placed Ruth Covington as a Surviving Spouse with a MOAA # as such. Lance advised National that Ruth predeceased Ben.
- VI. A detailed Treasurer's Report was previously submitted by George electronically to the Board. Income/Expenses were clearly itemized stating a checking account balance of \$16,442.98 as of 30 Sept 2023 (end of HCCMOAA Fiscal year). Importantly, this is compared to a balance of \$17,020.58 as of 1 Oct 2022 = loss of \$577.60 for the year.
- A. Included was the operating budget itemizing revenue/expenses & budget/actual amounts, again clearly communicated. Balance reflects cumulative fiscal YTD checking account interest and member dues.
 - B. Report included totals reflecting donations from an encouraging email sent by George to members suggesting a donation to the Chapter to offset budget shortfalls. Donations = ~\$2,979.
 - C. George offered that he would submit the Chapter's tax return within the 5.5 month requirement after close of fiscal year.
- VII. Standing Business
- A. Discussion of Board of Directors members:
 1. Per by laws we should have 14 - currently, we have 11.
 - a) Lance asked if Jim Brannum was formally a BOD member - answer was No, however hoping for Jim's future participation.

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2. A suggestion to scrub our current roster for potential BOD candidates was again offered.
- B. Discussion on 2nd quarter General Membership Meeting (GMM).
1. The GMM scheduled for 24 Aug was understandably and unfortunately cancelled due to lack of commitments with only ~25 members responding. Hog Wild caterers had required a 50 person minimum @ \$15/person including delivery.
 - a) The date of **19 Oct 2023** was previously agreed upon.
 - b) Lance negotiated a 1/2 day fee of \$50 & secured a reservation for the Blowing Rock Davant Pavilion. (Receipt to George)
 - c) GMM could be scheduled with Hog Wild with an HCCOAA member picking up the food vs Hog Wild delivery & we would not be confined to a minimum number of attendees.
 - (1) Frankie agreed to run point on this directly with the management at Hog Wild.
 - (a) Ted Alley's participation was mentioned.
 - d) Frankie has sent 2 email invitations with specifics to members & will send at least one more encouraging email.
 - e) Since this General Membership meeting is an 'annual' meeting, election of officers is usual.
 - (1) The BOD agreed, in our previous meeting, to proceed with continuation of Directors in their roles, with their agreement, - consistent with Chapter Bylaws, to flex the terms limits avoiding a perfunctory ballot of unopposed nominees, installations etc.
 - (a) In 2022, the Chapter combined the Veterans Day activities with a GMM including installation of BOD officers.
 - (2) Lance will summarize the year's activities as reflected in Secretary's reports to Frankie as a 'State of the Chapter' - perhaps similar to the 5-Star submission.
 - (3) Recall bylaws require 1/3 of membership (47) to vote on issues @ GMM = ~15.

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- C. Discussions regarding Veterans Day 2023 activities: (11 Nov 2023)
1. Fred has contacted Boone Mall (CK); Community Band (BillyRay Winkler) & WHS MCJROTC (Wes) regarding participation - all agreed similar to previous arrangements.
 - a) BillyRay will contact his colleague (Doug) regarding a lapel microphone availability.
 2. George has energetically contacted chair vendor (Festive Elk).
 - a) Ideally: 300 chair delivery 11 Nov 0900. That required an after hrs 'per-diem' of \$90 + \$103.98 limited damage charge.
 - (1) Avoiding this damage charge required including Festive Elk on our liability policy - our Treasurer offered a no to that request.
 - b) The original large fee of \$1,218.67 (vs 2023 Memorial Day \$737.72) was negotiated down to \$770.04 dues to deft skills of our Treasurer as well as Festive's 10% discount & no sales tax.
 - (1) This compared to \$1,150.25 quoted by Jefferson Rental in Ashe County.
 3. Discussion surrounding a speaker for the occasion suggested Jim Fisher who was willing but asked for a different presenter for the Invocation.
 - a) Rick W. was mentioned for this role.
- D. Importantly, the Chapter will schedule a flag installation activity at the Mount Lawn Cemetery prior to 2023 Veterans Day, similar to the 2023 Memorial Day activity.
1. Save the dates:
 - a) 28 Oct 'Walk Thru' @ Cemetery @ 1100
 - b) 5 Nov - Install flags @1300
 - c) 10 Nov - 'Walk thru' @ Mall @1100
 - d) 11 Nov - Veterans Day activity @ Boone Mall
 - e) 18 Nov 2023 - Remove flags
 2. George offered 'Team Brudzinski' to generate the Program/flyer similar to previous templates.
 - a) George mentioned sponsorships @\$100 each - to be place on reverse of program.

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- (1) A mention of such sponsors from the podium suggested by Lance.
 - b) Lance to utilize program in Public Relations efforts to media outlets.
- E. Update on new HCCMOAA Website
1. George & team have generated an updated website easily navigable and attractive. [Https://hccmoaa.org](https://hccmoaa.org)
 - a) Lance asked about location of new member application - George pointed to the 'Membership' area of website.
- F. ASU ROTC/WHS M CJROTC update:
- a) Bob summarized the HCCMOAA speaker series for WHS M CJROTC.
 - (1) Timeframe: Feb-March 2024.
 - (2) Wes prefers a 'younger' cohort of speakers if possible to represent the service branches.
 - (3) A yearly screening/clearance for participants will be required by WHS.
 2. Adam informed the BOD that his role as Director of ASU's Military Affairs Committee is official.
 3. Adam mentioned the ASU "Heroes Day" activities scheduled for 4 Nov (ASU vs Marshall) @ 1100-1430 @ ASU McKinney Alumni Center. This location worked well in 2022.
 - a) Adam inquired about HCCMOAA support for Heroes Day activities - \$150 was offered in 2022.
 - (1) BOD was supportive of this - Fred suggested Adam utilize the 'Request for Funds' form available on the website.
- VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 1816 by unanimous decision with next BOD meeting scheduled for 7 Nov 2023 (Tues) @1700 Basils Restaurant.
- A. Frankie shall communicate with Basils regarding continuation of hosting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lance Campbell LTC, USA (Ret)