

MOAA - Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter 8 September 2020 Zoom Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Jay Garbus at 1605. The meeting is be conducted via Zoom due to the unavailability of a suitable meeting place due to Covid-19.

Attendees: Jay Garbus, Joe Anderson, Ron Morgan, Tony Castle, Carol Aljets, Larry Stawicki, Ron Wilsbach, and Gary Aljets.

Secretary's Report – Gary Aljets

- No report from the Mecklenburg County Veterans Council. They plan to physically reopen the offices on 7 January 2021.
- The Veterans Service Office is closed for personal visits but is available via the telephone. No one has been named to replace Janene McGee but Darryl Crenshaw is the Acting Director.
- A motion was made and seconded approving the corrected minutes from the 17 August 2020 board meeting which added a last name for Emma Mallon.

Treasurer's Report – Ron Wilsbach

- General Fund balance \$2,713.11.
- Scholarship Account balance \$21,528.89.
- A check was received for a new member, CAPT Thomas Atkins, USN Retired. He lives in Fort Mill. His phone number was provided so board members could reach out to him.
- The chapter's liability policy is coming up for renewal in November. The board approved renewing the policy.
- The Chapter has purchased a ZOOM account for one year.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried approving the treasurer's report.

Date and Location of Next Meeting – Joe Anderson has been talking to the American Red Cross about a virtual (Zoom) meeting in October. David Laws and Robert Kitchen would conduct a 45 minute workshop dealing with stress management, especially in the current pandemic which has most of us staying home. Joe will confirm a date with them and forward an email to the membership concerning the meeting. In that space is limited on ZOOM, we will have to pre-register. If we have enough members interested, additional workshops will be scheduled.

Programs – Joe Anderson

All meetings are currently on hold pending the pandemic but if held these are the plans.

Upcoming programs:

- October 18 – American Red Cross Stress Management and Relaxation Techniques Workshop at 1500.
- November 15 – Chapter Elections
- December 13 – Holiday Party
- January 24 – Open at this time.

The possibility of a Zoom meeting with National MOAA representative was discussed. He has asked them to let us know if January, February or March is better.

Membership and Retention – Carol Aljets

- Utilization of the recruiting lists provided by National MOAA has been put on hold due to the pandemic.
- A letter has been drafted and will be emailed when our next meeting is set.
- New member added: CAPT Thomas Atkins, USN Retired. He lives in Fort Mill.

Legislative Affairs – Tony Castle

- On the national level, the reduction of the medical corps by 18,000 billets has been put on hold. The House has voted to hold off any reduction in medical staff but the Senate is holding off any action. There is an excellent article and letters to Congressional leaders in the current Military Officer Magazine. National MOAA is watching as the Senate Armed Services Committee is looking at changes in Tricare. No changes are expected for Tricare for Life. Watch as co-pays for prescriptions has increased.
- On the state level, NC COC is supporting 4 bills, including tax relief and instate tuition for spouses, are not moving at this time and things are on hold until after the election.
- Even though MOAA is non-partisan, we should look into inviting a local representative to a chapter meeting to discuss veteran/military issues of interest.

Newsletter – If you have anything you want in the newsletter let Jay Garbus know

Surviving Spouse Liaison – Mary Cuthbertson

- She was not available for a report out but the webinar on 19 August conducted by LCOL Shane Ostrom regarding survivor benefits, Key Survivor Programs and Planning Actions was very informative and successful.

Old Business / New Business

- **JROTC Scholarship Program** – Bill McKenna has agreed to take the lead on the Scholarship Committee again this year. Ron Morgan has agreed to notify the senior instructors regarding the scholarships and they are scheduled to go out in the November/December timeframe. The plan at this time is to continue the scholarship program even with the cancellation of the 2020 golf tournament which funds the program.
- **JROTC Leadership Awards** – Larry will reach out to our schools for spring 2021. Everything is in limbo and he will work with the schools on a case by case basis.
- The members of the board will reach out to the chapter membership with a phone call. A suggested list of questions will be forwarded with the call list for each board member. Ron Wilsbach who will make sure we all have the current roster. Results for the calls are to be given to Ron Wilsbach by 2 October.
- Joe Anderson and Ron Morgan will work on the nominations for chapter officers for 2021. Voting on the nominees will take place in the November meeting.

Announcements:

- ❖ Ballantyne Breakfast the 1st Thursday of the month at Another Broken Egg Café from 0730 – 0900. Pay your own meal.
- ❖ Lunch at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1000 E. Morehead Street. Meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 1145 – 1300. \$10 Buffet.
- ❖ Mecklenburg Veterans Council – 1st Tuesday every month at 11:30 am. Valerie C. Woodard Center, 3205 Freedom Drive, Ste. 2000 (Community Support Services), Bldg. D, Charlotte, NC. The meeting room is the Queen City Conference Room, 202. ON HOLD PENDING CHANGE IN COVID-19.

The next board meeting will be in October, via Zoom, with the expectation of no additional changes due to the pandemic.

The meeting was adjourned at 1700, with a short interlude from Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by,
Gary Aljets
Secretary