

Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA

Board of Directors Minutes

June 11, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter (CMC) Board of Directors began via Zoom at 4:00 PM on June 11, 2024. President Nelson English and the following officers were online: Ron Morgan, Tony Castle, Jay Garbus, Ed Grant, Eric Kelly, and Susan Bryant.

A. Chapter Officer Reports

1. President's Report – Nelson English.

-He asked whether BOD members were interested in a cookout social event this summer; everyone agreed that was a good idea. Primary date is Saturday, August 3, with August 10 as a backup. Time will be from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Desired locations (in order) are Colonel Francis Beatty Park in south Charlotte and a public park in Mint Hill. The CMC will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, drinks, and paper products. Members can bring desserts. (Note: later on June 11, member Walter Harrison was able to reserve Shelter #1 at Colonel Francis Beatty Park for August 3.)

--Speakers for Fall 2024 meetings were another topic of discussion.

--Eric Kelly proposed Mr Garrett Krause, owner/operator of Queen City Acupuncture and Wellness, who is an approved VA Community Care provider (free to veterans enrolled in VA healthcare and approved through Community Care). Mr Krause was highly recommended by Union County Veterans Services Officer Michelle Marciano, one of his clients and a former guest speaker herself.

--ROTC instructors and CMC ROTC cadet scholarship awardees were discussed as another possibility for guest speakers.

--Ron Morgan mentioned that some city and county councilmen were eligible for MOAA membership and should be contacted about guest speaking engagements.

-Octoberfest is TBD, depending on whether surviving spouse member Huberta Barrett is able to sponsor the event and hire the German chef, as in past years. (Note: the CMC's 25th annual Octoberfest was later confirmed for Oct 20.)

2. Secretary's Report – Eric Kelly. Final draft minutes for the May BOD meeting were unanimously approved as amended. Ron Morgan made the motion and Susan Bryant seconded it.

3. Treasurer's Report – Susan Bryant.

-Today the General Fund has a balance of \$7,412.15. The Scholarship Fund has a balance of \$27,121.24, \$78.86 of which is in the Fifth Third Bank account.

4. Programs – Joe Anderson was absent due to injury.

5. Membership and Retention - Ron Morgan.

-He urged members to aggressively seek sponsorships – new and renewals - for the next JROTC Scholarship Golf Tournament. He is asking last year's golf teams via email if they plan to rejoin us this year.

-A memorial service for Dale Hogue, a former BOD member, is scheduled for June 15 at Christ Episcopal Church on Providence Road.

6. Legislative Affairs - Tony Castle. He learned at the recent MOAA Regional Workshop in Greenville SC that very few members nationally have signed up for the Legislative Action Center on the MOAA website. In current legislation, he mentioned that the Basic Allowance for Housing increase to 100% is included in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The Major Richard Star Act for concurrent receipt remains excluded from the NDAA.

7. Surviving Spouse Liaison – Emily McClain was absent.

8. Director – Ed Grant.

9. Newsletter – Jay Garbus. He stated there would be a July CMC newsletter, with the cookout and Legislative Action Center usage as main topics.

B. Old Business

1. Develop strategies to continue our focus on goals from the 50th Anniversary Dinner. (OPEN)
 - a. Market the MOAA brand as we celebrate the CMC legacy and accomplishments. Eric Kelly encouraged members to order MOAA merchandise at the September 2023 Chapter Meeting and composed a short article on the subject for the October 2023 newsletter.
 - b. Recruit new chapter members.
 - c. Develop/strengthen veteran group partnerships in Charlotte area. Examples are attendance at the Veterans Bridge Home (VBH) monthly luncheon in Charlotte, and participating in VBH community service projects such as the Cedar Grover Cemetery cleanup.
2. BOD will discuss ways to expand the Golf Tournament Leadership Group. (OPEN)
3. Board members discussed the possibility of moving the CMC general

meeting date/time from Sunday afternoon to a weeknight in an effort to attract younger members. One concern is some existing members' reluctance to drive at night. Members agreed to continue this discussion with the new CMC administration. Update: in the March 2024 BOD meeting President English said he would consider this and mentioned a possible phased approach with 2-3 weeknight meetings per year initially. Also, in the May 2024 BOD meeting Jay Garbus discussed what other NC chapters do; no other chapters meet on a weekend. (OPEN)

C. New Business – None.

D. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 PM.