



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.
Department of Maryland



War Memorial Building, Suite J
 101 N. Gay Street
 Baltimore, MD 21202

Phone: 410-752-6474 Fax: 410-783-2939

September 9, 2018

Subject: Council of Administration Meeting, Garrett County Memorial VFW Post 10077, 4107 Maryland Highway, Deer Park, MD 21550, 301-334-9109

From: Douglas C. MacArthur, State Adjutant

Commander Perry called the Council meeting to order at 1200 hrs. Opening ceremonies according to the Ritual; Salute to the Colors, the Opening Prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance were observed.

Commander Perry recognized special guest
 1. NDCM#3 Brian Sturgis

PAST STATE COMMANDERS PRESENT: McConville, MacArthur, S. Mason, Sturgis, Williams, Miller

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: All State Officers were present with the exception of Surgeon Frank Bennett (E), Chaplain Tiffany Daniel (E), Trustee/D4 Cmdr Lankford (A), D1 Cmdr Wade (A)

STATE OFFICERS REPORTS

Commander Perry: *Post meetings attended: District meetings attended: , Posts visited socially:, Also attended:*

Senior Vice Commander Everett: *Posts meetings attended: 2678, 3065, 8806, 5838 District meetings: attended: Posts visited socially: 2562, 6506, 8806, 6054, 5838, 8185 Also attended: July C of A, Joint Homecoming, Dept Hqtrs (4); 7464 OTI*

Junior Vice Commander Tom Williams: *Post meetings attended: 467, 8806A, District meetings attended: Posts visited socially: 6918, 8806 Also Attended: July C of A, National Convention in K.C., OTI 8950 & 7464; Hqtrs (1)*

Quartermaster Cunningham (deceased 9-7-18): *Post meetings attended: District meetings attended: Posts visited socially: Also attended:*

Adjutant MacArthur: *Post meetings attended:* 3065 (2), 8126, 8806 *District meetings attended:*
Posts visited socially: 2562, 3065, 8806, 8156
Also attended: July C of A, National Convention in K.C.

Judge Advocate Fuentealba: *Post meetings attended:* *District meetings attended:*
Posts visited socially:
Also attended:

Surgeon Bennett: *Post meetings attended:* 3065, 1858 *District meetings attended:* D11
Posts visited socially:
Also attended: OTI 8950 & 7464; July C of A, National Convention in K.C.

Chaplain Daniel: *Post meetings attended:* , *District meetings attended:*
Posts visited socially:
Also attended: OTI 467-8950-7464, July C of A, National Convention K.C.

Chief of Staff L. Williams: *Post meetings attended:* *District meetings attended:*
Posts visited socially:
Also attended:

Inspector T. C. Williams: *Post meetings attended:* 3626 *District meetings attended:* D11, D1, D2
Posts visited socially: 2916, 8950, 2562, 7464, 8810
Also attended: July C of A, OTI 8950 & 7464, Dept HQ (2), National Convention in K.C.

Immediate Past Commander Miller: *Post meetings attended:* *District meetings attended:* D7
Posts visited socially: 6658, 160
Also attended: Loch Raven VA, Green Street VA, Post 160 VA Health Fair, Vol Training LR VA, HQ (3), Joint Homecoming, McVet

3-YR. TRUSTEE – John DallaTezza:

2-YR. TRUSTEE – Lamont Gibson:

1-YR. TRUSTEE – Bryan Lankford:

DISTRICT COMMANDERS' REPORTS

Motion was made and seconded to accept as submitted. Motion carried.

D1C Wade: Membership last year: , to date , inspections: 0 %.

Next meeting:

Following meeting

Coming events, changes, taps and forms needed are noted.

D2C T. C. Williams (See state inspector): Membership last year: , to date:, inspections: 0 %.

Next meeting:

Following meeting:

Coming events, changes, taps and forms needed are noted.

D3C Hensley Jr: Membership last year: , to date: , inspections: %.

Next meeting:

Following meeting:

Coming events, changes, taps and forms needed are noted.

D4C Lankford: Membership last year: 1177, to date: 1079, inspections: 100%.

Next meeting: July 29, 2018, 1300 hrs at Post 7460, Cambridge, MD

Following meeting: Sept 23, 2018, 1300 hrs at Post 5246 Federalsburg, MD

Coming events, changes, taps and forms needed are noted.

D5C King: Membership last year: , to date: , inspections: %.

Next meeting:

Following meeting:

Coming events, changes, taps and forms
Needed are noted.

D6C Surber: Membership last year: 977, to date: 14 inspections: 0 %.

Next meeting: September 26, 2018, 1830 hrs, Post 8097, Jessup, MD

Following meeting: October 24, 2018, 1900 hrs, Post 160, Glen Burnie, MD

Coming events, changes and corrections, taps and forms needed are noted.

D7C Becker: Membership last year: , to date: , inspections: %.

Next meeting:

Following meeting:

Coming events, changes and corrections, taps and forms needed are noted.

D10C Edwards: Membership last year: 931, to date: 18 , inspections: 0 %.
Next meeting: Aug 6, 2018 at 1900hrs; Post 7687 Chesapeake City, MD
Following meeting: Oct 1, 2018 at 1900hrs; Post 465, 338 East Main Street, Rising Sun, MD
Coming events, changes and corrections, taps and forms needed are noted.

D11C Goering: Membership last year 637 to date: 11, inspections: 100 %.
Next meeting: October 2, 2018, 1900 hrs, Post 2916, Curtis Bay, MD
Following meeting: November 6, 2018, 1900 hrs, Post 2916, Curtis Bay, MD
Coming events, changes and corrections, taps and forms needed are noted.

D14C Wisniewski: Membership last year: 2402, to date: 1952, inspections: 0 %.
Next meeting: September 16, 2018 at 1300hrs; Post 2678 Sparrows Point, MD
Following meeting: October 21, 2018 at 1300hrs; Post 2621, Middle River, MD
Coming events, changes and corrections, taps and forms needed are noted.

D16C Rippon: Membership last year: , to date: , inspections: %.
Next meeting:
Following meeting:
Coming events, changes and corrections, taps and forms needed are noted.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as Distributed/corrected. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SERVICE OFFICER – Walters: During the months of **JULY and AUGUST 2018** the Department Service Office reviewed and worked **342 case files**, cleared **930 ratings** for Maryland Veterans; processed **558 awards, and had 1,805 e-mails**. The Service Office **took 79 Power Of Attorneys (POA)** from Veterans this past month. We received **1,815 phone calls or messages** that we know of. The awards, lump sum and retroactive, for the two months **total \$9,636,742.63**. Annual running gran total amounts were **\$20,318,904.96**. These figures include compensation, pension, insurance, burial allowance, education and miscellaneous monies for veterans, their dependents and other survivors.

The Post Service Officers spent 430 hours in home visits; **277 hours** in hospital and nursing home visits; visited **295 hospitalized** veterans; assisted **203 veterans** with healthcare referrals; and issued **469 pieces** of medical equipment. This past two months the **Post S/O's traveled 4,399 miles** talking to veterans to help them with their wants and needs. The grand total of all activities and equipment out on loan was **\$32,804.63** .

POW / MIA – T. C. Williams, PSC:
INSPECTOR – T. C. Williams, PSC:

- POW/MIA Day September 21st. Don't forget to report as Community Activity

- District Commanders need to push to get the Post inspections completed. These are due NLT 30 November
- Audits and Bonds are moving along – 84% complete. Please check your X&Os report.

MEMBERSHIP / LIFE MEMBERSHIP – H. Steve Mason, PSC/Sharon Sneed (Co-Chair):

- 81.37% membership so far this year
- District Commanders – I need to know when, where your membership drives are going to be. Also you District meetings. Need this information as soon as possible.

STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA – Kurt Surber:

- Fall semesters have begun, please get out there and contact SVA at local schools
- Revised spreadsheet will be out to District Commanders for School POCs
- 5pm Sunday 9/10 – University of MD – 9/11 Ceremony – would like VFW vets if available

SAFETY – Arthur Westbrook:

- Slow on reporting – Goal was to have 1 report from every post for the year
- District Commanders, please get with your posts and remind them to get that report in

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY/PATRIOT’S PEN – Mike Perini/Mike Reamy

- Packets to District Commanders with Poster of last two winners – please distribute to Post Commanders for distribution
- Deadlines were provided
- Report form in packet and must be returned to me to be incorporate into report to Nat’l
- Asking for a Post to volunteer to Host banquet – approx. 200-250 attending
- Looking for award sponsors
- Provided both Themes and application forms

YOUTH ACTIVITIES – Christine Sandoval

- Talked about changes to Boy Scout and male/female inclusion – flyers provided

**The National Home prayer and the deceased comrade’s prayer were given.
Taps was played.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Adjutant MacArthur:

- Advise all of the passing of Quartermaster Cunningham on 9/7/18
- Two weeks prior, I was appointed by Quartermaster Cunningham as Assistant Quartermaster (this was run through National for verification of protocol)

- I met with the Commander and asked if she (having previous Quartermaster experience for the Department) would assist me with the Quartermaster duties and she agreed.
- To date \$137,891.35 in Life Membership program. We have met our \$150K over the 3 year time frame. In going back, we found where to be eligible, a brand new person had to be a member of a post for two years. Sometime during the year last year, it was changed that new members could join under the program, but annual, reinstated and transfers had to be a member of the post for two years.
- I will be going to Comrade Cunningham's home after he has been buried to come to the house to retrieve all Dept of MD paperwork.
- I move to put the life membership program on hold until Nov 1st, will not accept any new applications after today's date, in order to figure out what we have both at Headquarters and what we come up with at Comrade Cunningham's home and be able to process and bring as much up to date as possible. Motion seconded. Discussion: What about what we have in house to vote on? Will not be accepted if this motion carries until a decision is made to go forward with the program at the next Council meeting. Motion Carried.
- Commander and I have spoken to the Accountant and we were advised to watch what we are spending. Final Audit through June should be complete by November 3rd and the Accountant will be in attendance at that meeting.

Commander Perry:

- I have appointed the Assistant Quartermaster as Quartermaster Pro Tem.
- Out of respect for the family, the election of a new Quartermaster will take place at the November 3, 2018 meeting. If anyone wants to run for that office, please get that information to me so we can let the Districts get that information out at their October District meetings.

Judge Advocate Fuentealba:

- Advised the Council on how the By-laws read regarding elections after a seat is vacated.

IPSC Miller:

- Motion to wait until the November Council Meeting to hold the election for Quartermaster in order to get the office in order for anyone who is seeking that position. Seconded and carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

National District Council Member Sturgis:

- Distributed a historical video to all District Commanders and Line Officers. Please share! In that package you will also find financial and organization as well as budget information.
- Do not hesitate to contact me if you have a problem or need help. Please ask.
- Dept received 300 life members who cannot determine if they are active or deceased and take care of them
- All American – last year, huge problem within departments. District Commanders, please be sure to get the correct information to your Chairman and Chairman please forward information to National in a timely fashion. If you have a question, please contact the Commander or Adjutant as soon as possible.

- > Membership – It has been 27 years since the National organization has been 100%. We need to work hard to get that. We are less than 4,000 members from 100%, please get out there and get after them.
- > Distributed Membership White Hats from 2017-18 that were not previously given.

Commander Perry: At this time I would like to revert back to **New Business**

Adjutant MacArthur: At the National Convention, \$5,000.00 was borrowed from the VFW Auxiliary, MD, for NMS due to the fact that Quartermaster Cunningham did not make it to Kansas City. It is in the Budget, but it is not listed as a line item, so we need permission from the Council to reimburse the VFW Auxiliary. I move to give the Auxiliary back their \$5,000.00. Seconded and Carried.

Adjutant MacArthur: I want to bring to your attention that D4 Commander and Department Trustee Lankford has not been present at the last two Council meetings, the Last two Audits or his last two District meetings. I move to relieve him from his positions. Motion Seconded.

Motion was withdrawn

Judge Advocate Fuentealba advised on correct action per the National By-laws. The Commander will need to take direct action.

Commander Perry: At this time I would like to revert back to **Good of the Order.**

Comrade Perry asked if anyone had any announcements.

D6 Cmdr Surber advised of two events in Anne Arundel County in September

D10 Cmdr Edwards advised of the funeral service arrangements for PSC/Dept Quartermaster D. Harvey Cunningham

D2 Cmdr Thomas asked about the Department Golf Tournament – date is first Friday in May for anyone who may have donations or know of any wounded warriors who may want to participate.

Commander Perry asked for District Commander and Post Commander and presented a check for \$200 and asked if they had any comments.

POST COMMANDERS PRESENT: 304, 521, 6658, 8185, 9083,

Sr. Vice Cmdrs: 160, 521, 8185

Jr. Vice Cmdrs:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Commander Perry called for the closing ceremonies and the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 pm.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Chesapeake City Memorial Post 7687
 304 Basil Avenue
 Chesapeake City, MD 21915
 410-885-5217

12:00 Noon