

MOAA - Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter

12 May 2020 Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Jay Garbus at 1600. The meeting is be conducted for the first time via Zoom due to the unavailability of a suitable meeting place due to Covid-19.

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

Jay welcomed Chris Coke, President of the Davidson Satellite Chapter, to the board and looks forward to working with him.

Secretary's Report – Gary Aljets

- No report from the Mecklenburg County Veterans Council.
- Owe the board the minutes from the March meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Ron Wilsbach

- General Fund balance \$3,113.81 which includes \$868.00 of MFI grant money.
- Scholarship Account balance \$31,665.13.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried approving the treasurer's report.

Date and Location of Next Meeting – A meeting is planned for 20 September at 1500, Red Rocks Café, subject to their being open and availability.

Programs – Joe Anderson

Upcoming programs:

- September – National MOAA's representative has been invited to come to either this meeting or one of the remaining meetings this year. We await to see which one fits best on their calendar. If they cannot make it in September, we have David Laws from the American Red Cross on deck.
- October 18 – Oktoberfest
- November 15 – Open at this time.
- December 13 – Holiday Party
- January 24 – Open at this time.

Membership and Retention – Carol Aljets was not present due to illness.

- Recruiting from the lists provided by National MOAA has been put on hold due to the pandemic. Also, she has not received any lists from them for the past two months, presumably due to Covid-19.
- Ron Wilsbach said we have received dues for a new member, Stuart Fowler. His contact phone number is 828-381-1631 for anyone wanting to welcome him aboard and reach out to him. He was a 0-3 in the Army.

Legislative Affairs – Tony Castle

- Tony has attended a training session for the ‘virtual Storming of the Hill’ that is being planned for this year. The primary focus will be the reduction in military medicine. MOAA will be making two requests: (1) put the cutback for 2020-21 on hold; and (2) re-examine the needs and changes proposed for providing military medicine/medical services.
- Izzy Husar, NC COC VP for Legislative Affairs, is working on the issues COC wants to address with the State of North Carolina. Concentration will be on a few issues for a better payback for our efforts. He is also attempting to schedule a meeting with Congressman Dan Bishop.

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

Surviving Spouse Liaison – Mary Cuthbertson – Not present

Old Business / New Business

- **JROTC Scholarship Program** – We have awarded five scholarships at \$2,000 each. Ron Morgan has notified the winners via email. Once the information on the schools they plan to attend is received, Ron Wilsbach will take care of the transfer of the funds. A discussion ensued about the spending of the remaining funds should we not have another golf tournament. See below report on the golf tournament.
- **MOAA Military Family Initiative (MFI) Community Outreach Grant** – Ron Morgan. The chapter was not successful in getting a reward this year for the mentoring program we worked on with Veterans Bridge Home. The primary reason seems to be the need for greater participation in the program by chapter members. Also there was a shortage of mentees and the finding of mentees willing to commit to the program. Ron has received information for possible awards for Covid-19 assistance and he will look further into this possibility. Kudos to Ron for two dedicated years and successful funding for the mentoring program. Chris mentioned that a member of the satellite chapter is working with service dogs and perhaps this could be a possible joint project. Chris will get back to the board.
- **Golf Tournament** – the tournament will be cancelled this year due to the impact of Covid-19. A motion was made to cancel the tournament this year, it was seconded and approved. A study group is needed to discuss the desire to continue this funding of the scholarship program. If it is to continue, Ron Morgan and Ron Wilsbach will not be available to run the tournament but will volunteer to work with a new chairperson.
- Chris reported that he working on the membership aligned with National membership and getting the chapter more active. They currently have 15-20 members.
- Ron Wilsbach announced that his son, Ken Wilsbach, has been chosen to be the next Commander, US Pacific Air Force and it will get him is fourth star. Congratulations Kathleen and Ron.

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

The next board meeting will be in August unless the pandemic is still a problem. No matter we will have a board meeting prior to our next scheduled chapter meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1700.

Respectfully submitted by,
Gary Aljets
Secretary