



## Minutes of June 9, 2018 Council Meeting

Location: O'Loughlin's Restaurant  
1258 Bay Dale Drive  
Arnold, Maryland

Attendees: All elected officers and appointees were in attendance, except 1VP Hartzog and Spouse Liaison Kaplan. The following chapter presidents or their representatives were in attendance: Hugh McIlroy (Upper Potomac), Dave Peterson (Montgomery County), Sandy Wadsworth (Gen Smallwood), Ray Rowland (Prince Georges County), Tom Seybold (Star Spangled Banner), Jim Shiffrin (Ft. Meade), Andy Fallon (Annapolis), Mike Johnson (Upper Eastern Shore), and Harry Quinn (Susquehanna). BG Stan Mincken attended as a guest of the Star Spangled Banner Chapter.

The meeting was called to order at 1130 by Council President Harvey Kaplan. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and Grace, the meeting then proceeded, with a break when lunch was served. The agenda for the meeting was followed and is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

The Minutes of the March 10, 2018 meeting, previously distributed, were approved unanimously.

Council President Kaplan announced the recipients of the 2018 Marvin Harris Communications Awards: the Council received a 5-star award for its website; both the Susquehanna and Star Spangled Banner Cs received 5-star awards for chapter newsletters and websites. Photos were taken of the award recipients for publication in the Council website.

Chapter presiding officers or their representatives briefed on recent and planned activities of their respective chapters. Summaries of some of the briefings are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof. Of particular note is the situation involving the Southern Maryland Chapter, now in leadership crisis. Outreach efforts are underway for the chapter to merge with the General Smallwood Chapter, most likely to be identified in the future as an Affiliate of the General Smallwood Chapter. More information on this situation is expected in the coming weeks.

The Secretary distributed an updated Council roster to all, with a request to provide him with any needed edits.

The Treasurer provided his report, which is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof. Our general financial condition remains strong. Chapters are making their 2018 dues contributions to the Council. Those chapters who have yet to do so are asked to attend to this obligation promptly.

Andy Fallon briefed on the ceremony to award this year's National Guard Unit of the Year Award to the 200<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company, MDARNG. Of note with this regular feature of Council outreach, Andy described the impact of the award on recipients as "amazing." e2VP Norton noted a continuing organizational concern with MOAA's ability in general to reach out to the Guard and Reserves. The Council should explore "what can be done" locally in support of MOAA National's larger outreach efforts. This discussion item was tabled, to be taken up in greater detail at a future meeting. A suggestion was made for the Council to forward the ceremony photo from the award ceremony to MOAA National for possible publication in the *Military Officer* magazine,

Legislative Liaison Annie Brock forwarded her report by email attachment, which is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof. Council Kaplan observed that Annie has done an "outstanding job" on state legislative affairs and efforts for the 2018 session of the Maryland General Assembly.

2VP Bob Norton and Council President Kaplan led a general discussion on the establishment of the Maryland Military Coalition, at the moment still a work-in-progress. The MMC will be modeled after The Military Coalition, a national organization of 34 military and veterans groups. The MMC will have the mission of bringing a unified voice within the state on relevant legislative goals.

Jim Dittbrenner provided his deferred report on Career Management and Networking efforts. His report is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

Harvey noted that the Report of Spouse and Surviving Spouse Matters has been distributed via email to Council members for further distribution to chapter members.

Next, discussion turned to the arrangements for the 8th Annual MOAA Maryland Congressional Luncheon. Due to uncertainties regarding logistics, it was unanimously decided that we must have such a luncheon this year, and to continue to explore our various options, holding the date of 9/26 as our collective preference.

Brad Jewitt provided a report on the activities of the Maryland Veterans Commission. He suggested attempting to get Council President Kaplan or 2 VP

Norton onto the Commission agenda at its next meeting, to discuss the efforts to establish the Maryland Military Coalition. Brad also encouraged Council members to send him notes on any substantial newsworthy chapter events.

Lastly, Harvey discussed the Council President's 5/23 Teleconference. The significant item of discussion involved the establishment of travel mileage reimbursements (at \$0,435/mile) for Council members who represent the Council at other chapter events than their own. This is a pilot program, with MOAA fronting the Council \$217 to cover the expenses of this program.

The next Council meeting will be on Saturday, September 8, 2018, again at O'Loughlin's. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1435.

Respectfully submitted,

Captain David H. Peterson, NOAA (Ret)  
Secretary