



## Minutes of September 9, 2017 Council Meeting

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

Attendees: All elected officers and appointees were present, with the exception of the Webmaster. Presiding officers represented most chapters, with the exception Upper Potomac Chapter, who was represented by Lou Muniz.

The meeting was called to order at 1205 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 June 10, 2017 meeting, previously distributed, were approved unanimously.

Council representative to the Maryland Veterans Commission, Brad Jewitt, provided a brief to the Council on Commission activities. He discussed the status of the Veterans Trust Fund, changes being made to the interment fees charged at Maryland veterans cemeteries, progress on a second Veterans Home in Maryland, and some legislative issues.

Treasurer Dalke provided his report, with the spreadsheet attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof. He noted that there would likely be some adjustments needed in handling the expenses for the Congressional Luncheon. He further noted that he would be relocating from the area soon, and would be resigning from his position as Council Treasurer, which he has held for the last 12 years. The Council elected Jim Campbell, to relieve Greg on January 1, 2018.

The Council Secretary reviewed the Council roster, noting that Steve Regner would be acting for Ron Bagley as presiding officer of the Prince George's County Chapter for the foreseeable future.

Annie Brock presented the Council's Legislative Liaison report, which is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof. She noted that the legislature was

changing its procedure for addressing veterans issues in the 2018 legislative session. The respective Veterans Caucuses of the House and Senate will convene a veterans summit in November, inviting representatives from the various veterans organizations to participate in the discussions of issues of concern, with the intent of prioritizing issues to be addressed during the 2018 session. Jim Adkins suggested that we develop a questionnaire regarding veterans issues that can be given to legislative candidates. Annie's big take away is that we will need to field a strong "grass roots" effort with the General Assembly in 2018.

Spouses and Surviving Spouses Liaison Naomi Kaplan advised that her newsletter has been distributed. She asked again to be provided any additional information that may be of use/interest to spouses that might come to the attention of chapters. She also asked that chapters forward her newsletter to other organizations that might have an interest in the issues she discusses.

Transition Liaison/Networking Coordinator Jim Dittbrenner presented his report, which is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof. He discussed the upcoming MOAA Networking Forum. The Montgomery County BANG is still in suspension, pending a review of its organizational arrangements.

Logistical arrangements for the Seventh Annual Congressional Luncheon were discussed. All chapter payments have been received. It appears that there will be 60 in attendance, with 20 from MOAA National. Legislator introduction duties were assigned and the general timeline for the event was discussed and agreed to. The National President, General Atkins, will present the LOE awards to the winning chapters before the actual Legislative Luncheon begins.

Chapter presidents or representatives provided brief reviews of chapter activities since the last Council meeting. Chapter leadership or sustainment issues were noted by the Prince George's County Chapter, the Montgomery County Chapter, the Southern Maryland Chapter, the FGGM Chapter, and the Annapolis Chapter. The Star Spangled Banner Chapter offered its draft recruiting brochure to any chapter that might be interested in using it as a basis for their own recruiting brochure. The General Smallwood Chapter noted that the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home has some needs for toiletries, etc., that chapters might consider contributing to. The Upper Potomac Chapter reported that it had published its approved strategic plan, and that its annual golf scramble event was scheduled for 9/15/17. The Annapolis Chapter discussed a website organization, Non Profit Dynamics, and proved some descriptive information.

The next Council meeting will be on Saturday, December 9, 2017, again at O'Loughlin's. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1440.

Respectfully submitted,

Captain David H. Peterson, NOAA (Ret)  
Secretary