MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

CPL J. R. SPEARS DETACHMENT 066

July 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Senior Vice Commandant Fernandez called the meeting to order at 1900 at the National Guard Armory, 8790 Grow Drive, Pensacola, FL.

There were 28 members and 4 guests present.

Opening ceremonies and rituals were conducted.

Senior Vice Commandant Fernandez gave opening remarks and thanked the members that came out for the “Riverfest” in Milton on July 4th.

Ed Rouse, HAU Project Officer, briefly addressed this month’s HAU program on July 27th at Pensacola Veterans Memorial Park with Army Sergeant (Rev.) John Phillips discussing the Battle of Pork Chop Hill during the Korean War. There will be a HAU Action Team Meeting on Monday, July 24th at Goat Lips to go over final arrangements for the HAU event on July 27th.

Ben Sandoval gave an After Action Report on the Riverfest event. A brief discussion was held on supplies needed for the trailer and a tracking system of stock on hand and items sold. S-4 is working issue.

Bob Rivera discussed the upcoming grand opening of the new Outback Restaurant located on the corner of Airport Boulevard and N. Davis Highway on July 12th. The ribbon cutting ceremony will be 1400; so, members are encouraged to show up at 1300 wearing MCL Red Cover/Cap and red polo shirts. It is an excellent opportunity to garner another sponsor for our programs.

Senior Vice Commandant Fernandez discussed the Semper Fi 5K “Run for the Children” scheduled for Saturday September 9th. The info flyers are out and posted on the website. Registration is available on-line at our website or through “werunwild.com”. Additionally, donations can be made on-line. All proceeds go to 6 local children’s organizations. He stated the Commandant encourages all members to either sign-up or donate.

Moved by Mark Kilgore, second by Tom Fitzgerald, that the reading of the June Meeting Minutes be waived without objection and approved as disseminated in “Bunker Talk” and posted on-line. Voice vote taken, motion carried.

Pete Southerland introduced his guest LtCol John Cooper who briefly spoke. Mark Kilgore introduced recent transfers from Utah, MCL Life Member Tom and MCLA Member Joyce Helget.

Senior Vice Commandant Fernandez for S-3, briefly discussed MCL operations and events schedule occurring in August through October. Volunteers are needed for our two flagship events, the Semper Fi 5K Run in September and the Car Show in October.

Dave Glassman addressed the Memorial Plaque Placement Ceremony at 1000 on August 19th at the Marine Aviation Memorial Bell Tower in Pensacola Veterans Memorial Park. This looks to be a very well-attended event to honor the 19 Fallen Marines of Vengeance 01, Pegasus 31 & 32, and Blue Angel 6. He additionally related a brief history of the Bell Tower and its significance to the EscaRosa Community. More information will be provided at our next meeting on August 8th.

The Paymaster gave his report and addressed the new MCL Membership Year (September 1st-August 31st) and the current renewal process. More information to appear the August Bunker Talk. Moved by Mark Kilgore, second by Tom Fitzgerald, to receive the Paymaster’s Report subject to audit;

Dave Glassman for Ralph Koeniger, S-6, briefly addressed the progress of the Detachment’s new website (marine corpsleaguepensacola.org). It is still a work in progress with respect to transferring files archived files from the old address. Moved by Ben Sandoval, second by Mark Kilgore, to list DigiPro as a major sponsor of the MCL in our publicity and advertising.

Tom Fitzgerald, Staff Judge Advocate, stated that he was working with Ed Rouse on the Detachment’s taxes.

The Adjutant discussed up-dating and correcting the Detachment’s Roster is a work in progress. All submissions for the Bunker Talk are requested by the end of the third week of the month.

Ed Rouse, PAO, discussed the value of public affairs events like the Outback ribbon cutting. Carmen Jones, a local photographer, is at our HAU events and may do a photo book of our HAU events. He also discussed how successful our membership (125+) has been in raising funds compared to other veteran organizations with larger membership.

George Dodge, Service Officer, gave an up-date on several individuals he is working with on various issues.

Sergeant-at-Arms related how impressive the Marine Aviation Memorial Bell Tower Plaza is with visitors he has taken to Pensacola Veterans Memorial Park.

Good of the League:

1. Pete Southerland brought up the possibility of working with the Blue Wahoos for another fund raiser. Also volunteers are needed to assist in painting rooms at the Women Veterans Residence Center.
2. Chuck Miller stated that the AHERO Program is expanding and suggested an increase in our donation from $500 to $1,000. To be staffed. He also asked the Detachment to sponsor one Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce Monthly Luncheon at a cost of $325. The Detachment is a member with Ed Rouse and/or Chuck Miller attending and it is a great place to network with local business owners. To be staffed.
3. Dave Seiler spoke on the Blue Angels practice and the upcoming Korean War Remembrance Night.
4. Bob Rivera mentioned the possibility of holding another “Rock-a-Thon” at the Cracker Barrel in November.
5. Mark Kilgore stated he had done some preliminary leg work on the Marine Corps Ball and the availability of having it on Friday November 10th at Heritage Hall in Seville Quarter. Ed Rouse stated that the Marines at the Pensacola Yacht Club have their Marine Corps Ball on November 10th as well and the possibility we could join in theirs. He will contact and get details.

Senior Vice Commandant Fernandez gave some brief closing remark

Closing ceremonies and rituals were conducted.

The 50/50 ($26.00 collected) was won by Bob Rivera ($13.00).

The meeting was adjourned at 2008.

Submitted,

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M. A. Kilgore, Adjutant