

Marine Corps League
Emerald Empire Detachment No. 917
Minutes of the meeting 21 May 2025

1. **OPENING CEREMONY.** The meeting was called to order at 1907 hours by Senior Vice-Commandant Stephen Price with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Chaplain Joy Cavin's invocation. Jay Lara was present as a guest.

2. **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS.**

COMMANDANT Excused

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDANT P

SERGEANT AT ARMS Excused

CHAPLAIN P

WEBMASTER P

SENIOR VICE COMMANDANT P

JUDGE ADVOCATE P

ADJUTANT Excused

PAYMASTER P

JUNIOR PAST COMMANDANT P

3. **APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.** None

4. **BALLOTING ON APPLICATIONS.** N/A

5. **CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION.** N/A

6. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.** A motion was made by Debra Barker to waive the reading of the minutes accepting the minutes as published on the detachment website. Lois Price second. Motion passed.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE.** Two separate mailings from the North Salem High School Army JROTC Viking Battalion requesting donations so they may attend the National Competition in Daytona Beach, Florida. New member Dennis Hughes will make contact and request information as the dates of the competition were 3-4 May 2025 but the letters (although post marked 25 Feb 2025) were just received at our post office box. Report pending next meeting.

8. **REPORT OF PAYMASTER.** Paymaster Lois Price reported that the adjusted working balance of the detachment's account is four thousand four hundred seventy-four dollars and sixty-five cents. (\$4,474.65). See attached copy of that report.

9. **REPORT OF ANY MEMBER OF MEMBER'S FAMILY SICK OR IN DISTRESS.** The passing of Jim Pilling was announced. Paul Grinde has contacted the daughters and requested that any service arrangements be passed along that we might attend.

10. **REPORT OF OFFICERS.**

a. COMMANDANT – N/A

b. SENIOR VICE COMMANDANT – Reported that he and Lois see Robert Graves usually at breakfast.

- c. JUNIOR VICE COMMANDANT – Introduced guest Jay Lara. Jay attended the Ems Military Appreciation Baseball game, donated hats to our previous Mid-Winter Conference and has been on the detachment email listing for quite some time. Decided now is the time to check out the Marine Corps League. Jay is married to Margaret, and they have 3 kids. They run two on-line retail websites. One is PAYTORAID (Marine Raider Gear) Jay served in the USMC from 1994 – 1998, he was an 0331(machine gunner), spent time at Bangor, Washington where he was able to do cross training with Green Berets, and spend time at Camp Pendleton with 1st Bn, 4th Marines (Camp Horno). Jay is leaning toward joining the Marine Corps League.
- d. JUDGE ADVOCATE No Report.
- e. JUNIOR PAST COMMANDANT No Report.
- f. SERGEANT AT ARMS – N/A
- g. ADJUTANT – N/A
- h. CHAPLAIN – Paul Grinde has obtained and donated 3 packs of Marine Corps League Cards (1 – blank; 1 – Sympathy; and 1 – Get Well). They have the Marine Corps League Logo on the front. After some discussion, it was decided to use this design for detachment cards. Paul will have some made with the revised saying from the card that was previously being determined if we could get replicated. It was the consensus that the new cards are more fitting for all members of the Marine Corps League.
- i. PAYMASTER – Nothing additional to report. See Report of Paymaster above.
- j. WEBMASTER – Mentioned that the TAPS tab has already been updated to include Jim Pilling’s passing. It was mentioned that adjusting the wording on the Newsletter heading and Home Page button to inform viewers of our CURRENT Newsletter would be more beneficial and likely to be viewed by visitors. Adjustments will be made by Webmaster.

11. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

- A. Young Marines – The Emerald Empire Young Marines completed their Boot Camp/Camp Out. A Graduation Ceremony will be conducted soon.
- B. Toys for Tots – Per information from the Department of Oregon Convention, the way Toys for Tots will be conducted in the future is going to be changing back as far as the involvement of the Marine Corps League. Seems the Commandant of the Marine Corps has acted.
- C. Veterans Court – No report.

D. Veterans Legacy – No Report.

12. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES. - None

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

- a) Update on possible Springfield Vets Memorial addition for deceased members. Nothing has been done since Niel Laudati (Springfield Oregon Assistant City Manager) has been busy with the upcoming Memorial Day Events scheduled for the Veteran's Park in Springfield.
- b) Update on condolence cards. See the information / discussion in the Chaplain's report above.

14. NEW BUSINESS. – A motion was made by Debbie Barker to reimburse Craig Myers and Graham Hilson for their cost of attending the Department of Oregon Convention. Nancy Lukasik seconded the motion. The motion passed.

15. CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS. – N/A

16. GOOD OF THE LEAGUE.

- a) Memorial Day Event at the Springfield Veteran's Park will involve a Military Jet Flyover at 0930 hours.
- b) Member Dave Turner briefed members about his trip to Japan. He took his grandson, his grandson's friend, and a niece to Japan and gave them a tour. Dave put them on the plane back home and prepared to complete the 2nd half of his Pilgrimage Tour of the Temples. Unfortunately, the morning he was to start he had a 104-degree temperature, and spent five days recuperating under the care of his sister-in-law. Seems it was a flare up of bronchitis coupled with COPD (from agent orange exposure while serving as an FMF Corpsman in Vietnam).
- c) The Moose Lodge has requested that the detachment switch the June breakfast service dates. The consensus of the members was to make the change. The Fund-Raising Breakfast for June has been switched from the 3rd Sunday to the 2nd Sunday (8 June 2025 vice 15 June 2025). Newsletter and website to be updated.

17. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- a) USMC & US Navy 250th Birthday Celebration Stamps are now available from the United States Post Office.
- b) Debbie Barker brought in some more items of Mike's. She also has canes and walking sticks that she is willing to give to someone who can use them. She also has a curio/hidden gun cabinet for sale.
- c) Nancy Lukasik brought ins some more items of Thad's. Items are free to whomever can use them.

- d) Debbie Barker has requested some assistance with getting the outside grounds of the home back under control. Paul Grinde and Stephen Price will be doing some work starting the 27th after the Memorial Day weekend.
 - e) Junior Vice-Commandant Paul Grinde announced that the Marine Corps League Semper Fi Store now has in 10-inch cloth league patches. A good way to advertise the League while wearing your red jacket or a sweatshirt.
- 18. CLOSING CEREMONY.** The closing was conducted by Senior Vice-Commandant Stephen Price at 2020 hours until the next meeting on 18 June 2025.