

MINUTES OF ANNAPOLIS BRANCH 24
July 13, 2021

Shipmate Branch President, Jimmy Beckett called the meeting to order at 1905. All Branch officers were present. We had a gathering and virtual meeting. The quorum was a total of 30 Shipmates including 5 virtual and 25 attendees.

There were three members initiated. They received the new member pin.

The following reports were given by the Committee Chairmen.

Adopt-A-Highway: Committee Chairman, Chris Wallace gave a report on the highway clean-up held on July 10. There were none (9) shipmates and other attendees who participated in the clean-up. There were eleven (11) bags collected. After the clean-up the participants had complimentary lunch at the Fleet Reserve Club. The remaining dates for the Highway Cleanup Project are as follows:

Saturday, August 14, 2021 Saturday, September 25, 2021 Saturday, October 23, 2021

If you would like to volunteer to help with the clean-up, please place your name and contact information on the sign-up sheet on the Branch Bulletin Board or send an email to Shipmate Chris Wallace at: wallacerchris@gmail.com. A blast email will be sent to remind the shipmates about the next clean-up on August 14.

Americanism/Patriotism: Committee Chair, Shipmate Kim Biggs announced our participation in the City of Annapolis, Independence Day Parade, which was held on Saturday, July 3, 2021. We reserved a trolley and had 15 Shipmates and Auxiliary Unit 24 who participated in the parade. Shipmate Biggs discussed the 2021- 2022 theme for the Essay Contest. It is “Why I am Proud to be an American”. Essay Contest information has already been distributed to previous students who submitted essays and is available on the table in the lobby of the Fleet Club. Shipmate Biggs is seeking volunteers to work with her on the Committee. Annual Report was submitted to the East Coast Region Committee.

Budget and Finance: Committee Chairman, Gary Van Nest reviewed the proposed budget for 2021-2022 during new business so the members could vote on it.

Communications Committee: Chairman, Branch President Jimmy Beckett stated the blast emails sent from the website is working well to notify members about meetings, events, and paying their dues. We will continue to offer virtual meetings for members who prefer not to attend in person at meeting gatherings.

Constitution & Bylaws: Chairman, PRPEC Don Hoover and the Bylaws committee met on July 8, to review proposed changes. Plans are to discuss the proposed changes at the membership meeting on August 10.

Contributions: Nothing to report.

Hospital Welfare & Rehabilitation: Chair, Debi Webb, announced the deaths of Shipmates PRPEC Paul Dix and Shipmate Marc Sandleman. They were senior members of Branch 24 and will be missed. Annual Report was submitted to the East Coast Region Committee.

Legislative Committee: Committee Chairman, Pat Guibao stated the MD General Assembly is in recess until January 2022. Shipmate Guibao will be working on proposed legislation to submit for the 2022 session. He talked with Senator Sarah Elfreth about the Bond Initiative for the Fleet Reserve Club repairs.

Membership Committee: Chairman Jimmy Beckett reported our membership number as of June 30, 2021, was: 2301. Sending blast emails to members about renewing their membership has worked well.

Public Relations Committee: Committee Chairman, Shipmate George Shannon submitted the annual PR report to the East Coast Region Committee Chair. Shipmate Shannon participated in the Independence Day Parade and took pictures. He is working with the IT/Communications Committee on storage of pictures taken throughout the year.

Youth Activities: Shipmate Branch President Beckett is seeking a volunteer to be Committee Chairman. Need to schedule meeting with the Seeds for Success Program in Annapolis.

FRC Liaison: Chairman-Board of Governors, Pat Fedorowicz, discussed upcoming events at the Club including the Shrimp Boil to be held on July 24.

Two Bell Ceremony: The Two Bell Ceremony was conducted by Chaplain Chuck Castellaw and PRPEC Don Hoover. The Shipmates who passed on to the Staff of the Supreme Commander were: PRPEC Paul Dix, Shipmates Williams Crowell II, Harold Snyder, Matthew Evans, Jr., Kenneth Halpen, Marcus Sandleman, and Kevin McCook.

Old Business: The East Coast Region Convention virtual meeting will be held on July 24. Delegates representing Branch 24 will be President, Jimmy Beckett-Delegation Chairman; 1st VP Chris Wallace, 2nd VP Pat Guibao, Secretary PRPEC Penny Collins-Co Chairman, PNC Valerie Toulotte, PRPEC Claire Purdy and PRPEC Don Hoover.

New Business: The Board recommended the following items to be considered and voted on:

1). **Proposed Annual Budget for 2021-2020:** Audit, Budget and Finance Committee Chairman, Gary Van Nest, distributed copies of the Proposed Annual Budget. There was one adjustment to Line Item 30-Memorial Day Program from \$3600 to \$1000. There were no other changes made. Shipmate Van Nest made a motion to accept the proposed budget with adjustments and it was second. The vote was unanimous.

2). **Delegates for the FRA National Convention:** The list of Delegates for the 93rd FRA National Convention to be held in Spokane, WA, October 2-9 was proposed. They were: 1st VP Chris Wallace, Chairman-Branch 24 Delegation, Secretary PRPEC Penny Collins-Co-Chair, PNC Valerie Toulotte, PRPEC Claire Purdy, PRPEC Don Hoover, and Shipmate Lew Bearden. A motion was made by Shipmate Penny Collins to accept the proposed list and to add other delegates to the list, if any others attend. The motion was seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Good of the Order: Nominations from Annapolis Branch 24 for National Awards are as follows:

- 1). Shipmate Kim Biggs, Shipmate of the Year for Americanism/Patriotism
- 2). Joe Berizzie, Frank J. McPherson Memorial Award for Excellence in Membership

The winners of these nominations will be announced at the 93rd FRA National Convention, October 2-9, 2021 in Spokane, Washington.

Next Branch Meeting: The next regularly scheduled Branch Business meeting to be held on August 10, 2021 at 7:00 pm and we will have both a meeting gathering and virtual. The next regularly scheduled BOD meeting will be held on August 03, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

The Branch meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Prepared:

Approved:

Penny Collins
Secretary/Treasurer

H. Jimmy Beckett.
President