



101st Airborne Division Association

**Minutes of Meeting of October 7, 2023
Bailey's Bar and Grille, Townsend, MA**

View Our Chapter Website at www.screamingeaglesne.org

Attending: Present were: President Bob Morrissey and John Mastro (both via Zoom connection), VP Tony Payne, SAA William Blankenburg, Former President Tom McGall, members Kevin McAdams, Ed O'Reilly, and Don Miller, George LeBlanc and Guest Brenda Fitzgerald, former President Dick Pockwinse and wife Shirwin, and WebAdmin/Zoom facilitator Cathie Clark.

Pre-meeting: SAA Blankenburg announced that 10 members were present. Lunch was ordered from Bailey's new menu amid animated, happy conversations all around. Last food order was taken at 12:40. An adjustment to 1:30 in Zoom starting time was announced by email. As food arrived, guest Brenda offered a blessing and then we chowed down. We were done eating at 1:15.



The meeting was called to order at 1:35 PM.

President Bob thanked everyone for coming and confirmed that he could see each and every one of us on his Zoom screen. We recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Note: The last Meeting Minutes published were in April and have been posted on MEMBERS ONLY for many months. Our first Fall meeting in September was subject to our regular attendees being missing on sick call so there were not enough present to conduct any recordable business. Therefore, the usual reading of previous Minutes at this meeting did not occur.

Financial Report: Treasurer Kevin Farrell was not in attendance but he had provided Bob with a copy, so the report was read. Included in our financials are a generous donation to the Chapter from the estate of our late member (and Bob's dear friend) Richard Murphy "to be used for the explicit good nature of the Chapter". The Treasurer's Report was voted to accept.

NEW BUSINESS:

Banking: President Morrissey announced that it has become necessary, since his and Treasurer Kevin's home relocations, to change our long-standing banking relationship with the Massachusetts credit union we have been using. They have done due diligence to find a bank that can handle both NH and SC-generated transactions and it is TDBank. We need to take a vote, which will be evidenced in the October Minutes, to open the account with a \$5,000 CD. He made a motion, which was duly seconded, and unanimously passed to so open an account with TD Bank. Kevin Farrell, Treasurer will open the new accounts at TD Bank. Robert Morrissey, President will be added at a later date as a signer.

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OLD BUSINESS:

Website Report: Bob announced that Cathie had spent 90% over her usual work on our website to cover SMAJ's passing and burial. Such quality work in his opinion was "above and beyond" that covered under her Contract. He asked what amount the members thought was acceptable for a bonus. The number suggested was \$300 and that was acceptable to a very grateful Cathie. A motion was made, seconded, and passed...and additionally confirmed by all present.

Screaming Eagle Magazine: As announced in National's eLetter, the print version of our magazine has proven to be too costly to continue. Historically, it was sent free of charge to Lifetime members, but previous cost increases required that those wishing to receive it submit a \$10 fee for it. Even that does not qualify us to continue producing it. So they are going to do it over the internet and it's supposed to be free. Anyone who paid for this year, will receive a refund. The online version will continue, and Cathie asked if we still wanted to keep her Contract commitment that she write and submit four articles a year. It was confirmed that the change to electronic will not affect that, so her work will continue. Discussion ensued about the group's

Zoom: In use for this meeting, but limited to 30-minute session. Bob and Cathie (with encouragement from Greg d'Arbonne who uses it all the time in his business) have been kicking the idea around of actually subscribing to an unlimited plan (billed at \$149/ year or \$15.95/month) which will eliminate the time limit on meetings. Bob asked Cathie if we were ready to vote on that, but she said no, reporting new challenges this morning with the system — it changes every time she enters it, so the learning curve never ends. Vote was therefore tabled until the November meeting.

Snowbird 2023: This is painful for us New Englanders. National has announced that the upcoming Snowbird in February in Tampa may be the last. So if you've not attended before, this is your chance. Bob's reservations are made — as are Blink's and John Mastro's. Rumor has it that in a cost-cutting effort to preserve the tradition, Orlando is being considered. That idea was not enthusiastically received.

Bob let us know he has a couple more issues to discuss, but due to Zoom time constraints, they will be on the Agenda for November.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to adjourn at 1:58 p.m.

Airborne All The Way

Respectfully Submitted;

Robert Morrissey
President