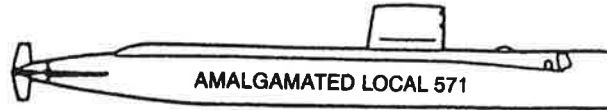




**UAW LOCAL 571**  
**MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

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***MDA-UAW Local 571***  
***General Membership Meeting Minutes***  
***March 1, 2021***

March 3, 2021

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Ken Rowland** called the meeting to order and asked that you keep in your thoughts our recently deceased member Catherine (KayT) Lizzio, deceased members, family members and to our Veterans past and present.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Ken Rowland** asked for a motion to accept the February 1, 2021 Executive Council Meeting Minutes Membership Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted. A motion was made ( Tony Giordano), seconded by (Jack Bond) and passed to accept.

**Treasurers Report:**

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** read the Treasurers Report. A motion was made (Eric Straub), seconded by (Tom Montgomery) and passed to accept.

**Correspondence Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher:**

**To President William E. Louis** from UAW International Ray Curry with a tentative date for the 2021 UAW General Dynamic Council meeting, during the week of May 16, 2021, in St. Pete Beach, Florida.

**To President William E. Louis** from the UAW Region 9A Donna Becotte the 2021 Richard "DIK" Days Scholarship Application.

**To President William E. Louis** from the Connecticut AFL-CIO Pamela Puchalski the 2021 Workers' Memorial Essay Scholarship Application.

**Officer Reports:**

**First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported a member was discharged for failure to provide acceptable documentation for absence and failure to respond to a communication from the company.

William E. Louis, President  
Kenneth Rowland, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
David M. Reagan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



Martha J. Fletcher, Recording Secretary  
Robert Gaudiano, Financial Secretary  
Robert J. Faraci, Treasurer

Work from Home- The joint MDA-Company committee met twice in February and is making progress toward short term and long-term provisions for MDA members to work from home. Areas of discussion have included: steps members should take during outages, improving communication and notifications, development of WFH database, assuring members a seat in the workplace during extended outages, and future selection process for post-COVID times. An improved EverBridge notification system is under development and should be online soon. Members will be required to provide contact information.

Contract publication- The MDA is currently working with HR to incorporate the agreements reached in negotiations into the new 2020-2025 contract. We have made good progress so far and anticipate getting the new contract online soon. Provisions of MOA#1 are being incorporated into the contract and guarantees regarding healthcare coverage levels are preserved in a side letter. We anticipate the contract to be online next month.

**Second Vice President David Reagan** reported a member was under investigation for intranet abuse. The member was discharged for the violation.

**Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported no new step 3 Grievances filed.

**Financial Secretary Rob Gaudiano** reported U-0023-19 was settled. The company was allowing salary and bargaining unit members from multiple departments to perform design test work D604 Tester's. The company agreed to have a MDD to recognize the responsibilities of the testers and agree to have our testers work alongside subject matter experts with the goal of improving the testing process and talk about current workload. The company also agreed to pay members responsible to do the work 100 hours in recognition of work done outside the test group. Thank you, Jim Newman, Guy Mineau and Jeff Freitas, for their work on this grievance. A member was discharged during their probation period.

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** reported no new step 3 Grievances.

**Guide Pam Gonski** conducted roll-call.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

**Joint Technology Committee First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported the committee met with the process owners of the Continuous Improvement Actions Database. There is agreement by all that the JTC must review improvement ideas that may affect roles and responsibilities. To that end, a working group has been formed to evaluate the best process for JTC awareness and involvement when appropriate. The committee also met with a management representative responsible for UNISYS implementation to discuss possible job impacts. The submittal/approval process for IT service requests is an area of concern. Clearer communication of the process should be forthcoming.

**Joint Apprentice Committee First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported a meeting will be held March 10 to discuss the timing of external discipline rotations and the impact on Cohort 2 apprentices. As COVID has affected these rotations, apprentices with two remaining rotations will have more intensive training during a shortened time in the disciplines. A meeting was held February 26 to discuss timing and location for the graduation ceremony for Cohort 1 apprentices.

**Absentee Committee Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported that the following council members were absent from the February 1, 2021 E-Council meeting: Wayne Carbone, Jack Bond, Joe Husereau, Joe Huffman, Mike Alice, Greg Allard, Larry Avery, Phil Behney, Sharon Bolduc, Brian Brimmer, Kevin Brodnicki, Robert Canova, John T Carlson, Peter Crizer, Brandy Forbes-Gordon, Craig Kelley, John Lombardo, Gregory Maynard, Joanne Muick, Jason Price, Ed Rocznia, Ray Ryan, Aaron Sawyer, Velma Williams and Kyler Wolmer.

**Scholarship Committee Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported the MDA-UAW Local 571 2021 John F. Saffomilla and Roy Colville Scholarships are available to High School Seniors planning on pursuing higher education and who's parent or grandparent is a member of Local 571 in good standing. There will be eight \$2,500.00 awards. Applications must be returned to the Union Office by mail, no later than April 30, 2021. Applications are available through your area grievance representative and on our website: [UAW Local 571, Events, Scholarship app and winners.](#)

In addition to our Local's scholarship there are the UAW Region 9A Richard "DIK" Days Scholarship awarded, 2-\$2,000.00 and the AFL-CIO Workers' Memorial Essay Scholarship 1<sup>st</sup> -\$1,500.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$1,000.00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> \$500.00, these applications can also be found on our website.

**Women's Committee Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported that the month of March is Women's History Month. Please take this month to celebrate Women's contributions to history, culture and society in the United States.

Our UAW Region 9A Women's Committee will be having an article on Women's History Month on the Regions Face Book page.

Please visit at <https://www.facebook.com/UAWregion9A>.

**Health & Safety Financial Secretary Rob Gaudiano** reported that the Chair of the committee Rich Gianfrocco will be out of office for a period of time. In his absence, please contact John Savage III 433-4566 or myself Rob Gaudiano 448-0552 with any issues or concerns.

**Trustee Committee Chair Eric Straub** reported Bill Dwyer, Jim Newman and I conducted the semi-annual Trustees' Audit from February 1<sup>st</sup> – Feb 5<sup>th</sup> at the Union hall. Our By-Laws require semi-annual audits held in February and August. We reviewed travel debit card transactions and other expenditures; income, receipts and vouchers, inventories; bank and

other financial statements. We had questions, as we usually do during an audit. They were answered, thanks to the officers, especially Bob Faraci and our office secretary, Karen Heroux.

February's audit was Bill Dwyer's last as Trustee. We wish Bill a long, happy and healthy retirement.

The books balanced and our finances are sound.

**Benefits Committee Jim Newman** reported:

**Connecticut Residents and Employees Age 55 Years and Older Are Now Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccines**

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) has expanded the eligibility for COVID-19 vaccination to people ages 55 and older, Educators and childcare providers include pre-K through grade 12 teachers, paraprofessionals, custodial staff, food service providers, school bus drivers and childcare providers as well as in-school administrative staff and Connecticut residents and employees between 55 and up are eligible for the vaccine in Connecticut and can make appointments as of March 1, 2021. The State is encouraging all eligible employees and their family members to access one of the 1,000 healthcare providers across the state are offering COVID-19 vaccines.

**Healthy Rewards Program:**

Through EB members can use the Healthy Rewards program, that offers access to tools, step challenges, coaching and programs we call Healthy Partners.\* Healthy Rewards is supported by Castlight. Members can take a moment to download Castlight and see if any of the programs may be of use to you!

The Castlight app and website are your well-being home base.

Sign up today by downloading the Castlight app from the App Store or Google Play.

Please note: When you sign up or login, you will be asked to complete a multi-factor authentication process (through text message or voice call), to verify your account for security purposes.

\*Healthy Partners can be accessed for those on an EB medical plan only.

**Fidelity**

Continues to run workplace retirement benefits with your overall financial goals. The closer you get to retirement, the more you realize how different this next part of your life will be. Fidelity is here to help educate you. Please see the schedule below for dates and times.

Appointments are offered:

- March 22, 23 and 24, 2021, 9:00 am,10:00 am,11:00 am,1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm.

In order to properly assess your needs, please have statements for your retirement and savings accounts available for review. Documents may include:

- 401(k) and 403(b) statements from current and former employers
- Statements from other investments such as brokerage accounts, IRAs, any mutual funds, and other bank accounts

Register now: Visit [www.gdbenefits.com](http://www.gdbenefits.com) (click library, workshops, city & state, virtual US, virtual phone appointment, GDEB)

**Committee Members:**

If you have insurance questions or concerns feel free to contact any one on the benefits committee Mark Ciliano at 867-1831(NL), Jim Newman at 433-2558 (Groton), and/or Chairman Ed Nevins at 867-2563 (NL).

**Worker's Compensation Committee Chair Tim Carlson** reports, I will be retiring at the end of the month with good wishes for all. There have been some changes to the MDA/UAW Local 571 Workers' Compensation Committee. The chairman will be Rich Gianfrocco 433-9114. Other members of the committee: John Savage III 433-4566, Brad Lamphere, Jr 867-2312, Eric Nelson 867-4400 and Officer Rob Gaudiano 448-0552.

It has been my honor to have served the members of Local 571.

**Veteran's Committee 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Ken Rowland** reported effective March 1, 2021, Veterans of any age who are enrolled in the VA healthcare system can now schedule appointments for vaccines. Go to:  
<https://www.VA.GOV/HEALTH-CARE/HOW-TO-APPLY>

Walk-in clinics are being scheduled starting this week, including a clinic being set up in Putnam 203-932-5711 Ext. 5627

**Old Business:**

MDA Union Apparel: Branding Company went out of business over shutdown. We are going back to Barker Specialty Company. Our Apparel Committee Karen Heroux is working on more apparel choices and updated pricing. If you have any specific items you'd like to see in our catalog, email Karen at [karen.heroux@snet.net](mailto:karen.heroux@snet.net) with your ideas.

**By-Law Committee 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Ken Rowland** reported that the By-Law change proposal to Article IX, Section 12, Property Committee being in charge of care and maintenance of Union property to change the amount of \$500.00 to \$1,500.00 for expenditures not needing approval by the council. The proposed change was brought to the membership at the December General Membership meeting and posted in the said meeting minutes and tabled until this meeting. A motion was made to accept the changes (Brian Brimmer), seconded (Jim Newman) and passed to accept.

**New Business:**

A motion was made to send up to 5 members to the UAW General Dynamics Conference to be held the week of May 16, 2021, in St. Pete Beach, FL (Eric Straub), seconded (Glen Pothier) and passed to accept.

The Election Committee submitted a list for the upcoming Councillor elections by geographic areas. Along with the list are guidelines for Councillor eligibility. A motion was made (Jim Newman) to accept the geographic areas and (Robert Canova) made a motion to amend the motion to remove one provision. Discussion was had and a poll was taken with 76% in favor of eliminating the guideline by members in attendance. A new motion was made to accept the geographic area and councillor guidelines with the elimination of one of the guidelines (Robert Canova), seconded (Martha Fletcher) and passed to accept.

**For the Good of the Union:**

After recent discussions with the company, we will be running all elections, Councillor and Officer, in plant as we have normally done. We will be COVID safe per CDC guidelines. All elections will be run in geographical areas where needed and also at the Union office for those WFH.

We want to share, a couple of very bad incidents that came up recently. This is an awareness of how you can lose your job, livelihood and more; excess internet usage that is not work related during working hours. When it comes to Dr. notes being provided to the company for excused absence, please make sure it is a legitimate Doctors note, from your Doctor and not forged in any way, shape or form. These two examples are ways to lose everything you have worked for. Let's continue to show the company how proud we are for what we do in providing the best Subs in the world.

If anyone has any questions for us, we are always available and welcome all. Please allow us to answer questions prior to going to the Region. We are not saying you can't do so; we would just appreciate the opportunity to answer anything you may have first. This is one of the many things we are here for.

We would like to thank Tim Carlson for attending his last Union meeting, as an active employee, and also giving his last report. Tim has put in 40 years and retires as a Sr. Str Designer. Tim has also put many years into supporting our Union, attending events and giving his time as Councillor and Committee person. We wish you a long, happy retirement Tim. Best of luck in the next chapter of your life and thank you for everything.

The \$1,000.00 bonus to all non-pensioned members on roll at the time of contract ratification October 19, 2020 as well as the date of the next general wage increase March 14, 2021. Will be distributed on March 26, 2021.

NCRC moneys will be distributed, prorated for 2020 thru contract expiration, October 9, 2020 should be the last week of March or as soon as administratively possible.

The MDA has been working with EB to provide work from home opportunities to our members. Members who are working from home may be required to come into the plant from time to time on a rotational basis or for training. This is within the company's rights and cannot be grieved under the contract.

**Financial Secretary Robert Gaudio** provided a list of the new member applications:

<b>BADGE:</b>	<b>NAME:</b>	<b>DEPT:</b>
150961	Matt Frank	343
159293	Timothy Chartier	456
159304	Brett Cody	456

A motion was made to accept the new members (Martha Fletcher), seconded (Dave Belanger) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to adjourn (Greg Allard), seconded (Tom Montgomery) and passed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary, MDA-UAW Local 571

**Visit our WEBSITE on the GDEB Intranet Homepage or at [region9a.uaw.org/local571](http://region9a.uaw.org/local571)  
Please "like us" on our Facebook site: "[MDA UAW Local 571](#)".  
Also, check for updates of news, pictures of events, etc.**