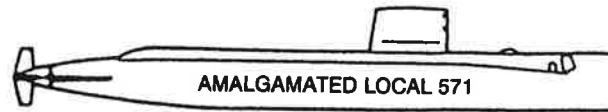




# UAW LOCAL 571 MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 7275  
GROTON, CT 06340  
(860) 448-0552  
FAX: (860) 448-3721  
E-MAIL: uawlocal571@snet.net  
region9a.uaw.org/local571



## *MDA-UAW Local 571 General Membership Meeting Minutes December 7, 2020 (Amended, see pg. 6)*

December 9, 2020

**President William E. Louis** called the meeting to order and asked that you keep in your thoughts our recently deceased retiree Earl Forbes, family members and to our Veterans past and present.

**President William E. Louis** asked for a motion to accept the November 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted. A motion was made (Ed Nevins), seconded by (Eric Straub) and passed to accept.

### **Treasurers Report:**

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

### **Correspondence:**

**To President William E. Louis** from CT and RI UAW CAP and PAC, the financial statements as of October 1, 2020 and November 1, 2020.

**To President William E. Louis** from the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps asking for our participation to their fund raiser "Wreaths Across America". Wreath's that we sponsor will be put on Veteran's graves on December 19, 2020 at our local cemeteries.

### **Officer Reports:**

**First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported a member was discharged for absenteeism and overall work record. The member accepted the option to quit in lieu of discharge.

**Second Vice President David Reagan** reported no new step 3 Grievances.

**Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported filed Grievance U-0017-20, management not maintaining equalized overtime.

**Financial Secretary Rob Gaudiano** reported no new step 3 grievances filed

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

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** reported filed Grievance U-0018-20, the MDA-UAW Local 571 grieves the company Electric Boat Corporation for unjustly terminating an MDA member. Union met with the company for the step 3 meeting on Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

**Joint Technology Committee First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported the committee met to review processes to maintain hull configuration information when single hull revisions are made per N-Type ER for Virginia class.

**Joint Apprentices Committee First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported several academic alerts were held for apprentices struggling in classes, many times due to effects of distance learning and associated problems with course delivery. Some are also having attendance issues. Any apprentice struggling in the program should contact MDA Apprenticeship representatives Velma Williams or Joe Marmaud, who can help with a variety of issues including tutoring opportunities and provide discrete counseling.

**Health and Safety Committee Financial Secretary Rob Gaudio** reports we had our first Public Health Emergency Joint Committee meeting. It was a side letter that we got put in our contract pertaining to a health crisis.

(pandemic or epidemic)

In the meeting we talked about the uprising in COVID-19 cases and the company's plans going forward. All the information can be found on the Homeport.

The link is in red and says coronavirus information on top right.

I would like to thank committee chair Rick Gianfrocco and UAW Region 9A Jose Melara for all their help.

**Property Committee Financial Secretary Rob Gaudio** reported the light to the Union Hall sign out front has not been working for some time. I have contacted 3 companies to come out and let us know what the project and the cost entails. I am planning to go with the company that is cheapest per man hour and are local and can do the job soonest. If the cost at the time of evaluation will exceed \$1500.00, I will go back to council for approval. I would like to make a motion to have the lesser per man hour to come out to fix the light providing the cost is under \$1,500.00 (Ken Rowland), seconded (Eric Straub) and passed to accept.

I would like to thank committee members Eric Straub and Dave Evans for their help.

**Benefits Committee Chair Ed Nevins** reports:

### **2021 Annual Enrollment:**

1. Your benefits **Annual Enrollment was November 18 – December 4, 2020.** During this time, you will be asked to make your benefits selections for calendar year 2020. You should have received information in the mail concerning medical, dental, vision and life insurance to help you. Insurance briefings were held on line.

2. HSA accounts per IRS maximum amounts you can contribute for Employee only is \$ 3,600 and all other coverage levels \$ 7,200. If you are age 55 or older you may contribute an additional \$1,000. This can be adjusted throughout the year.
3. In order to get the Seed / Match you must have selected the Enhanced option. \$500 employee only and \$1,000 for all other levels. \$1 for \$1 match up to \$300 Employee only / \$600 all other coverage levels. If enrolled in Tricare, Medicare Part A or B, or have spouse contributing to Full use Healthcare Flexible Spending Account you are prohibited to contribute to the enhanced, you must select Standard option.
4. Pet Insurance: We had many questions concerning this coverage. In order to obtain pet insurance for cats and dogs you need to call METLIFE directly. They may be reached at 1-800-438-6388. You may enroll anytime during the year for pet insurance.

**Coronavirus Information:** Can be obtained on-line using the EB homeport. Upper right-hand corner is a RED square, just select. This provides all updated information concerning COVID-19. Bulletins, Resources, Medical Service Information, EB Case Reports, Personal Safety and Wellness, Facility and Transportation Changes, Travel Guidance, Work from Home Resource, Employee Benefits, Common Terminology, Travel and Public Health Resources and Email Alerts.

**Fidelity:** Will be available via phone on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> to offer 1:1 appointment for pre-retirees. These are experienced representative helping you develop your own comprehensive plan that integrates your 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. We're here to help. Please see the schedule below for dates and times. Appointments are offered at the following times:

- 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

Before your appointment, visit the [Planning & Guidance Center](#) and update your Planning Profile. **Register now: Visit [www.gdbenefits.com](http://www.gdbenefits.com) (click library, workshops and then either North Kingstown or Groton)**

**Blood Drive:** Due to COVID-19 cases rising in the state and EB, precautions have been taken and this drive with the American Red Cross from Dec 1, 2020 through Jan 31, 2021 has been cancelled.

**Flu Shots:** If you still need a Flu shot contact the EB Pharmacy, Wellness Center or Yard Hospital.

- **Hospital** 6:00 am thru 11:30 pm Monday thru Friday.
- **NL Health Services** 6:00 am thru 3:00 pm Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

**EB Wellness Center:**

During the COVID-19 outbreak, Premise Health has moved to a "virtual first" approach to provide members with the safest way to receive care and to reduce possible transmission of the virus. While the Electric Boat Family Wellness Center remains open for urgent in-person care, nearly all of our health services can be offered via HIPAA-compliant telephone and video capabilities. Your first step in accessing care is to MESSAGE or CALL your health center to be guided on how best to access care.

I would like to thank my committee Mark Ciliano and Jim Newman for their hard work answering members questions about benefits in the new contract.

Groton Location please call 860-629-8272 or 844-357-0762 Monday thru Thursday, 7:00 am thru 6:00 pm, Friday, 6:00 am thru 5:00 pm and Saturday 8:00 am thru 1:00 pm.

**Electric Boat Retiree Health Coverage "Over 65":** If you're over 65 or maybe planning to retire and interested in obtaining some information on options and plan designs feel free to contact Beacon Retiree Benefits group, LLC at 1.888.484.0414, ask for Darcy Caslin or Helen Sullivan or feel free to e-mail them at [d.caslin@beaconmedicare.com](mailto:d.caslin@beaconmedicare.com) and or [H.sullivan@beaconmedicare.com](mailto:H.sullivan@beaconmedicare.com)

- 2021 Medical/Rx Coverage was finalized between the MDA, MTC, Carpenters & Salary groups are all moving forward for the 2021 calendar year with Anthem. Beacon Retiree benefits Group has been conducting enrollments.

**UHC Benefits Advocate!**

Our benefits advocate for UHC is Alicia Kelley. If you have questions regarding your United Healthcare health Insurance benefits or claims feel free to contact her:

- Groton Location Monday, Thursday & Friday, building 45A, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 8:00 am thru 4:30pm, 860-433-6552
- Quonset Location Tues & Wed 8:00 am thru 4:30 pm at 401-268-2240

**MDA-Benefits Committee:**

If you have an insurance questions or concerns feel free to contact a benefits committee member today!

- Mark Ciliano 867-1831, NL, Tower C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.
- Jim Newman 433-2558, Groton, Shipyard, Bldg 130.
- Chairman Ed Nevins 867-2563, NL, Tower B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**Community Service Committee Chair Don Miller** reports The October EBECSA / United Way campaign has completed and met more than its share of challenges given the COVID-19 protocols. Totals will be known and made available in the near future.

All the EB Associations have joined together to sponsor two events in December.

- The "Stuff the Truck" Toy Drive will be held from Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> and will be provided to the Tommy Toy Fund serving Eastern Connecticut. The toy drive is being sponsored

by the EBECSA and the other EB Associations. Drop off points will be located throughout the EB facilities and gates. The specific locations are posted on the EBECSA website on the Homeport. The MDA Union Hall will also be a drop off point for contactless delivery for anyone including those who are working from home. Some members have ordered toys from Amazon and sent them to the Union Hall at 394 Tollgate Road, Groton, CT 06340. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

- The Virtual Food Drive is underway and will be going through December 18, 2020. This drive is also being sponsored by the EBECSA and the other EB Associations. Drop off points will be at the white wooden boxes at the entrances of buildings and gates. The specific locations are posted on the EBECSA website on the Homeport. The union hall is also a drop off point for those who choose to drop off there. Our local community continues to be in dire need. Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated.

If you know anyone who is in need of help for social services, please encourage them to call 211 for assistance. You can also contact Don Miller, Kim Deschamps, Jim Newman or the union hall for referral assistance.

**Worker's Compensation Committee Chair Tim Carlson** reports if any of our members are injured or become ill due to their employment, report the situation to your supervisor and most importantly to EB medical. Then call one of us on the committee for forms and general advice. Committee Members: Tim Carlson 443-4033, Larry Avery 433-4143, Nick DeFosses 867-2714 and Rick Gianfrocco 433-9114.

**Old Business:**

Union apparel is still available for purchase the Union picks up half your price. The catalog is on our website.

**New Business:**

The US Naval Sea Cadet Corps asking for our participation to their fund raiser "Wreaths Across America". Wreath's that we sponsor will be put on Veteran's graves on December 19, 2020 at our local cemeteries. The Sea Cadets are ages 13 thru 18 and are in a Connecticut branch. They will receive \$5.00 for every \$15.00 wreath purchased. A motion was made to purchase 100 wreaths for \$1500.00 (Deb Basnight), seconded (Joe Marmaud) and passed to accept.

Electric Boat EBECSA is doing a Stuff the Truck for Tommy's Toy Fund this year. The fund has lost one of their main suppliers for toys. The United Way of South Eastern CT is a main participant in this toy distribution. A motion was made to donate \$800.00 towards toys to the United Way for distribution to families in the community in need (Martha Fletcher), seconded (Nicole Wilcox) and passed to accept.

Women's Committee Chair Pam Gonski asked for a motion for a \$500.00 donation to the United Way of South Eastern CT for them to distribute very much in need women's personal hygiene products to agencies that provide support to Women's Shelters and the Homeless. A

motion was made (Ken Rowland), seconded (Joe Lombardi) and passed to accept. After further discussion a motion was made to increase the donation to \$1,000.00 (Wayne Carbone), seconded (Jack Bond) and passed to accept.

Veteran' Committee member Ray Costa is also the UAW Region 9A Veteran's Committee Chair. On behalf of UAW Region 9A Veteran's Committee Ray's committee has been unable to raise monies due to COVID-19 that get distributed to various Veteran's support such as the VA, guide dogs for Vet's, coffee houses for Vet's, the Rocky Hill Veteran's Stand Down to name a few. In the past this committee would hold a Dinner Dance that proceeds would be put in the fund but this could not take place this year. Ray asked for a motion for \$3,000.00 to go towards a Veteran's Handbook for our Regions Veteran's. The Handbook will have resources for each state within Region 9A for support for our Veteran's like Take a Vet Fishing Day and other opportunities for Vet's. Our donation will also give our Local 571 ad space (Eric Straub), seconded (Martha Fletcher) and passed to accept.

*Amended: Addition to original*

*A motion was made to donate \$5,000.00 to the United Way of Southeastern CT Project Warm-up. This is a much-needed fund for those especially now with unemployed community members due to Covid-19 (Dave Evans), seconded (Martha Fletcher).*

Our Veteran's Committee has been collecting turkey vouchers for Veteran's. Please contact Veteran's Committee Chair Tom Montgomery 433-3951 if you wish to donate your voucher. Any turkeys not pick up during distribution will be donated to the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center.

By-Law Committee: A By-Law amendment to Article IX, Section 5 (12) was proposed by Eric Straub, Chairman of the Property Committee. The amendment was reviewed and approved for submittal by the By-Law Committee. The proposed change would increase the amount the Union would be authorized to spend for repairs or replacement of equipment without seeking competitive bids from \$500 to \$1500, along with minor administrative language. The proposed amendment was read aloud at the meeting, and a motion was made to table the proposal for action at the next General Membership meeting, scheduled for March. The full text of the By-Law amendment is below and will be posted on the MDA-UAW Local 571 website:

Article IX, Section 5,

12. Property Committee

- a. The Property Committee is in charge of the care, **and upkeep**, maintenance **and preventive maintenance** of Union property, buildings and improvements to said property of buildings. The committee shall know the condition and affect the repair **and/or replacement** of furniture and equipment owned or leased by the Union. The committee shall also project future needs and initiate purchase or lease of additional or replacement furniture or equipment. The committee will establish and enforce the rules for use of the property. The rules will be presented to the Executive Board and the Executive Council for approval. Proposed rules that are rejected by the

Executive Board and/or Executive Council shall be returned to the committee with recommendations. A copy of all rules will be posted in the building **and/or Website**. The committee is authorized to enter into agreements to repair, purchase or lease items provided the per-item cost does not exceed ~~\$500.00~~ **\$1,500.00**. Items which exceed ~~\$500.00~~ **\$1,500.00** shall be brought before the Executive Board and Council with recommendation for approval of the expenditure. All items exceeding ~~\$500.00~~ **\$1,500.00** shall be let out for competitive bids. The committee shall report monthly progress to the Executive Council. A list of all repairs, improvements, ~~and~~ acquisitions **and disposals** of furniture and equipment shall be maintained. The committee shall obtain approval from the Executive Council for such events and programs in advancement of the solidarity of the Union.

Election Committee Chair Elizabeth Strader explained that the Election Committee elected terms has expired. Nomination were taken for the 5 member seats. There were 5 nominees Elizabeth Strader, Deb Basnight, Joe Alu, Nicole Wilcox and Pam Gonski who will fill those seats. Anyone wishing to help out with elections in the future please contact one of these members.

**For the Good of the Union:**

2021 meeting schedule is as follows and will resume via "ZOOM" until further notice:

January 4, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board (Officers, Trustees, Members at Large, Sergeant at Arms, Guide and Retiree Chapter Rep.)  
January 4, 2021, 4:30 pm-Executive Council (Executive Board, Grievance Reps. and Councillors)  
February 1, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
February 1, 2021, 4:30 pm-Executive Council  
March 1, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
March 1, 2021, 4:30 pm-General Membership  
April 5, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
April 5, 2021, 4:30 pm-Executive Council  
May 3, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
May 3, 2021, 4:30 pm-Executive Council  
June 7, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
June 7, 2021, 4:30 pm-General Membership  
July 5, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
July 5, 2021, 4:30 pm-Executive Council  
August 2, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
August 2, 2021, 4:30 pm-Executive Council  
September 13, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
September 13, 2021, 4:30 pm-General Membership  
October 4, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
October 4, 2021, 4:30 pm-Executive Council  
November 1, 2021, 3:30 pm-Executive Board  
November 1, 2021, 4:30 pm-Executive Council

December 6, 3:30 pm-Executive Board

December 6, 2021, 4:30 pm-General Membership

**All Board and Council members are expected to be at all meetings.**

President William E. Louis explained to the membership that per his conversation with HR that Floating Holiday's can be used throughout to February of the next year whether you work the shut down or not.

We have updated our "ZOOM" meeting for General Membership meetings to accommodate up to 500 viewers for a cost of \$50.00 per meeting. Please join these General Membership meetings to stay informed and involved with your Union.

During the General Membership Meeting, a few things were discussed. The first being attendance by the Union Council. We do understand the many changes recently and at this time feel we have a safe way to continue meeting, virtually, and continuing to receive the information to better represent the membership. Starting January of 2021, the absentee committee will oversee the absences of council going forward and follow all the rules per the Bi-Laws. So, it is important to make yourselves available for the meetings and continue to communicate any issues with the absentee committee.

Passing of information was another topic. We, again, understand the changes lately when it comes to being in work or home. We as Councillors, are responsible for disseminating information to the members as one of our most important responsibilities. Each Councillor should be responsible for 50 - 75 members. You must create an email group that can be utilized to forward information once the office puts it out to you. If you are WFH or out of work, please ask for help from another rep. We all need to get better at this.

I have reached out to the UAW again, to see what options may be available to run elections. More info to come.

Any questions, please let us know.

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

<b>BADGE:</b>	<b>NAME:</b>	<b>DEPT</b>
149608	Neha Sagar *	429
159059	Christopher Myers	496
158897	Lauren Sposato	447
159093	Melvin Swann	430
225421	Thomas Service	408
157638	Barbara Tanner	442
153283	David Breault	460
153936	Gerald Thibodeau	460
158894	Amanda Favro	436
159060	Roger Tevepaugh	472
159118	Stephanie Jimenez	400
159098	Steven Morse	701

\*reinstated



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

A motion was made to adjourn (Tony Giordano), seconded (Jeremy Deschamps) and passed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martha Fletcher".

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.**

