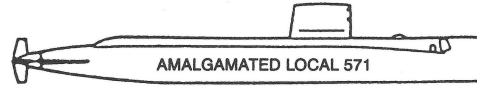




**UAW LOCAL 571
MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

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***MDA-UAW Local 571
General Membership Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2024***

December 4, 2024

President William E. Louis called the meeting to order. The Region 9A Veteran's Committee Color Guard led us in the National Anthem and presented Colors. MDA Chaplin George Earley led us in prayer and a moment of silence, asking that we keep in our thoughts recently deceased member Alexander Woods and retiree William Downie Jr. , our recently deceased members, past members, retirees, family members, and our Veterans past and present. President William Louis acknowledged the attendance of our UAW Region 9A Serving Rep Jose Melera.

President William E. Louis asked for a motion to accept the November 4, 2024, Executive Council Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted (Greg Maynard), seconded (Glen Pothier) and passed to accept.

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Robert Faraci read the Treasurers Report. A motion was made (Tom Clancy), seconded (Dan Champagne) and passed to accept the report.

Officer Reports:

First Vice President Amy Stephenson reported filed grievance U-0018-24 for unjust termination and one member was terminated while on probation.

Second Vice President Bob Canova reported filed grievance U-0015-24, Company's failure to negotiate the new Cost Share, with regards to the IRS increases to High Deductible Health Insurance out of pocket deductible for the Benefit Year 2025. The grievance has been signed off in step 3 and a Letter of Intent to Arbitrate has been filed.

Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher reported no new Step 3 grievances filed.

Financial Secretary Dave Evans reported no new Step 3 grievances filed.

Treasurer Robert Faraci reported no new Step 3 grievances filed.

A motion was made to suspend the reading of Committee Reports to lessen the time of the meeting so that the membership could enjoy socializing and dinner. Reports are in these Meeting Minutes (Greg Maynard), seconded (Dan Champagne) and passed to accept.

William E. Louis, President
Amy Stephenson, 1st Vice President
Bob Canova, 2nd Vice President



Martha Fletcher, Recording Secretary
Dave W. Evans, Financial Secretary
Robert J. Faraci, Treasurer

Standing Committee Reports:

Recreation Committee 1st Vice President Amy Stephenson reports the upcoming MDA events are:

MDA Dinner Dance 12/7/24

Community Service Co-Chair Chair James Newman reported: **Tommy Toy Drive:** Thank you to everyone who contributed a new toy today on the way in. We are still collecting new toys through December 8th throughout the EB facilities and at the Union Office. The morning of December 9th (Next Monday) we will be picking up the toys from the collection spots, taking pictures and dropping them off at the Gemma E Moran United Way / Labor Food Center to be sorted. The UWSECT is looking for volunteers to sign up for distributing the toys on December 11th and 12th. If you would like to volunteer please register online at <https://www.uwsect.org/tommytoy> Thank you!

Please contact Jim Newman 433-2558, Peter Crizer 433-2706 or JoAnna McClenathan 867-4587 or via skype if you have any questions.

Insurance and Benefits Committee Chair Ed Nevins reported:

2025 Annual Enrollment:

Annual Enrollment: Enrollment will end December 3rd, at 11:59pm. I hope everyone completed their selection for the 2025 season and made a copy of selections. HSA contributions can be adjusted anytime during the year. ***If you have not completed this process, please do so.***

Note: Following the enrollment process and printing your confirmation/benefit selections some members experienced Dental benefits not printing selections on the confirmation, but was recorded properly. Benefits office was made aware and has been working with Fidelity to address this problem.

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

- **Hospital** 6:00 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, walk in single shots. On Friday dedicated walk-in clinic.
- **NL Health Services** 6:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Monday walk-in clinic 9-12pm until 12/16/2024, all other times single shot walk-in.

Fidelity: Fidelity is holding 1:1 planning sessions, space is limited so if you wish to sign up please do so. December 2nd & 3rd, 9:00am to 5:00pm, virtual. December 16th, 17th & 18th, 9:00am to 5:00pm, 1st floor conference room, Building 45A, Groton. You can visit Fidelity on-line to register.

HSA Accounts:

From last month's report, if you elect to have a Health Savings Account you also need to open this account to receive the company contribution. We had 18 MDA members, down to 2 who are eligible for the company contribution and they have not opened their HSA account, essentially leaving money on the table. **We have reached out multiple times to remind them of the importance of not to give money away.** The deadline was **12/1/24** to receive the contribution.

MDA-Benefits Committee:

If you have insurance questions or concerns, feel free to contact a benefits committee member:

- Erica Bonefas, 860-405-8692, Groton, Building 129
- Tony Giordano 860-867-2458, NL, Tower C, 3rd Floor.
- Jim Newman 433-2558, Groton, Shipyard, Building 130.
- Mark Ciliano 860-303-2952 (Retired)
- Chairman Ed Nevins 867-2563, NL, Tower C, 1st Floor.

Absentee Committee Wayne Carbone: reports the Absentee Committee Chair reported that the following Executive Board or Executive Council Members were absent from the November 4, 2024 Executive Board/Executive Council meeting held at the Mystic Marriott Hotel, 625 North Road, Groton, CT 06340.

Kevin Brodnicki (1), Jeffrey Carver (1), Patrick Fitzgerald (2), Richard Gianfranco (4), Karen Hensley (2), Gregory Maynard (1), Holly Montbriand (2), Jeffrey Vary (2), and Velma Williams (2).

In addition to the report just given the Absentee Committee would like to make the following corrections to previous reports. Patrick Fitzgerald was reported as being absent from the June 3, 2024 meeting; He was not. Steven Trujillo was reported as being absent from the October 9, 2024 meeting; He was not. Corrections to the Master file that tracks lateness and absences has been corrected.

(Value) – Indicates number of Meetings the Member has been absent.

When a member of the Executive Board is recorded as being absent in the meeting minutes, per the UAW Constitution, it does not reflect whether the absence is excused or un-excused.

Three lateness's in excess of 15 minutes each is considered as one un-excused absence. If you feel you were reported in error, please submit in writing to the Absentee Committee, the reason you feel the error was made.

The November Executive Council Meeting Minutes were incorrectly reported stating "*Due to the meeting being held on a Wednesday as opposed to our traditional Monday meetings the Absentee Committee and the Committee Officer have decided to forgive all absences for the October 9, 2024 meeting. You will still be recorded as being absent but it will not be an absence that is counted against your attendance*". After discussion with the Executive Board that statement was unanimously voted not to stand and any absence by the Executive Board and Council was to remain an absence. The Absentee Committee would like to stress the importance of regular monthly meeting attendance for all E-Board members, E-Council members and Committee Chairs.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, please contact, in advance, any one of the Absentee Committee members: Wayne Carbone (Chair): WCARBONE@GDEB.COM (860) 867-2691 / Cell: 860-857-6426, Anthony (Tony) Giordano Jr.: AGIORDAN@GDEB.COM (860) 867-2458, Eric Straub ESTRAUB@GDEB.COM: Work: (860) 867-4607 / Cell: (860) 501-2230. The Officer of the Absentee Committee is Martha Fletcher RECORDSEC571@GMAIL.COM, (860) 448-0552 / Cell: (860) 608-1301.

Health and Safety Committee Eric Straub reports Rob Gaudiano, Steve Trujillo, Brad Lamphere and I attended the 2024 ConnectiCOSH Ray Elling Health and Safety Convention at the International Association of Machinists Union Hall in East Hartford on November 15.

This year's theme was Mind, Body and Work: Awareness and Safety for All. The main topics of discussion were the physical and psychological issues associated with today's workplaces. Seminars included: Workplace stress and violence (including case histories), their recognition and alleviation; psychologically based workers' comp claims and their adjudication, and an informative keynote address by Michael O'Malley, President of MOAB Training International Incorporated. MOAB stands for **Management of Aggressive Behavior**. His presentation and instruction explored the factors behind workplace stress, the handling and de-escalation of workplace confrontations; protection from injury; and the control of individuals without inflicting harm. ConnectiCOSH strives to make Connecticut's workplaces safer through research, training and involvement at the state and federal levels.

Old Business

If you are interested in purchasing apparel, outside of the 2 free items, the Union covers 50% of the cost. We have a new logo, many styles and colors. If interested, please contact Kristen at the Union Office, 860-448-0552. Orders are slowly coming in and we will contact you and make arrangements to get your order to you.

We are taking orders for Red Polo Solidarity Shirts for new members who have not received one in the past to wear in solidarity for our upcoming contract negotiations. Please let your Union Councillor know your size and male or female or call Kristen at the Union Hall to place your order.

The MDA Veteran's Committee Corn Hole Tournament took place at Foxwoods Casino on November 16th. Over 125 teams participated and enjoyed the event which raised \$24,700.00 to be distributed to area Veterans organizations. Each participant received this year's Challenge Coin. There are Challenge Coins from this year and last year's event available for purchase at \$10.00 each. Please contact the Union Hall if interested.

Last day for Benefits Open Enrollment is 12-4-24.

The MDA Holiday Dinner Dance is December 7th at Foxwoods. 880 people will be attending.

New Business

A motion was made (Steve Karavolis), seconded (Greg Allard) to have the 2024 MDA Holiday Dinner Dance be at no cost to the membership. Discussions took place on the floor and a vote by the membership was taken to keep the \$25.00 charge per member and 1-guest.

A motion to accept the 2025 MDA E-Board, E-Council and General Membership Meeting Schedule (George Early), seconded (Tom Clancy) and passed to accept.

New Hires who qualify for state unemployment benefits due to the company shutdown in December will be sent in the mail what they need to do to apply for the benefit.

December 14th at the Groton Sportsmen’s Club will be a Pheasant Hunt free to Veteran’s. Please contact Wayne Carbone (860) 867-2691 for more information. Wayne will also be collecting unwanted Turkey Vouchers to be donated to area Veterans Organizations.

Bell Ringers for the EB Holiday Collection are needed in New London. Unfortunately, there is no shop order for volunteering. If interested contact Wayne Carbone (860) 867-2691.

For the Good of the Union

The MDA Women’s Committee and Local Union Communications Association Committee (LUCA) held their Annual Christmas/Holiday Photos with Santa Event on Sunday, December 1st at the Union Hall. The event was well attended by members with their families and pets. Attendee’s had pictures taken with Santa and/or holiday backdrops that were put on cards with envelopes to be sent out for the Holiday. Members also enjoyed refreshments and crafts. Thank you to President William Louis, 1st VP Amy Stephenson and Ella and Greyson Stephenson, 2nd VP Bob (Santa) and Carol Canova, Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher, LUCA Chair Kristen Kvist-Morrow and Tom Morrow and Women’s Committee Members Elizabeth Strader and Judi Page for all the hard work making the event a success.

A special thanks goes out to our members and retirees who so generously donated toys to the United Way Tommy Toy Fund at this December General Membership Meeting. Your generosity was overwhelming.

The MDA Contract Negotiation Team has met on 2-occassions amongst ourselves so far to date. We discussed timelines, request of information from the company, went over MOAs and side letters and questionnaires to be distributed to the membership. A February 2025 time frame is anticipated to start sitting down with the company and at that time we will be putting together our MDA SME side committees.

Our Region 9A Servicing Rep. Jose Melara swore in newly elected councillors Tracy Nickerson, JoAnna McClenathan, Dana Spencer and Richard Bernat.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO MDA-UAW LOCAL 571

| BADGE | NAME | DEPT. |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 171429 | YALIMAR COLON VEGA | 456 |
| 171707 | TIRAH MOORE | 459 |

| | | |
|--------|-----------------------|-----|
| 171744 | RAFAEL LINO | 469 |
| 171609 | J'QUAN MONROE | 453 |
| 171422 | ALEJANDRO VELIZ | 456 |
| 171291 | GABRIEL CABEZAS | 453 |
| 172411 | KYLE DRISCOLL | 452 |
| 171243 | ANTHONY MORALES | 469 |
| 161122 | RICHARD FIL | 342 |
| 172282 | RAMEL GRECO | 453 |
| 172382 | ETHAN WADE | 469 |
| 170844 | EMMITT CLARK | 469 |
| 172728 | COREY EWEN | 701 |
| 171412 | JOHN HURDELL | 452 |
| 172410 | JASON CHAVEZ | 459 |
| 171942 | JONATHAN LODICO | 456 |
| 171354 | CAMERON MCPARTLAND | 456 |

A motion was made to accept the new members (George Earley), seconded (Joe Marmaud) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to adjourn (Anne Wurzbacher), seconded (Bill Larkin) and passed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Fletcher

Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher

***Visit our WEBSITE on the GDEB Intranet Homepage or at 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.***