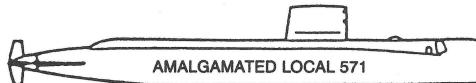




**UAW LOCAL 571**  
MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION



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**MDA-UAW Local 571  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
January 5, 2026**

January 7, 2025

**President William E. Louis** called the meeting to order and asked that we keep in our thoughts recently deceased member Sarah Merced, past members, retirees, family members, and our veterans past and present. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**President William E. Louis** asked for a motion to accept the December 15, 2025 General Membership Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted (Patrick Fitzgerald), seconded (George Earley) and passed to accept.

**Treasurers Report:**

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** read the Treasurers Report. A motion was made (Steven Trujillo), seconded (George Earley) and passed to accept the report.

**Correspondance:**

**From the UAW International**, a call letter to the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual International UAW Chaplaincy Conference, May 17-22, 2026 at the Family Education Center, Black Lake, Michigan.

**From 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Robert Canova**, a letter of resignation as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for Local 571 due to retiring January 30, 2026.

**Officer Reports:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Amy Stephenson** reported no new Step 3 grievances filed.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Robert Canova** reported no new Step 3 grievances filed.

**Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported no new Step 3 grievances filed. A member received a last chance memo for creating a work place disturbance.

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

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** reported no new Step 3 grievances filed.

William E. Louis, President  
Amy Stephenson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Bob Canova, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



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

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Election Committee Officer Robert Faraci** reported one election committee member resigned on 12/16/2025. The Election Committee will need to have nominations at the March 2nd, 2026 General Membership meeting.

MDA By-Laws Article XIV – Election Committee States:

Section 1 – Electing the Election Committee

c. In the event a vacancy occurs within the Election Committee, the Local Union Election Committee will hold nominations and elections at the next general membership meeting to fill the vacancy.

Anyone wishing to run for the one (1) open position, must be present at the March 2nd, 2025 General Membership Meeting, nominate themselves or be nominated and accept the nomination. In the event that an election is necessary; it will be held at the end of the General Membership meeting.

**Community Service Chair James Newman** reported:

Food Donations: Thank you to everyone who remembered to bring food items to the December 15<sup>th</sup> General Membership meeting. We were able to collect and deliver 300 pounds of nonperishable food to the Gemma E Moran United Way Labor Food Center.

Food is still being collected throughout the EB facilities. Nonperishable food donations can be placed in the white food collection boxes located at most entrances. (Please, no glass.) As of December 15<sup>th</sup>, we have collected 2,119 pounds of food (equivalent to 1,766 meals). This does not include the 300 pounds from our December General Membership meeting.

UWSECT Allocations Process Volunteers Wanted: We are looking for volunteers who would like to get involved with the UWSECT Allocations process reviewing programs for funding. If you would like to get involved in the 3-month process reviewing programs we help fund with money raised in our EBECSA Campaign, please let us know and we can answer any questions you may have.

Thank you!

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

**Insurance Benefits Chair Ed Nevins reported:**

Annual Enrollment closed for 2026 Benefits:

- The Benefits Committee identified a problem with your 2026 ID cards having incorrect deductibles, corrections are being made and new cards will be mailed. Your group and policy numbers are not impacted.
- Your benefits selections are in-effect for this year. You should make sure your selections and weekly contributions agree with those selections made during open enrollment. If not, contact the GD service center at 1-888-432-3633.
- Double check your HSA and/or FSA contribution amounts agree with your selections. HSA contributions can be adjusted throughout the year.

**EB Family Wellness Center Co-pay:**

The Healthcare center exclusively serves Electric Boat. Premise Health our administrator is well known to the EB community, as they currently operate the pharmacies in Groton and Quonset Point! Electric Boat has partnered with Premise Health to create an innovative medical facility for you and your family in Groton. The Electric Boat Family Wellness Center provides a wide array of high-quality primary and preventive care, physical therapy and pharmacy services.

Avoid long wait times for routine physicals and checkups by making an appointment with the Electric Boat Family Wellness Center. You can call or visit during regular operating hours to make an appointment or use the online Member Portal.

With doctor office visits getting harder to schedule this may be the alternate solution for you to consider:

- \$55 co-pay for both the sick visits/acute or urgent care (in-person & telehealth) including ongoing therapy/counseling.
- \$35 co-pay for physical therapy (per plan limit).
- Employees on EB medical plans and their dependents over two years of age can take advantage of this center.
- Services Include: Primary Care, Acute Care, Urgent Care, Laboratory Services, Disease management, lifestyle management, and physical therapy.
- Wide variety of health programs such as Wellness Center (13 exam rooms, physical therapy and laboratory), Pharmacy, Ascent Hearing Service, Dimensions-Diabetes Program, UHC Wellness coaches.
- Staff on Board, Physician, Nurse Practitioner, RN Health Manager, Physical Therapist, Licensed Practical Nurse, Condition Management RN and Phlebotomist.
- Like any physician's office, employees' medical records at the center are protected under national HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) privacy protections. EB will not have access to employees' medical records.
- Wellness Center Groton Open: Monday-Thursday 7am-6pm, Fri 6am-5pm, Saturday 8am-1pm, call 860-629-8272.
- EB Pharmacy Groton 1-888-578-3457, Mon & Fri 6:30am-5:30pm, Tue & Thurs 7am-7pm, Wed 7am-6pm, Sat 8am-1pm.
- EB Pharmacy Quonset Point RI 1-800-891-4235, Mon & Fri 6:30am-5:30pm, Tue & Thurs 7am-7pm, Wed 7am-6pm, Sat 8am-1pm.

**Fidelity 1:1 Planning Sessions:**

Virtual meetings with Fidelity will be held January 12 & 13 from 9am-5pm. Communications for in person planning sessions with our onsite representative will be announced January 19<sup>th</sup>.

**MDA-Benefits Committee:**

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

- Tony Giordano 860-867-2458, NL, Tower C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.
- Jim Newman 433-2558, Groton, Shipyard, Building 130.
- Mark Ciliano 860-303-2952 (Retired)
- Chairman Ed Nevins 867-2563, Kings Highway, Groton

*Erica Bonefas resigned from the benefits committee having excepted another position at EB.*

**The benefits committee would like to wish every member and their family a Healthy, Happy New Year.**

**Absentee Committee Chair Wayne Carbone** reported the following Executive Board or Executive Council Members were absent from the December 15, 2025, Executive Board/General Membership meeting held at the Mystic Marriott Hotel, 625 North Road, Groton CT 06340.

Pamela Gonski (3/0), Mark Ciliano (3/0), Michael Alice (8/0), Daniel Champaign (1/0), Patrick Fitzgerald (4/0), Brad Lamphere (6/0), Nicole Reagan (5/0), Dayna Spencer (3/0) and Steven Trujillo (2/0).

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the MDA-UAW Local 571 Absentee Committee, instances where a Scheduled Meeting Date is changed the Absences shall be considered as Excused. The December 15, 2025, meeting was originally posted as being held December 1, 2025, therefore the above listed Executive Board/Executive Council members who were absent will have their absence categorized as Excused.

Glen Pothier was listed as being absent from the MDA-UAW Local 571 November 3, 2025, Executive Board/Executive Council meeting held at the Mystic Marriott Hotel, 625 North Road, Groton CT 06340. Glen's absence was reported in error. The database has been corrected to reflect his attendance at that meeting.

(X/X) – Indicates number of Meetings the Member has been absent/ Indicates number of Meetings the Member has been late.

When a member of the Executive Board/Executive Council 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 more than 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 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](mailto:WCARBONE@GDEB.COM) (860) 867-2691 / Cell: 860-857-6426, Anthony (Tony) Giordano Jr.: [AGIORDAN@GDEB.COM](mailto:AGIORDAN@GDEB.COM) (860) 867-2458, Eric Straub [ESTRAUB@GDEB.COM](mailto:ESTRAUB@GDEB.COM): Work: (860) 867-4607 / Cell: (860) 501-2230. The Officer of the Absentee Committee is Martha Fletcher [RECORDSEC571@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RECORDSEC571@GMAIL.COM), (860) 448-0552 / Cell: (860) 608-1301.

## **Old Business**

If you are interested in purchasing apparel, outside of the two free items, the Union covers 50% of the cost. We have a new logo, many styles and colors. There is a new catalog with new apparel and logos. Your 2-free items are still available for members who have not received them. 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.

## **New Business**

A motion was made (David Belanger), seconded (Eric Straub) and passed to accept the 2026 upcoming Union Events:

### **February**

Movie Day: Support a Movie Day for members and family.

MDA Scholarship: Support 8-\$2500 (8 High School seniors of members will receive).

Boy Scouts Merritt Drafting Badge: Support to hold drafting class for up to 12 scouts and provide lunch and snacks for the day.

Order Flag Day pins.

### **April**

Workers Memorial: Support to send up to 3 members to work cleanup day, and provide lunch and purchase the wreath for the service.

### **May**

UCAN Training: Support 2 weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cover registration and graduation fees for those members looking to attend.

MDA Bus Trip-support to provide a subsidy for a bus trip (destination TBD).

### **June**

3rd Annual United Way of Southeastern CT Cornhole Fundraiser: to provide support to our community. Approve \$2500 to support the event.

MDA Scholarship: Support Recognition Dinner at Tony D's to recognize the 8 winners of the \$2500 scholarships and their parents.

S.H.I.P Mentor Training: Support to provide lunch.

Order shirts for the mentors and interns.

### **July**

Run to Home Base Event: approve \$5,000, plus the cost of the bus for team to travel back and forth to Fenway Park.

Water Park: approve subsidy for MDA family day (location TBD)

### **August**

Dodd Stadium BBQ Baseball Game: Support to provide a subsidy for a BBQ game at Dodd for MDA members and family.

Solidarity Day Picnic Washington Park: Support to provide this event for members and their families.

S.H.I.P Labor Museum: Support to provide lunch at museum & \$2,000 donation.

## **September**

United Way of Southeastern CT Golf Event: support \$1,500 subsidy towards MDA golfers who participate.

Rocky Hill Stand Down: Support sending up to 8 for the day to provide goods to Veterans in need. Covering lost time, van rentals and travel.

MDA Golf Outing: support golf cart cost (first come, first serve), prizes, awards and food for event. (Golfers pay \$20 each to participate).

V.E.T.S. Golf Classic \$10,000 donation.

## **October**

MDA Camp Outing: Support 1 night for MDA campers and families and also provide dinner for the Saturday Night for all. MDA members and their families are welcome to come in for the day on the Saturday and/or Sunday to participate, free.

Great Wolf Lodge: Approve subsidy for MDA family day

Approval for Gemma Gala \$10,000 donation.

## **November**

Region 9A Veterans Dinner Dance: Support 2-tables of 10 and a full-page ad in the event program.

MDA Local 571 Veterans Committee Cornhole Fundraiser: Support \$15,000 for the event. This will cover challenge coins, vans (if needed) and food for the event. Any money left over will go to support our local Veterans.

MDA Christmas/Holiday Card Event: Support event at the Union Hall for members and their families to come in and get Christmas/Holiday cards. Kids also enjoy activities and snacks.

## **December**

MDA Holiday/Christmas Dinner Dance: Subsidize the cost of dinner/dance for members and their guest.

Tony D's Union/Company Social: Support event to thank all for the year of support.

Apprentice Grad Gifts: approval to order grad gifts for 2027.

\*Dates are subject to change

## **For the Good of the Union**

Our Contract should be put out electronically very soon. It takes time for the company and us to go through it in its entirety and have discussion if any disagreements with the company and we feel we are now past that.

The new FTO hours work/overtime percentage payouts for 10+year members takes place in January 2027. This is due to the company wanting a full year since contract signing to implement.

Calendar inserts and or books for our councillors will be in very soon. We made sure we ordered them soon enough, but there was a hiccup with the printers.

Pension Buy Out amounts are available to view through GDBenfits Fidelity.

We are having discussions with HR on certain disciplinary actions that stay with a member for their whole career. We are looking to lighten the length on how long the disciplinary stays with the member.

A motion was made to adjourn (Karen Hensley) , seconded (Glen Pothier) 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](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.*