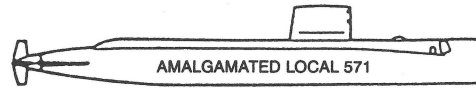




**UAW LOCAL 571**  
**MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**



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**MDA-UAW Local 571**  
**Executive Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 4, 2025**

August 7, 2025

**President William E. Louis** called the meeting to order and asked that we keep in our thoughts, recently deceased retiree Sandra Goode-Ferguson, past members, retirees, family members, and our veterans past and present.

**President William E. Louis** asked for a motion to accept the July 7, 2025, Executive Board Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted (Dave Belanger), seconded (James Newman) and passed to accept.

**Correspondence:**

**From the United Way of South Eastern CT/CT AFL-CIO**, the AFL-CIO Annual Golf Tournament, September 8, 2025, Norwich Golf Course.

**From the UAW International**, an official Call Letter to the Member Mobilization Institute, September 28-October 3, 2025, at the UAW Family Education Center, Onaway, Michigan.

**From the UAW International**, an official Call Letter to the 2025 UAW Aero/GD/BET Council Meeting, September 15-18, 2025, at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, LA.

**From the CT AFL-CIO**, an official Call Letter to the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Constitutional Convention, November 6-7, 2025, Foxwoods Resort Casino.

**Officer Reports:**

**Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported filed U-0009-25, unjust suspension and U-0010-25, unjust discharge . A member has been discharged for violating a last chance memo. A member has been discharged after receiving a final written warning. A member has been discharged for violation of rules and regulations.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Recreation Committee 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Amy Stephenson:** reported dates for upcoming events:  
Solidarity Picnic Washington Park - August 16, 2025  
MDA Golf - September 13, 2025  
Bus Trip to Boston – September 14, 2025  
MDA Camping Nature Campsites – October 10-13, 2025  
Great Wolf Lodge Foxwoods – November 7- 9, 2025  
MDA Holiday Dinner Dance – December 6, 2025

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

**Building and Property Financial Secretary Dave Evans** reported we have had 3- estimates for a new furnace at the Union Hall. The committee has selected the vendor who will do the replacement. The work will be completed later this month. While conducting a service call on the AC unit at the Hall, it was found there are leaking pipes and other issues with the condenser. We received an estimate for the repair.

**Summer Hire Intern Program (SHIP) Financial Secretary Dave Evans** reported the MDA interns have arrived and they will be here until the end of August. Please make them feel welcome and engaged.

**Financial Secretary Dave Evans** reported in the month of July the Apprentices rotated to their new locations. I would like to thank the Admin Aides that continue to make this process easier for all involved. If you get an apprentice in your area, please make them feel welcome. The committee is finalizing the Apprentice Standards for review by the JAC.

**UAW Region 9A Summer School James Newman** reported the MDA, Local 571 members attended the UAW, Region 9A, Summer School program in New York City, July 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Kim Deschamps and JoAnna McClenathan presented some of the panels based on their experience working to organize strike duty sign-up and organizing strategies in preparation of a potential strike. We were interacting with other locals within Region 9A and our Region 9A leaders, Brandon Mancilla, (Director), Vail Kohnert-Yount, (Assistant), Jose Melara (Servicing Representative), and Shawn Fain, (President of the UAW) attended both days.

We took part in workshops and panel discussions to learn about what is going on in our region and what the future of the labor movement looks like. The broad range of topics covered in the 2 days included strategizing for political power, NAFTA and grievance handling.

UAW President Shawn Fain talked to the group about goals for the international UAW, and mentioned how our Region 9A is a leader in working towards them. Overall, it was a great weekend of learning about worker power and building solidarity through discussions with our regional union siblings.

In attendance from the MDA, Local 571 were Casey Alger, Craig Kelly, Evan Sperry, JoAnna McClenathan, Anne Wurzbacher, Kim Deschamps, Patrick Breen and Jim Newman.

**Community Service Committee Co-Chair James Newman** reported:

**DOC Events:**

**Thursday July 31<sup>st</sup>** after the UNFI Food Show at the Mohegan Sun, with almost 60 volunteers in 2-1/2 hours we packed up 26,156 pounds of food and nonperishable items to be taken back to the Gemma E Moran United Way Labor Food Center to be distributed to local food pantries and partner agencies. That equals 21,797 meals and is a 55% increase over the same show last year exceeding our goal of 14,000 pounds.

**Volunteers Needed Tuesday August 19<sup>th</sup>!** Our next day of caring event is after the C&S Food Show at the Mohegan Sun, Earth Expo Center. We will be packing up nonperishable food items to be taken back to the Gemma E Moran United Way Labor Food Center to be distributed to local food pantries and partner agencies. Registration will begin at 3:45 and we will start after a quick photo at 4:15. We should be done about 6:30. Family members and guests are welcome and we will provide

volunteer certificates to those who need them. We expect to be able to collect 36,000 to 40,000 pounds of food. Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.

### EBECSA Campaign 2025

We continue to plan for the 2025 Campaign in October. We will be attending the UWSECT celebration Wednesday August 20<sup>th</sup> in celebration for funds raised in last year's campaign. Please let us know if you are interested in joining our campaign team this year. We need help in Groton, New London, Shaw's Cove, Kings Hwy., Long Hill and Eagle Park. We will do our best to use our volunteers where they are located. Please contact JoAnna McClenathan, via Teams or (860) 867-4587, Peter Crizer, (860) 433-2706 or Jim Newman (860) 433-2558 if you have any questions or would like to sign up for any volunteer opportunities or notifications.

**Insurance/Benefits Committee 2 VP Robert Canova** reported he and Benefits Committee Ed Nevins, Anthony Giordano and Jim Newman are looking into the company's cancellation of the "Fidelity® Personalized Planning & Advice for your workplace savings account." within Fidelity. This only affects people that pay Fidelity to actually do the investing for you, (Fidelity actually buying and selling stocks for you) "Managing your Account".

If you **did not** receive an email with a confirmation of unenrollment, then this **does not** apply to you. This does not affect you if you manage your own accounts (choose yourself what accounts or stocks you invest in) or you are in "Target Retirement Year Accounts" (example 2035, 2040, etc.).

We have asked EB Benefits manager and director to provide us with more information on the issue as we investigate who is affected, why the decision was made and by who? We also asked what if anything will replace it?

We understand from some members that Fidelity has sent them messages saying "You have been unenrolled from Fidelity® Personalized Planning & Advice for your workplace savings account..." "...You can also visit NetBenefits.com or call us at 866-811-6041 to enroll again if you wish.". Fidelity is offering to separately continue to provide "Account Management." for people that request it. We are not sure exactly what that entails or costs.

We will keep you updated as we investigate and receive information.

### **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 Erica 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 to send up to 6 members to the GD Conference in September (David Belanger), seconded (James Newman) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to send up to 6 members to the CT AFL-CIO Convention in November (Robert Canova), seconded (James Newman) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to have repair work on the AC unit at the Union Hall with a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00 (Joseph Marmaud), seconded (Robert Canova) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to hold a Councillor Training Class at the Mystic Marriott, September 30, 2025(Robert Canova), seconded (Joseph Marmaud) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to hold a New Member Meet and Greet at the Mystic Marriot, date TBD (David Belanger), seconded Joseph Huffman) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to support a \$1,000.00 Longest Drive patron at the USO Golf Fundraiser to be held at the Mohegan Sun Golf Club (Pamela Gonski), seconded Mark Ciliano) and passed to accept.

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

President William E. Louis now has a new email address [billlouis571@yahoo.com](mailto:billlouis571@yahoo.com), please utilize for Union Communications.

Many members and Employees of Electric Boat participated in the Run to Home Base on July 26<sup>th</sup> in Boston. Proceeds go to Home Base, an organization that helps Veterans, Service members and their families heal from invisible wounds. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row Electric Boat raised the most money for this cause, this year being just under \$115,000 and the total for the event was 3,235,000.00 to the support of Veterans. Special congratulations to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Amy Stephenson's children Greyson Stephenson (15yo) who placed 2nd overall in the 5K and 1st in the under-18 division, and to Ella Stephenson (18yo) who placed 15th overall and 2nd in the women's 18-21 age group!

2 members of the MDA and 2 employees of HR will be proof reading the 2025-2030 MDA Contract starting next week and then it will go to publishing.

Our Trustees James Newman, David Belanger and Mark Ciliano will be performing a bi-annual Trustee Audit next week.

### **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO MDA-UAW LOCAL 571:**

<b>BADGE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPT.</b>
171623	LUCAS GRANT *	469
173606	VICTORIA GORDON	472
173701	HANNAH WEBSTER	701
158599	KAITLIN WIGHT *	604
173703	KYLE ONATE	378

\*Reinstated

A motion was made to accept the new members (Anthony Giordano Jr.), seconded (James Newman) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to adjourn (Martha Fletcher) , seconded (James Newman) 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.*