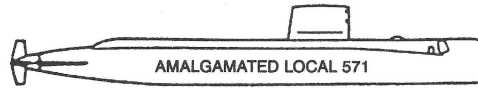


**UAW LOCAL 571
MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

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***MDA-UAW Local 571
Executive Council Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2026***

April 7, 2026

President William E. Louis called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. We were asked to keep in our thoughts, recently deceased retirees Larry Magee and Allen Whewell, past members, retirees, family members and our Veterans past and present.

President William E. Louis asked for a motion to accept the March 2, 2026 General Membership Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted (Karen Hensley), seconded (Austin Perkett) and passed to accept.

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Robert Faraci read the Treasurers Report. A motion was made (Eric Straub), seconded (Karen Hensley) and passed to accept the report.

Correspondance

From the UAW Solidarity House, an invitation for Local Union Communicators (LUCA) to the 2026 UAW Constitutional Convention, June 15-18, 2026, Huntington Place, Detroit, MI.

From the Connecticut Council on Occupational Safety and Health, the ConnectiCOSH Annual Awards Night Dinner to be held May 15, 2026, 6:00pm at the Cas Mia at the Hawthorne Inn, Berlin, CT.

From the UAW International, call to the 2026 UAW Health & Safety Conference, May 3-8, 2026 at the UAW Family Education Center, Onaway, MI.

From the UAW International call to the 2026 UAW Veterans Conference, August 9-14, 2026 at the UAW Family Education Center, Onaway, MI.

From Amy Stephenson, a resignation letter resigning as 1st Vice President of Local 571.

From Gregory Maynard, a resignation letter resigning as 2nd Vice President of Local 571.

From Santos Serano, a letter contesting the Local 571 2nd Vice President Election held March 24, 2026.

From Kevin Brodnicki, a resignation letter resigning as Tower A Councillor as of April 16, 2026.

Officer Reports:

1st Vice President Gregory Maynard reported no new Step 3 grievances filed. A member resigned in lieu of discharge for mischarging/internet abuse.

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.

Standing Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher reported the 2026 John F. Saffomilla and E. Roy Colville Scholarship application is available on our web site and through your area Grievance Reps. Eligibility to apply is limited to graduating High School Seniors whose parent, legal guardian or grandparent is a member or retiree in good standing. The Scholarship awards will consist of (10) awards of \$3,000.00 each. The applications must be received by mail only, no later than Friday, April 24, 2026.

We have added 2 additional Scholarship Applications links to our website for the AFL-CIO Workers Memorial Day and the Region 9A Dik Days Scholarship Applications.

You can find these links at <https://region9A.uaw.org/local571> under committees-scholarship.

Election Committee Chair Anne Wurzbacher reported the Election Committee held nominations for Councillor in A Tower, Poheganut, King's Hwy and Eagle Park. No nominations were received for A Tower or King's Hwy however; Amanda Turner was appointed for King's Hwy. James Auclair was the only nomination for Poheganut and Jessica Price was the only nomination for Eagle Park so no election was necessary. Congrats to our 3 new Councillors.

Nominations and elections were held for 2nd Vice President and Constitutional Convention Delegates on March 24. The 2nd VP election winner was Greg Maynard. The Constitutional Convention Delegates elected were Amy Stephenson, Greg Maynard, Dave Belanger and JoAnna McClenathan and alternates, Pam Gonski, Valerie Beasley, Rob Gaudiano and Evan Sperry. Thank you to the Election Committee and all helpers that made this election process run smoothly and quickly: Jason Anderson, Paula Brown, Kim Deschamps, George Earley, Kevin Fusconi, Dave Harris, Deasanne James, Michelle Leduke, Kevin McGill, Janet Morse, Jim Newman, Jessica Price, Cristin Rezendes, Nicole Wilcox and Anne Wurzbacher.

With receipt of resignation from Amy Stephenson in the position of 1st VP and Greg Maynard in the position of 2nd VP, nominations will open at the June General Membership Meeting. An Election Committee Notice will be distributed in May.

Community Service Co-Chair Peter Crizer reported:

DOC Events: On Tuesday March 10th, 70 Volunteers in 2 hours of time came together with family and friends to collect food and other household items after the C&S Food Show at the Mohegan Sun. A record breaking 61,857 pounds of food, (equivalent to 51,548 meals) and household goods were packed up and taken to the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center in New London where it gets distributed to over 65 partner food lockers and Mobile Food Distributions. Previously, these products would have been thrown away after the vendors leave. Instead, we partner with United Way of Southeastern CT to salvage it, helping our neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity. Pictures and details from the event can be found on the EBECSA website. Thank you to all the MDA members, retirees and family members who came out and supported this event! Your hard work goes a long way towards building a strong and healthy community here in Southeastern CT. That is 8,316 pounds more than the same show last year.

Our next **EBECSA DOC** volunteering event will be May 16th at the East Lyme Giving Garden. Please save the date and we will post the flyer when it is ready.

UCAN Training May 12th to May 21st from 6 to 9pm: This year's UCAN (Union Community Activist Network) training provided by the partnership of the Southeastern Connecticut Central Labor Council AFL-CIO and the Southeastern CT United Way. This is a great opportunity to be a resource for your co-workers should they need a little help. You can learn about the wide variety of community programs available through the South Eastern CT United Way and how to get people connected. We recommend this training for anyone who plans to become a councilor or committee member in the future, or who just wants to be someone people can come to and trust when they have fallen on hard times. The union approved covering the registration. Please RSVP and return it to us or the Union Office. We hope you will consider taking the training and joining the UCAN network at EB.

EBECSA Campaign 2026: We continue to plan for the 2026 Campaign in October which is our 75th anniversary of Community Services and have started scheduling conference rooms for the events. If you're interested in joining our campaign team, please let us know. We need help in all locations, and we will do our best to use our volunteers in their normal work locations.

Please contact Peter Crizer, (860) 433-2706, Kim Deschamps, (860) 433-7552 JoAnna McClenathan, via Teams or (860) 867-4587, 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 Chair Ed Nevins reported:

OPTUM:

From April through June every wellness coaching session you complete earns you one entry into the Q2 raffle. For complete details visit Benefits & Wellness event page or reach out to your site's wellness coaches. (Backyard Bliss Bundle-Fire Pit & Road Trip Cooler).

- CT-Tabitha Martin, 860-882-9210, martin@optum.com
- QP- Brandon Rounick, 401-302-4043, BrandonRounick@optum.com

Back Up Care Virtual Seminar:

Backup care offers a high quality, subsidized solution when regular care is unavailable (School closed, caregiver sick). Learn about how backup care can help secure affordable temporary care for your child(ren) or adult dependents in and unforeseen disruption of their regular care.

- Wednesday, April 8th, 11am to 12pm.
- Join Zoom Meeting, ID 96872613353, Passcode 200804
- Phone: 1-888-788-0099, Passcode 200804
- Enroll electricboat.care.com or calling 855-781-1303

New London Blood Drive:

- Tuesday April 7 & Wednesday April 8
- 8:30am to 2pm, Terrace A
- Schedule Appointment call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit red cross website.
- Sponsor code: GDEB, Shop order provided at event.

EB Fitness Center:

April 1st to April 15th. Spring into Fitness membership special. During this limited promotion time all EB employees can join the Fitness Center with the \$30 signup fee completely waived.

- Contact the EBFitness@gdeb.com with any questions or stop by the fitness center.

UHC Onsite Advocate:

UHC has selected an Advocate for EB. The new representative will be going through training to learn UHC system. When training nears completion, we will keep you posted.

Annual Health Fair: The Annual Health Fair will be held from June 9 to June 12th; this event will be a large-scale event & June 15 & 16th internal vendors.

- June 9, Groton shipyard 6am-6pm
- June 10, NL, 8am-2pm
- June 11, Kings Highway, 8 am-1pm
- June 12, Bldg. 88-3, 8am-12pm
- June 15, Columbia Bldg., 10am-12pm
- June 16, Eagle Park, 11am-1pm

Eye Care On-Site Van:

Exams take about 30 minutes, they accept VSP vision Plan and out of pocket self-pay. Offer 350 pairs of glasses, sunglasses and contact lenses.

- NL, April 20th from 9am-4pm.

- Groton, April 21st from 8am-4pm & April 22nd from 8am-2pm.
- Visit <https://try.2020onsite.com/general-dynamics-electric-boat/>

EB & MDA Insurance Committee monthly meeting:

Last week we held our monthly benefits meeting to discussed upcoming events and past issues, some of which are in this report.

Reminder Alicia Kelley located in NL:

MDA Benefits representative Alicia is located in Fitness center. Please make sure you reach out to her in advance otherwise she will not know you're at the door trying to gain access. If you're a fitness member and have access Alicia office is located on the left as you walk in.

Short Term Disability

If you are unable to work due to illness or non-work-related injury you should report your absence to Sedgwick CMS immediately. To initiate a claim call Sedgwick at 1-800-416-1808. Remember to refer to disability claim, so there is no confusion with an unpaid FMLA claim. If you are having trouble with a Sedgwick claim or were told to apply for CT paid leave let us know. (EB continues to monitor Sedgwick claims to improve employee experiences).

EB Family Pharmacy:

Is almost always going to be the most cost-effective choice when filling your prescription medications. In addition to cost savings, the EB Pharmacy provides personalized medication, advice and guidance.

- Free home shipping on medications & diabetes medications.
- Significantly discounted over the counter items.
- Specialty medications refills
- On-site pick up at EB-Groton.

Call 888-578-3457 (Groton) & 800-891-4235 (QP)

Fidelity Investments:

The next session will be Monday, April 13 & Tuesday April 14 from 9am to 5pm, space is limited, make sure you register on-line Fidelity NetBenefits website.

Committee Members:

If you have insurance questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to any member of the committee:

- Tony Giordano 860-867-2458, NL, Tower C, 2nd Floor.
- Jim Newman 433-2558, Groton, Shipyard, Bldg. 130.
- Mark Ciliano, 860-303-2952, Retired member
- Chairman Ed Nevins 867-2563, Kings Highway

Absentee Committee Chair Wayne Carbone reported that the following Executive Board or Executive Council Members were absent from the Executive Board/Executive Council/General Membership meeting held March 2, 2026, at the Mystic Marriott Hotel, 625 North Road, Groton CT 06340.

Mark Ciliano (4/0), Douglas Abbruzzese (1/0), Michael Alice (8/0), Michael Edem (4/0), Brad Lamphere (9/0), Ceco Lowe (2/0), Konrad Poznanski (1/0) and Fania Rukundo (1/0).

(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 Work: (860) 867-2691 / Cell: (860) 857-6426, Anthony (Tony) Giordano Jr.: AGIORDAN@GDEB.COM (860) 867-2458, Eric Straub ESTRAUB@GDEB.COM: Work: (860) 867-2284 / Cell: (860) 501-2230. The Officer of the Absentee Committee is Martha Fletcher RECORDSEC571@GMAIL.COM, (860) 448-0552 / Cell: (860) 608-1301.

Joint Technology Co-Chair David Erardy reported:

Committee continues to review Use Case every other week with AI Working Group

- Dell Mobile Data Center placed behind 221. Power has been rigged and configuration has commenced, targeting end of April.
 - Small Scale Prototype servers for Machine Learning
 - Effort is being monitored by AI Working group including MDA members
- Copilot “pilot”
 - AI Working group included in pilot with kickoff on 4/6 with 6–8-week timeframe. The pilot includes the MDA members embedded in the AI working group.
 - Guardrails and guidance documentation developed for pilot; training to occur for pilot
 - Users expected to provide feedback (what works/doesn't work, guidelines, prompts, etc.)
 - Pilot users will share knowledge with broader community when larger roll out occurs following successful pilot
 - Suggestions on items users think would be helpful to test reach out Dave Erardy or Mike Molinari

- Hadrian – Establishing AI enabled factory in Alabama to support submarines
The use of AI is for manufacturing work, and the MDA will be involved if there is any future expansion of the use of AI via the AI Council and AI Working group.

Also, there is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Center link under Popular Resources on Homeport home screen where meeting minutes for AI Council and AI Working group can be found along with Use Cases that have been approved.

Health & Safety Committee Eric Straub reported on March 25, 2026, I attended the ConnectiCOSH Workplace Air Quality Class with T Tack Ryan at the Boilermakers' Local 614 Lodge at 33 Sacred Heart Drive in Groton, CT.

Topics covered were: A Chemical Hazards Overview; How to use a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Pocket Guide on Hazardous Chemicals; How to use the DOT Emergency Response Guidebook; Exposure Limits; the Basics of Air Monitoring, and Respiratory Protection Requirements.

Mike Fitts, Executive Director of ConnectiCOSH, lent his know-how and long experience to all in attendance. Pete Baker, president of the Metal Trades Council, was also present. Pete said that EB would pay for safety classes for the MTC and if anyone on their Safety Committee had any ideas they would be considered.

The latest equipment and techniques were discussed along with anecdotes, some comical; others tragic, of bygone years in the Yard when the North Yard Ways were active, safety standards were different, and the subs were built from the ground up.

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.

Our next New Member Meet and Greet is scheduled for May 5th at the Mystic Marriott. This will be a full day, paid loss time by the union. Lunch will be provided. Please let us know of any questions.

New Business

The 2026 UAW Health and Safety conference will be held May 3rd through the 8th at the UAW Family Education Center, Onaway, MI. A motion was made (Eric Straub), seconded (Austin Perkett) and passed to accept to send up to 2 to the conference.

The 2026 ConnectiCOSH'S Annual Awards Night Dinner will be held May 15th at the Casa Mia at the Hawthorne Inn, 6:00pm. A motion was made(Austin Perkett), seconded (Karen

Hensley) and passed to accept to purchase a table of 10 (\$500) and a ½ page ad (\$500) for the event.

Our amalgamated union, DXC's contract is expiring April 9, 2026. We have 3 members working the facility in Norwich Industrial Park. We are looking to negotiate a new contract in the coming days.

For the Good of the Union

A motion was made (Austin Perkett), second (Glen Pothier) and accepted to support the appointment for the 1st and 2nd Vice President positions. Greg Maynard was appointed to 1st VP and Craig Kelley were appointed to 2nd VP. Thank you both for stepping up to support our membership.

BMDA has ratified its 4-year contract. Congratulations on reaching an agreement.

The union and company have come to an agreement to, wave any "dozing" offense after 2 years. This will no longer be a life-time offense. We are confirming names and will reach out soon to communicate to those affected.

We would like to thank Peter Crizer and Kristen Kvist-Morrow for donating drafting supplies. Donations of drafting supplies that are used for our yearly training held at the Union Hall for local Boy Scout Troops to receive their Drafting Merrit Badge will be greatly appreciated.

We would like to thank Austin Perkett for agreeing to the Grievance Rep appointment. Thank you for providing representation to our membership.

Thank you, Kim Deschamps, for joining our Community Service Committee. The work the MDA does for our community is second to none, thank you all for what you do.

As always, we want to remind members working from home, please be accountable and follow all rules associated with WFH. You must have "teams" live for communication. If you are working a through lunch, straight 8 hours, do not leave your house to go get food, this is not allowed and it would be considered mischarging and will turn into discharge. Also, as a reminder, when working from home or in plant, be aware of computer use and personal emailing. The company has an AI tool that monitors your key strokes, sites you visit and the emails you send. If it is not work related, do not utilize it and jeopardize your livelihood.

Amanda Turner and Jessica Price were sworn in as our newest Councillors. Thank you both for stepping up in support of our members.

We heard there was an incident on the Hartford during a bag check. We were also made aware that, Ships Force is allowed to use deadly force for anyone trying to get on the ship while ignoring security Ships Force direction. This is something we would really like to avoid.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO MDA-UAW LOCAL 571

BADGE	NAME	DEPT.
167489	GABRIELLA FLETCHER	447
170736	MICHAEL KAMINSKI	447
224776	AUSTIN HARLEY	447
159865	HUNTER MAILLOUX	447
171056	DAVID FIENGO	447
148478	TIFFANY ROSSI *	447
174861	ELLIE LEMMON	469
176360	JOSEPH CHAMBERLIN	459
174631	ALYSSA EVANSON	469
174418	JACOB PARKS	403
170548	MARVIN BEASLEY	447
169634	CHRISTIAN MARINOCCIO	462
154815	TIMOTHY BLODGETT *	469
152034	JACOB JIMENEZ *	447
174838	WILLIAM MACNAMARA	469
171643	CLOVER YWARSKY *	456
176488	KATIE RICHARDSON	447
165398	RODERICK PRATTS	453
225503	CONNER COLE	378
171007	CYLE MARTINDALE	378

*Reinstated

A motion was made to accept the application for membership for new and reinstatements (James Newman), seconded (Sharon Ellis) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to adjourn (Karen Hensley) , seconded (David Belanger) 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.*