



NATIONAL MONTFORD POINT MARINE ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. Box 711
Quantico, VA 22134

www.montfordpointmarines.org

13-15 Aug 2015

From: National Recording Secretary
To: National Executive Council, National Montford Point Marine Association Inc.,
Subj: MINUTES, 50TH NATIONAL CONVENTION, MOBILE, AL 13-15 AUG 2015

JOINT SESSION

Thursday 13 July 2015

Call to Order – 0926

Invocation – Reverend James E. Moore

Pledge of Allegiance - Lead by Sergeant at Arms Robert Alridge

Welcome & Acknowledgments

President James T. Averhart

- Welcomed all members and gave special recognition to all the Montford Point Marines (MPMs) in attendance thanking them for their courage, bravery, and efforts towards their legacy.

Ladies Auxiliary President Valerie Neal

- Stands dedicated and ready for the mission of the Association.
- Welcomed three new Ladies Auxiliaries: Chapters 1, 33, and 5
- Thanked President Averhart for his vision and the National Executive Council (NEC) for their support.

Acknowledgements – President Averhart

- Mr. Bill Harkins (LtCol USMC Ret.) Exec. Dir. of Public Services welcomed the MPMs and Association on behalf of the Mayor of Mobile, AL.
- Mr. Jerry Carl, President of Mobile County Commission was excited and thanked the Association for selecting Mobile, AL to host the convention.
- Mr. Al Hutchinson, President and CEO of Mobile Convention and Visitor's Bureau, acknowledged the room of trailblazers – MPMs and thanked the association for selecting Mobile, AL to host the convention.
- President Averhart provided each representative with a NMPMA coin.

Host Chapter – Chapter President Rodney Lee

- Welcomed everyone to Mobile and ensured southern hospitality would be extended to all attendees of the convention.
- Informed all of tourist sights to see and that transportation will be provided if needed.
- Let him or other Chapter members know if you are in need of anything.

Convention Update – Convention Director Ronald Johnson

- Let him or the host Chapter President know of any hotel issues.
- He thanked the Convention Committee for their hard work and he encouraged everyone to patronize the vendors.

Host Chapter – Ladies Auxiliary Chapter President Yolanda Thompson

- Welcomed everyone and hoped they enjoy their stay.
- She identified the most mature and youngest person in the room, Mr. Zeke Clouser of 94 years (Chapter #1) and Alfreda Carmichael (Chapter #10).

Prior to the State of the Association Brief, the National President introduced all the National Officers and all living Past National Presidents [all living PNP's were in attendance]. Ladies Auxiliary was excused to their meeting area.

State of the Association – National President Averhart

The founding mission is being accomplished. Capabilities and limitations have been identified and are being maintained. Although the mission is being accomplished, we are inundated by systemic issues that are undermining the effectiveness and efficiency of our Association. The issues identified can be rectified by a committed staff who must be appointed to perform their duties with definitive guidance of expectations. This can only be accomplished by embracing the team concept to address the glaring concerns of our National By-Laws, which are contradictive and redundant.

Many faucets contribute to the success or failure of an organization. Our Association is no different. Operationally, we are sustaining in a reactive posture. We are operating at optimum speed identifying a myriad of issues requiring immediate action. This action normally causes a reaction, thus allowing the setting of a multitude of tasks to be accomplished. We are effectively prioritizing, managing and accomplishing each initiative identified and unforeseen. The operational tasks are being accomplished with a limited, but committed staff.

33 potentially critical risks were identified that may require resolutions or Courses of Action (COAs) for improvement.

Strategic Methodology: Together, we accomplished initiatives that have been implemented and executed according to the goals briefed and outlined. The Association has focused on areas of concern and must execute the following to continue to move our Association forward:

- **Leadership Environment:** Establish a team-based environment to promote team-building and increase morale.
- **Implementation and Execution of the Plan:** Establish and introduce a realistic plan with attainable goals and be able to create a matrix to measure progress.
- **Professional Environment:** Answering the call of responsibility continues to bring confidence to our Association, where that perception is observed and measured.
- **Way Ahead:** Since 2009, this administration outlined a clear and precise plan to move

this Association to national prominence. Together, we can accomplish our established goals. Therefore, it is imperative to consider the following:

- Ensure our National and Chapter By-Laws stay aligned and are relevant to the purpose and mission of the Association.
- Align our organizational structure, inclusive of the Ladies Auxiliary.
- Vote to elect and appoint the appropriate, competent, member with the right skill set and dedication to carry out the responsibilities of the position. Although volunteering, this is a FULL TIME commitment.
- Accept challenges, be flexible and open-minded, and be able to adapt and adjust to the new technologies and capabilities that will further elevate our Association.
- Provide Professional Military Education Seminars to insert diversity by utilizing military resources to garner support and advocacy from senior active duty military leadership, and capture the attention of the younger generation of warfighters.

In closing the President reminded members, that we have an inherited obligation to the Montford Point Marines by ensuring the preservation of their legacy. In doing so, we will celebrate the future of the National Montford Point Marine Association and the role African Americans will continue to play in ensuring the success of our Association, Corps, and Country

He would continue to honor the office in which he was entrusted to. He thanked the Montford Point Marines, officers, and members for their hard work, consistent, and dedicated efforts. With their continued support and acceptance of this vision, he would continue to lead boldly and more aggressively as the National President of this prestigious Association.

Roll Call – Sgt at Arms Robert Alridge

Elected Officials

President	Vice President	Recording Secretary
Treasurer	Financial Secretary	Sergeant-at-Arms
Chaplain	Public Affairs/Legislative	Veterans Affairs – Vacant
Scholarship Director	Special Projects	Southern Region VP
Western Region VP	Central Region VP	Northern Region VP

Appointed Officials

Quartermaster	Webmaster	By-Laws Chair
Standing Committee	Ceremonial Director	Convention Director
Convention Deputy	Journal Director	Liaison
Monument/Museum	Historian	Awards Chair
Parliamentarian/Deputy		

Chapters

1 – Philadelphia	8 - Los Angeles	19 – Detroit	32 - Quantico
2 – Chicago	9 – Beaufort	20 – Houston	33 – Mobile
3 - New York	10 – Camp Lejeune	21 – Indianapolis	35 – Warner Robins
5 – Atlanta	12 – San Diego	22 – Louisville	36 – Cherry Point

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Deputy Parliamentarian, Ms. Melody Young opened the Convention stating the purpose of being here is to conduct the business of the Association in a professional, smooth, orderly fashion utilizing Robert’s Rules of Order.

- Before speaking or asking a question, ensure you are recognized by the President first stand (if able) and identify yourself for the record.
- Be respectful of others speaking, wait until they have finished, you may have fewer questions and refrain from side bars.
- There is a three minute limit for comments and questions. Briefs and reports are just that stay on point to keep the business on schedule.

Credentialing/Delegate Seating Mr. Forest Spencer - The Committee is guided by the following Articles of the National By-Laws - Article 1 Section 1.6 – Annual Form 990 Reporting and Article 2 Section 2.5 Credentials, Delegates, Alternates and Members (paragraphs B through E).

- See the committee report for the four Courses of Action (COAs) that were presented to the members for consideration to cast votes for the business portion of the National Convention and will be based on the approved delegate count proposed in this report to the National Executive Committee.
- The committee recommended COA #3
- A motion was made by CRVP Sharon Parry-Stokes to accept COA #2. The motion was 2nd by George Gillis of Chapter 29. The motion passed with 3 recorded Nays.
- A motion was made by CRVP Sharon Stokes-Parry to accept Chapter 41 Beloit Rockford on condition they pay their fees to become ‘financial and be seated IAW COA #2. The motion was 2nd by PNP Joseph Geeter III. The motion passed with zero recorded Nays.
- Motion was made by Fred Codes to allow Chapter 5 Atlanta to be seated at convention and their delegate votes be counted IAW COA #2. The motion was 2nd by Chapter #10 President Alfreda Carmichael. The motion passed with 3 recorded Nays.
- Motion was made by Chapter Vice President Kelvin Collins to allow Chapter 7 Granville Alexander to be seated at convention and their delegate votes be counted IAW COA #2. the motion was 2nd by Chapter 29 George Gillis. The motion passed with 3 recorded Nays.
- The Credentials Chair reminded everyone that although a Chapter is not present today, they do not lose their delegate votes for example Chapter 36 – Cherry Point and Chapter 42 Greenville MS. If they make it to Convention they do have their delegate votes and they are eligible to be seated. The **delegate votes** are as follows:

Chapter 1 / 5	Chapter 7 / 3	Chapter 17 / 4	Chapter 29 / 5	Chapter 41 / 2
Chapter 2 / 10	Chapter 8 / 9	Chapter 20 / 3	Chapter 32 / 12	Chapter 42 / 2
Chapter 3 / 8	Chapter 10 / 22	Chapter 21 / 4	Chapter 33 / 4	
Chapter 5 / 5	Chapter 12 / 7	Chapter 22 / 4	Chapter 35 / 5	
Chapter 6 / 8	Chapter 13 / 4	Chapter 25 / 3	Chapter 36 / 2	

Special Projects Officer - Mr. George Herring reported that since Spring Council, he has received \$14,273.00 from Chapters of the Association. **The report will be made available upon request.**

National Financial Secretary - Mr. David Fortune provided a copy of the Financial Report to the members dated as of 7/31/2015 – **The report will be made available upon request.**

Beginning Balance: \$ 321,803

Ending Balance: \$ 381,074 (Total Assets)

- A motion was made by CRVP Sharon Stokes-Parry to accept the financial report subject to audit. The motion was 2nd by Chapter 5 Vice President Ed Sutton. The motion passed with 2 recorded Nays.

Treasurer - Mr. Charles Stallard provided a copy of the Treasury Report to the members. **The report will be made available upon request.**

- A motion was made by PNP Joseph Geeter III, to accept the financial report subject to audit. The motion was 2nd by Chapter 41 Beloit Rockford President C. L. Johnson. The motion passed with 2 recorded Nays.

Quartermaster – Elijah Abram provided a copy of the Quartermasters Report. **The report will be made available upon request.**

A motion was made by the CRVP Sharon Stokes-Parry to accept the quartermaster report subject to audit. The motion was 2nd by the NRVP James Maillard. The motion passed with 2 recorded Nays by Chapter 10 President Alfreda Carmichael and Chapter 12 member Annanias Rose.

Proposed Budget - Alfreda Carmichael (Chapter 10 President) provided members a proposed budget and briefed each line item. There were a variety of questions and concerns for raising funds and the members were reminded the Ways and Means Committee is responsible for that issue. Members were also reminded that a resolution would need to be put before the Association for many of the recommendations that were not in accordance with the By Laws.

The Thursday business meeting concluded with prayer by Chaplain Moore at 4:35PM.

Friday 14 July 2015

The meeting was called to order at 9:25am with the invocation by Montford Point Marine, Chaplain Theodore Peters, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administrative Notes from the Convention Director and Host Chapter President

- Each Chapter needs to provide a roster or number of attendees at the Awards banquet
- Professional Military Education (PME) at 1300 Social Security and Veterans

Administration and LtGen Bailey will provide a State of the Marine Corps brief followed by the Association photo at 1400.

Roll Call – Sgt at Arms Robert Alridge – A quorum was present

Elected Officials

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Public Relations / Legislative Officer - PNP Joseph Geeter III – he is the voice of the Association to the press and other media outlets requesting information.

- Each member is a Public Relations Officer, report what is going on in your Chapter.
- 1300 newsletters were mailed out and over 100 were returned. Send the National Recording Secretary any address changes.
- He is working with the following individuals to assist with a MPMs story.
 - Damon Taylor-Black Boots Film- currently finished the interview process with MPMs for perspective, currently working on content. For more information visit the website @ <http://www.blackbootsthemovie.com/index.php>
 - John Harris Films is working on a book that tells the Montford Point Story
 - Adam Kennedy-American Heroes of War Project is working on an E-book that tells the story of WWII era servicemen and women.
 - Stephanie Leonard-independent documentarian-about MPM Clayton Pitre. This work resulted in a video and extensive article on the life of MPM Pitre. For more information visit: <http://www.king5.com/story/news/local/2015/07/10/seattle-veteran-african-american-montford-point-marines-world-war-ii/29995441/>

- The 50th Anniversary Coins have arrived! Coins are \$15.00 each and all profits will go to our Monument efforts.
- The success of our national website and newsletter is based off of information you provide. Use the website comments page to leave feedback.
- Film producer **Mr. Damon Taylor** from Black Boots thanked everyone for assisting him in gathering information for the movie and access to MPMs. He stated the film is not go a documentary, but a narrative/fictional film based off of the interviews from many MPMS but will be about 2 fictional characters from the period of 1942-1949. The film is taking longer than anticipated due to it being fictional and having to write a script from numerous interviews and a plethora of information.

Scholarship Director, Mr. James Mallard - provided a Scholarship Report to the members.
The report will be made available upon request.

- No applications were received for the National Scholarship.
- Criteria to qualify for the scholarship is that the applicant must be related to a member of the Association and the member must be in good standing.
- Request each Chapter donate \$100.00 to the National Scholarship Fund to receive matching contributions from another source.

Region Vice President Reports – Full reports are available upon request.

Central Region Vice President Mrs. Sharon-Stokes

- All of Central Region six chapters are represented at the 50th Convention.
- CRVP attended George Taylor's funeral in Detroit MI.
- Chapter 41 hosted their first signature event this year.
- Chapter 2 signature event is the President's Ball. It was changed from an evening event to a day luncheon to accommodate their members – average age, 75 years old.
- Chapter 13 St. Louis signature event is the Chosin Few Banquet held in February.
- Chapter 20 Houston attended an event hosted by the Buffalo Soldiers – which honored Montford Point Marines.
- Chapter 21 Indianapolis presented a Congressional Gold Medal and are working on their signature event.
- Chapter 22 Louisville attended a Tuskegee Airman event and their scholarship banquet was a great success.
- The Central Region provided \$7,200 in scholarships.
- During the Central Region meeting, guest speaker David Brown - a retired IRS Compliance Officer discussed our status as non-profit entities and gave some pointers on how to stay in compliance, how to work at developing programs and maintaining 501c3 or 501c19.
- Chapter 2 Ladies Auxiliary is still on probation for failure to align with the mission.

Western Region Vice President Mr. Michael L.E. Johnson – With only two very active Chapters, the Western Region was able to provided \$4,500 towards the National Scholarship Program.

- Chapter 8 supported six Marine Corps JROTC High School with a MPMA Award - Crenshaw H.S., Fremont HS., Carson HS, Eisenhower HS., Fontana HS. Ramona HS.
- Chapter 8 Members assisted the Los Angeles community at Military Bases, Veterans Group, Churches, YMCA Donations, and Colleges.

- Chapter 12 provided three Scholarships each at \$500.00.
- Chapter 12 members assisted the San Diego area with and at Veterans Groups, Military Bases, VA Hospitals, Black History Parades and attended CGM/COR Ceremonies of MPMs, living in California.

Northern Region Vice President Mr. James Maillard – The three Chapters in the Northern Region have been extremely busy.

- Chapter 1 President Joe Geeter was recognized as the Veteran of the Year by the Baltimore Chapter of the National Associations of Black Veterans at Morgan State University.
- Chapter 1 has lost a total of three Original Montford Pointers over the past year; Milton Sheridan, Nathan Hawkins and Egbert Brady. Captain Brady was one of the very first African American Marine Aviators and fought in three wars (WWII, Korea and Vietnam).
- Chapter 1 also participated in the street dedication of MPM Reverend Joseph Ginyard.
- Chapter 17 gave baskets away during November and attended RS Baltimore birthday ball.
- MPM Frank Beard, was the Grand Marshal during the Veteran's Day parade in WV.
- MPM Lee Douglass was honored at Morgan State University Military Appreciation Day.
- Chapter 17 is making a DVD with their Montford Point Marines.
- The Chapter was invited to the Naval Academy for Black History month and spoke at Virginia Military Institute.
- Chapter 3 mourned the passing of MPM and PNP Gene Doughty, who served two separate tours as National President and was National Scholarship Director for over 30 years. Gene was truly a great pioneer, educator, mentor to many and a visionary.
- Held our 47th Annual Dinner Dance and Commemorated the Founding Members of the N.Y Metro.
- Celebrated the 239th Birthday of the Marine Corps with a color guard from the Harlem Youth Marine cadets and guest speaker, former Mayor of New York City, and MPM, the Honorable David N. Dinkins.
- Members and Chapter MPM's participated in a Congressional Gold Medal ceremony for Sergeant Hiram L. Knowles.
- National Vice President James Carr and the Northern Region VP accompanied their wives, Vicky and Eleanor, attended the New York Leatherneck Celebratory Scholarship Ball Committee's 53rd Annual fund raising event held at the Waldorf Astoria, NYC. The event raised \$1.1M for Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation.

Professional Military Education (PME)

Mr. Hood – Veterans Administration stated that the problem with us is that we accept what they give us. If you have a zero, please do something about it. We served our country, now it's time for our country to serve us. None of us should have zero. He asked that we get familiar with Title 38 Code Federal Regulations –List of Veteran's Benefits. He gave out his cell number and said to call him if we have any questions.

LtGen Bailey – State of the Marine Corps Highlights

- Diversity in the Marine Corps
- The United States and Iran deal.
- MPM Mr. Stanley Costley asked if the USNS MLP can participate in Fleet Week. LtGen Bailey replied that he is the person that assigns what goes where and he is going to see about making that happen.

Monument Report - Mr. John Tate (Ch-10) in the absence of Houston Shinal. The full will be provided upon request.

- Phase I began 2 April 2015 and expected to be complete on 11 September 2015
- Benches and Bricks will be installed during Phase II
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony tentative date 2 October 2015
- Funds needed to complete Phase II \$870M

Saturday 15 July 2015

The meeting was called to order at 9:42am with the invocation by National Chaplain Moore, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call – Sgt at Arms Robert Alridge – A quorum was present

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National President - Guest Speakers

Lieutenant General Bailey

- The Marine Corps has always fought for freedom, and what you represent is the legacy of the Montford Point Marines. But what we see in terms of all Montford Point members is that when you see me, you see Vince Stewart-Director of DIA, Craig Crenshaw-Albany Logistics Base.
- We need more African American Officers, and what he sees in the Association is 'Power' - power of voice, power of influence. That power we need to exert in terms of what we do, how we act, and how we ensure the Montford Point legacy is preserved.
- Don't be a voice that's unheard; ensure that we are continually being represented in our Corps. Our numbers have changed drastically in our Corps.
- We only had 10 African Americans at the parade in 8th and I and there are no African Americans in the Marine Corps Band. As of recently there are only two African Americans on the Silent Drill Team and only 14 African Americans that march across the entire battalion. There are zero Company Commanders and zero Platoon Commanders.
- That is of concern to him and should be of concern to us. We have dwindled down from 28% to 10% and maybe even less than that.
- As we look forward - look forward to doing things that will ensure that we are seen and represented. I think in the future we should do things in areas where we can bring in more Active Duty Marines. There are not a lot of young African Americans that draw themselves to our history, so if we don't go out and bring in America's young Marines, then we are going to lose this legacy.
- We have got to reach out to the young LCpl's - General Amos came in and made some hard decisions to implement Montford Point history into recruit training and TBS, but we still need your influence to make sure the rest of the Commandant's mention 'diversity' in their Commandant's Planning Guide - which was left out of this last Commandant's Planning Guide. **If we are not heard and we do not influence, we will no longer exist.**

Lieutenant General (Retired) Gaskin

- Two years ago prior to retirement, I said I was retiring but not quitting. There are some things this Organization can do to be heard. There is a treaty that we have with Cuba that stipulates we can never take back the land from Cuba. That's why we have Guantanamo Bay there – so we can never invade there.
- We can never take back the legacy of Montford Point. – it is a part of the fabric of who we are. He is glad the MPMs wanted to be Marines so he could be one.
- What do we need to do as an Organization? We need to have a voice. People think when (President/CEO of Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation) Margaret Davis comes in and talks to the Commandant she is talking about scholarship money, she is not talking about money, she is talking about 'influence'.
- What happens when the MPMA National President walks in the Commandant's office? When our NP talks to the Congressional Black Caucus, he is representing thousands of Marines. Our Organization has to get past the Mom and Pop shop mentality and into a Corporation/Foundation mindset so we can be heard.
- It is a shame we have to beg for a Monument – the company that built the ship for us should be donating money to the monument. The Marine Corps Museum could have and

should have done more in representing the MPM. Who got credit for the Congressional Gold Medal? We did all the work, but the Marine Corps took all the credit.

- There is no pressure for the Marine Corps to promote a four star General. LtGen Gaskin told Gen Dunford (CMC) that if they don't make LtGen Bailey a four star General, he needs to realize **the next African American that could achieve four stars has not joined the Marine Corps yet.**
- We cannot be the silent majority because the Association is disgruntled. There are too many personalities plaguing the Association. We must come together and own the world stage.
- What does it take for us to operate at a more professional level? When lobbying for money, first question that is normally asked is – who is on the Board of Directors? Who makes the decisions about what we do and what our CEO does? What is our operating budget?
- Those are the questions that get asked –they want to know our social value. Those are the questions that get asked and we have to empower our leadership to answer those questions. Let's pick our leadership that is going to step up, step out and get your support.

Budget Brief – Chapter #10 President Carmichael briefed a (proposed) budget yesterday today's brief pulled historical data from the Financial Secretary and adjusted the figures.

- CRVP Sharon Stokes-Parry asked why there was not an estimate for grants. President Carmichael replied we do not have three years of budgets which is required to apply for a grant therefore there isn't a line item for grants.
- The National President asked how often this budget will be reviewed if approved. President Carmichael stated that it will be review monthly; with a quarterly review accessible to the Association.
- A motion was made by Ed Sutton Chapter 5 Atlanta to accept the proposed budget, PNP Nathaniel James stated we cannot vote on this budget, this budget has to be presented to the body for approval and the body is unaware of this budget. President Carmichael stated that all four regions had a representative and were involved in creating this budget via teleconferences/email.
- The National Chaplain stated that we have the body here at the convention and this proposed budget does not contradict the National Bylaws. What is being presented is an opportunity to operate within the bylaws by having a budget. The members here at the convention have the authority and the responsibility to vote so we can operate IAW the National Bylaws.
- A Motion was made by Ed Sutton Chapter 5 Atlanta to accept the Proposed Budget as read with the necessary changes. The Motion was decided by delegate votes and passed by majority vote 121/6.

Delegate votes by Chapters will be made available upon request.

National By Laws – Dr. Cladie Spears

- By Laws dictate how an organization must govern, failure by a Board to follow the By-Laws can have devastating consequences to the organization – our current By-Laws are 'difficult' to read.

- Since May 2015, the By-Laws Committee has met weekly via teleconference to identify concerns page by page in order to propose recommendations to correct discrepancies via the NEC for approval or for submission as a Resolution.
- Request any members with a legal background to assist and provide their legal expertise.
- Chapters that have By-Laws should send a copy to the National Recording Secretary for audited. That should be completed prior to the next National Convention.

Resolution Results

Resolution 15-R0001 – Article Four, Section (4.1), Paragraph (A): (14) Add Scholarship Director to National Executive Council

MOTION CARRIED. YES -127 / NO - 0

Resolution 15-R0002 – Article Two, Section (2.10), Paragraph (G): Add responsibilities of the National Recording Secretary

MOTION CARRIED. YES -105 / NO - 22

Resolution 15-R0003 – WITHDRAWN.

Resolution 15-R0004 – Article Seven, Section (7.4), Add responsibilities of the Chapter Recording Secretary

MOTION CARRIED YES -71 / NO - 56

Resolution 15-R0005 - The National MPMA shall contract an independent public accountant to audit and report on its annual financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards no later than four and one-half (4 1/2) months after its Fiscal Year . The scope of the audit engagement shall be sufficient to permit such accountant to determine and report whether the financial statements are presented fairly and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

MOTION CARRIED YES - 97 / NO – 30

Resolution 15-R0006 - Article One, Section (1.14), Paragraph (E): (E) The Large USMC Emblem 61) The large emblem Gold or Silver shall be worn on the NMPMA, Inc. cover commensurate with the member rank at any level; Chapter, Region or National

MOTION CARRIED YES -88 / NO - 39

Resolution 15-R0007 Article Eleven, Section (11.1), Paragraph (C): Remove the National Museum Director from the list and add the Sergeant at Arms and Monument Director.

MOTION CARRIED YES -101 / NO - 26

Resolution 15-R0008 Article Seven, Section (7.9): Eligibility for National Office in the Ladies Auxiliary should include an endorsement from the Local Chapter President and its Executive Council. It should state the Ladies Auxiliary member is in Good Standing, Supports the Local Chapter and is capable of performing duties of elected office.

MOTION CARRIED YES -105 / NO - 22

Resolution 15-R0009 Article Six, Section (6.6), Paragraph (A): A. Each Chapter shall fix the amount of their membership dues to be a minimum of \$25 per year.

MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY YES – 65 / NO - 62

Resolution 15-R0010 - Article One, Section (1.14), Paragraph (E), Subparagraph (1): 1) Members who have served in other branches of service other than the Marine Corps shall be granted the authority to exhibit their branch of service emblem on their cover on the opposite side of the Marine Corps emblem as a side view so as not to obscure the view of the Marine Corps emblem.

FAILED YES -52 / NO – 75

Votes/results of Resolutions will be made available upon request.

Convention Bids

- **Chapter 10 President Alfreda Carmichael** made their bid to host the 51st Convention at Camp Lejeune NC. Meetings will be held at one of Chapter 10's buildings.
- Approved dates were voted on by delegates by a show of hands
- **Spring Council** – The majority voted for **21 – 24 April 2016**
- **National Convention** – The majority voted for **13-16 July 2016**

- **WRVP Michael Johnson** gave an informative brief for hosting the 52nd National Convention. Intent is to submit bid at the 51st Spring Council to host the 52nd National Convention.

- **Convention Director** briefed that the Convention Committee is looking at other areas to host the National Conventions and that they do not necessarily have to be near a military base or in the city of a MPMA Chapter.
- More to follow after careful research and analysis at the 52nd Spring Council.
- The convention committee is also working on a 5 year National Convention Plan.

National Queens Coronation – Special Projects Officer George Herring

- The balance brought forward on the SPO Report is: \$15,063.49.
- He has received \$32,566.00 as SPO and with a total amount (right now) of \$47,629.49.
- \$3,500.00 was awarded to winners/runner ups in the Queen's contest last night.

Grievance

- The NP brought up a major concern that was discussed during the 49th Spring Council regarding Chapter 19 Detroit. Unfortunately the situation was not properly addressed or resolved during the 49th National Convention. Today we need to right that wrong and bring the issue back to the floor.
- CRVP Stokes-Parry stated that at the 49th Spring Council, the members voted to 'suspend' Detroit Chapter 19 (Robert Middleton) until they come into compliance of the National Association.
- CRVP recommended suspending Robert Middleton indefinitely until National compliance is met. The rationale for this recommendation is due to the following

- The Chapter has not communicated with the CRVP since 2012
- Mr. Middleton will not respond to requests, text, email, phone calls or certified mail from the CRVP. Robert Middleton has separated Chapter 19 from the MPMA Inc.,
- Mr. Middleton is erroneously utilizing the Montford Point Marine Association's name and logo, is portraying himself as the National Commandant of the Montford Point Marines of America, and wears a white cover.
- He is wearing medals that he does not rate, using our EIN, and conducting business on behalf of Montford Point outside of the Association. He also told a Montford Point Marine that he was receiving Hall of Fame Award at the Convention. All the members of the Chapter were sent letters informing them of the situation with their (Chapter President) Robert Middleton.
- A motion was made by Chapter 12 representative Annanias Rose for the Association to take legal recourse to rectify this situation regarding Detroit Chapter 19 to include 'suspension of Robert B. Middleton. 2nd by Montford Point Marine Edwin Fizer with the condition we preserve our Chapter. The motion carried by a majority of the vote.

Special Presidential Awards were handed out by President Averhart and PNP Geeter. I break was taken in preparation of the National Elections.

Election Chairman PNP Geeter presided over the National elections. The Offices up for election and the candidates are as follows:

- **National President** James T. Averhart Jr. / Michael Johnson
- **National Vice President** James Carr
- **National Rec Secretary** vacant
- **National Financial Sec** Kelvin Collins / Lynette Bush*
- **National Treasurer** Alfreda Carmichael / Charles Stallard
- **Southern Region Vice President** vacant
- **Central Region Vice President** Sharon Stokes Parry
- **Northern Region Vice President** vacant
- **Western Region Vice President** vacant

The Election Chairman gave instructions that each candidate will have a max time limit of three minutes to present themselves to the body. Votes will be open by delegates. RVP's will be voted by 'region' after the main elections. After the Chairman answered all questions, the elections commenced. Nominations from the floor:

- **National President** Ch 10 President Alfreda Carmichael nominated Forest Spencer Jr. (Ch 32); Forest Spencer Jr. accepted the nomination.
- **National Vice President** Ch 10 President Alfreda Carmichael nominated Eric Nelson (Ch 32) Eric Nelson accepted the nomination.
- **National Vice President** Ch 5 Vincent Williams nominated Michael Johnson (Ch 8) Michael Johnson accepted the nomination.
- **National Recording Secretary** Tashal Williams nominated Carmen Cole (Ch 32) Carmen Cole accepted the nomination.

* In the absence of Lynette Bush, Alfreda Carmichael read her candidacy letter to the delegates on her behalf.

Election results and votes

- National President – **Forest Spencer Jr. 54**, James Averhart 53, Michael Johnson 20
- National Vice President – **Eric Nelson 66**, Michael Johnson 61, James Carr withdrew
- National Recording Secretary – **Carmen E. Cole** Chpt 1 cast 5 votes – uncontested
- National Financial Secretary – **Kelvin Collins 90**, Lynette Bush 37
- National Treasurer – **Alfreda Carmichael 75**, Charles Stallard 52
- Southern Regional Vice President - **Fred Codes**
- Central Regional Vice President – **Sharon Stokes-Parry**
- Northern Regional Vice President – **James Maillard**
- Western Regional Vice President – **Michael Johnson**

Voting Delegates

Chapter 1 Philadelphia - Joseph Geeter III, PNP/Odell Young Chapter President/Vice President

Chapter 2 Chicago - IL Sharon Stokes-Parry CRVP / Chapter President

Chapter 3 New York - James Maillard NRVP / Chapter President

Chapter 5 Atlanta GA- Fred Codes Member

Chapter 6 Washington - Everett Willis Chapter Vice President

Chapter 7 Granville Alexander - Kelvin Collins President

Chapter 8 Los Angeles - Louis Massengale Member / Montford Point Marine

Chapter 9 Beaufort - James Moore Member / National Chaplain

Chapter 10 Camp Lejeune - Alfreda Carmichael/Johnny Young Chapter President/Vice President

Chapter 12 Los Angeles - Annanias Rose Chapter Vice President

Chapter 13 St Louis - Herman Thomas Member

Chapter 17 Baltimore - Howard Gillis Member

Chapter 20 Houston - Robert Alridge Chapter President

Chapter 21 Indianapolis - Robert Smith Chapter President

Chapter 22 Louisville - Charles Stallard Chapter President

Chapter 25 Wilmington -James Pender Member

Chapter 29 Jacksonville - George Gillis Chapter Treasurer

Chapter 32 Quantico - Eric Nelson Chapter President

Chapter 33 Mobile - Rodney Lee Chapter President

Chapter 35 Warner Robins - Joshua Dixon Chapter President

Chapter 41 Beloit Rockford - C.L.H. Johnson Chapter President

Chapter 42 Greenville - Ralph Jones Chapter President

Chapters Not in Attendance

Chapter 14 Tidewater

Chapter 19 Detroit

Chapter 28 Clinton MD

Chapter 36 Cherry Point

Chapter 38 Triad Triangle

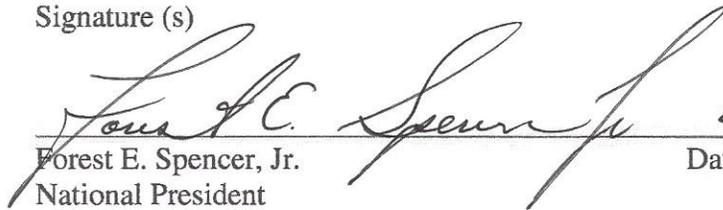
Chapter 40 Charlotte

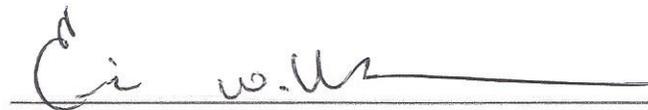
At the conclusion of the elections, the National President congratulated all newly elected National Officers.

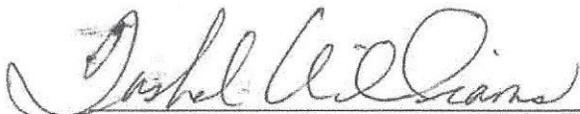
The official business of the 50th National Montford Point Marine Association Inc. concluded on 15 August 2015 @ 3:17 pm.

The Convention Minutes will be submitted to the National Executive Council and members of the Association NLT 30 days after the conclusion of the National Convention. The NEC will review and present to the body of the Association at the 51st National Convention for approval as the official NMPMA Inc., 50th National Convention Minutes.

Signature (s)

 22 AUG 2016
Date
Forest E. Spencer, Jr.
National President

 8/22/2016
Date
Eric W. Nelson
National Vice President

 8/17/2016
Date
Tashal Williams
Past National Recording Secretary

(seal)

