

Draft

West Point Parents Club of MA

Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2011

A meeting was held at Nicole Burkel's home in Carlisle, MA.

**In attendance were:** George Jedras, Nicole Burkel, Nina Johannesen, Susan Kimball, Richard and Margaret Primack and Jo Anne and Carl Vercollone

George Jedras conducted the meeting.

**LT Timothy Steele Donation:** There had been some discussion by email prior to the meeting regarding the appropriateness of the Club communication of information via the website regarding LT Steele and the making of a donation by the Club on behalf of LT Steele. There was the suggestion of setting up a college fund for his daughter Liberty or making a donation in another form. There was agreement that part of the Club's mission should be to disseminate public information via the web site regarding graduates wounded or KIA while being sensitive to privacy issues.

**A motion was made for the Club to make a \$250 donation through the website established by the Steele family. The motion was unanimously approved.**

It was further agreed that George will draft an SOP for requests for donations in the future and communicate to members that Club made a donation.

**LT Jake Murphy:** A similar discussion ensued regarding LT Murphy.

**A motion was made to make a \$250 donation to the Wounded Warriors in honor of Jake Murphy. The motion was unanimously approved**

George will communicate to members that the Club made a donation.

**September 17<sup>th</sup> Tailgate:** There will be a WPPC-MA tailgate for the September 17th game. The plan is for George to provide a banner and tent, which will be set up before and after the game. All members will be invited to attend. Deb Dalton at

West Point will not be organizing food service or furniture so all members will be required to bring their own chairs, food and beverages.

**Yuk Boodle Meeting:** The Yuk Boodle meeting will be held on October 22. Members will put together Yuk Boodle Boxes at St. Luke's Parish Center in Westborough. There will be a Board Meeting at 1:00 p.m., followed by an Appetizer/Dessert Potluck from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

**Grad Packages:** Richard and Margaret discussed the possibility of doing several events on behalf of deployed grads. It was agreed to organize a November mailing of graduate packages, a possible social meeting in the winter and a large mailing in the spring.

The Primacks are also looking for another set of parents, who have a soldier deployed, to become involved in helping with the program.

The events and request for volunteers will be posted on the web site.

**Army-Navy Game:** The Army-Navy game will be played at a new venue in Washington DC December 10, 2011. There is no current information available on hotel reservations. Members will be encouraged to be proactive regarding hotels.

**Quarterly Newsletter:** There was a discussion regarding the effectiveness of disseminating individual emails notifying members regarding Club events. It was agreed that it would be better to aggregate events and news into periodic newsletters. George will compose a quarterly newsletter consisting of short write-ups, calendar of events (with a descriptive paragraph under each event), bus dates, etc.

**Bus Schedule:** There will be a bus on Columbus Day Weekend. There will also be buses for Thanksgiving, Christmas break and President's Day weekend. Susan will check if there is a need for a bus over the Martin Luther King weekend.

**Finance Update:** Nicole stated the Club made \$2,500 last year. The Club is going into the year with \$12,000 in the account and about \$2,000 in back expenses. The buses made about \$5,000 which is used to fund other activities. In the past the Club has made a donation to support grad activities.

**A motion was made to give \$2,000 to grad activities. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Membership Update:** Nina reported Membership Drive is going well and that the Clubs has signed many new members. There was some discussion about how best to keep parents of deployed grads engaged in the Club. While nothing definitive was decided it was recognized that if the Club isn't offering a service of value to a particular constituency, such as deployed grads, parents will not renew their memberships.

**Open Officer Positions:** There are still several board positions open. George will make a "push" in the newsletter.

**Mission Statement:** Richard said that the focus of the Club is more on cadets presently attending the Academy. George wants to expand the focus to: people who want to attend the Academy and parents of graduates as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.