



West Point Parents Club of Massachusetts

January 25, 2015

Attending:

Kevin and Maureen Coughlan- Matt '16

Steve Wallingford-Immediate Past President- Ioannis '15

Diane Kerwin- Michael '16

Alan Beaulieu- Luke '18

Kevin and Carole Martin- Ben '17

Paula Burke- President- Ryan '17

Kathy Ouellette- Matt '18

-Meeting started with introductions of all those in attendance

-A vote on the **Leadership Team** was taken- passed unanimously. The need for a Membership Coordinator was discussed

-**Firstie Gifts** were discussed- Kathi Snook is working on this. Kathy Ouellette volunteered to work with Kathi Snook this year and transition to finding a successor for future years.

-The **Minutes of the October 25, 2014** meeting were approved unanimously

-**WPPC-MA Newsletter** was discussed. The benefits of having all the information in one consolidated place was praised. Suggestions were made to post it on the WPPC-MA website. Kudos to President Paula Burke for coordinating this and she indicated the newsletter would be her responsibility.

-**Treasurers Report** by Kathy Ouellette- Finances for WPPC-MA are solid. The primary fundraiser is the cadet buses. The main expenses are the football tailgate and the Holly Ball.

-There was further discussion of the **Firstie Gifts** from the WPPC-MA. The gifts consist of an American Flag flown over the US Capitol and a West Point coin. These will be presented March 29th to Firstie parents. Alan Beaulieu will work on a location for this gathering. The cost is \$ 15 for the flag and \$ 40 for the coin. Additional coins can be purchased if desired by the families. There are 23 USMA 2015 Cadets from MA. \$ 1500 unanimously approved for this endeavor.

-**WPPC-MA Holiday and Spring Break Buses** were discussed. It was voted unanimously that no IOU's would be accepted. Online credit card advanced registration and payment is best. Cash or checks would be accepted when boarding the bus. Voted unanimously.

-**WPPC-MA logo** discussed. It was decided to keep it the same as it has been done on the apparel that has been ordered in the past.

-**Cow Loans** were discussed and it was decided that the best information would be from the West Point website. It was also decided that the **WPPC-MA website** would be a complement of the USMA.edu website and the information on the WPPC-MA would focus on the USMA cadets from Massachusetts and references would be made to the USMA website for information that pertains to all cadets.

-**USMA clubs and athletic teams traveling to MA** were discussed. It was decided that WPPC-MA could not accommodate a reception for all of them, but that WPPC-MA would be a resource for finding people who may be able to help those teams and clubs when a request is made.

-**Holly Ball 2014** was discussed with the success of the fun family event. Kudos to Air Force and Denise Kenneally and their efforts. Happiness was expressed that Denise Kenneally would be able to help coordinate Holly Ball 2016 when Army is in charge of the planning. Holly Ball 2015 date mentioned as December 26, 2015. USNA-MA Parents Organization will be contacted for confirmation.

-**WP Alumnae vs Boston Bruins hockey game** on Sunday March 22nd at 1400 discussed. It is a fundraiser for the Fisher House of Boston and a Color Guard of 4 cadets is needed. A \$ 375 half page program advertisement from the WPPC-MA was voted unanimously. Paula Burke will coordinate the color guard and Alan Beaulieu will coordinate the program advertisement.

-**A cadet bus on Sunday March 22nd** is being coordinated for the end of the Spring Break for the return to USMA. Jeanne McGuire- Matt '17 was commended for her efforts.

-**The West Point Society of New England** is holding their **Founders Day Banquet** on Saturday March 28th. \$ 250 was voted unanimously for auction baskets from WPPC-MA. Steve Wallingford and Paula Burke will quarterback* this effort. A tequila basket and Thayer-MacArthurs gift certificate was suggested. (* minutes written on Super Bowl Sunday)

-\$ 535 was appropriated for a full page advertisement in the 2015 edition of the **USMA Howitzer**. The design suggestion was for a picture of each USMA 2015 cadet from MA and the WPPC-MA logo. Voted unanimously. Alan Beaulieu will take on this task.

-**WPPC-MA Name Tags** was suggested as a helpful item for members. Alan Beaulieu will coordinate this project.

-**The Deployed Grad Boodle Bash** is planned for March 1st. Operation Troop Support and West Point Grads were discussed as resources. Efforts will be made to secure a location for this event.

-**The WPPC-MA Football Tailgate** is planned for Sept 19, 2015 when West Point takes on Wake Forest. Paula Burke and Kathy Ouellette will be the point people for this event. \$ 150 was approved unanimously for the site reservation. The committee will work on having the tailgate at the South Dock location as it was in 2014.

-Paula Burke has reserved a block of rooms for WPPC-MA members at the Philadelphia Doubletree Hotel for the **December 12, 2015 Army Navy game**. Booking early and Beating Navy was unanimously approved.

- **R-Day** with WPPC-MA as a resource was discussed.

-It was decided to host the **USMA 2019 Cadet Candidates Reception** at Dean Park in Shrewsbury in June 2015. This is the same location as the 2014 event. Paula Burke will move forward with this endeavor and Lisa Wick will make that reservation.

-Paula Burke has updated the **WPPC-MA Carpool list**. Her efforts were complimented.

-**Deb Dalton**, West Point Parents Communications Liaison, may be attending our March 29, 2015 gathering

Meeting adjourned → Cow Boodle Bash !