Marine Corps League
Department of North Carolina

DoNC Board of Trustee Minutes
06 March 2026

Presided by: Commandant Robert Hare
Department of North Carolina
Marine Corps League

Meeting start time: 1902
Meeting Location: Teams

A. EBOT attendees

1. Commandant – Robert Hare
2. Sr. Vice Commandant – James (Jim) Mitchell
3. Jr. Vice Commandant – Steve Tracy
4. Judge Advocate – William (Bill) Brown
5. Jr Past – Ric Ledford
6. Adjutant – Justine Mitchell
7. Paymaster – Kevin Ashton
8. Assistant Paymaster – Colin Mayo

B. Subject of discussion

1. BoT Quorum
    a. Quorum is Meet with 16 Detachments Present.
    b. Robert Hare - First BoT where we have made Quorum, thanks to all for attending.
2. Department Convention
    a. Jim Mitchell – We will be using Dream Entertainment. Rooms are $121 a night at the Hilton Gardens in Jacksonville from April 5th – April 7th. Rooms are secured for the Meeting, Growl, and Hospitality. Lunch will be a box lunch for approximately $20.00.
    b. Jim Mitchell – We will have Zeffy setup for the registration.
    c. Jim Mitchell – The Banquet will be held at Carolina Museum of the Marines. $40 is the current estimated price per person for the Banquet. This includes a museum tour from 1800 - 1900. Dinner will start directly after the tour. There will be a photo booth at the museum so members can take pictures. The cost will not exceed $50 per person.
    d. Jim Mitchell – Dream Entertainment will assist us with the add book and sponsorships.
    e. Jim Mitchell – The Carolina Museum of the Marines will cost us around $3,900 for the Banquet (cost of the food is not included). Dream Entertainment thinks they can raise about $5,000.00 - $6,000.00.
    f. Jim Mithell – General Schrader will be our guest speaker

g. Jim Mitchell - There will be a museum tour, and the cost is $5 per person (normally $10 a person). The Museum is not open to the public yet, so we are getting a backlot tour.

h. Jim Mitchell – Dream Entertainment is going to give us special lighting at the Banquet at no charge.

i. Jim Mitchell – Dinner will be buffet style, and no alcohol is being served at the museum.

j. Robert Hare – What is the total all in cost of the banquet? Jim Mitchell said $7,900.00.

k. Robert Hare – We received a convention donation from one of our members in the amount of $4,000.

l. Robert Hare – This leaves a balance of $3,900. Since the convention is not a line item in the budget, we need to have a vote to move the remaining funds of $3,900.00 from the unallocated funds to pay for the convention.

m. Robert Hare – Kevin Ashton has the foundation set up and we will discuss this more at the Spring Memebrship meeting.

n. Robert Hare – We need a motion on the floor to use the unallocated funds ($3,700.00 remaining balance) to pay for the convention.

o. Sam Gilliand, Commandant Sanford Detachment #1223 made the motion to move the $3,700.00 from the unallocated funds to pay for the convention and it was seconded by Kevin Embry, Commandant NC Foothills Detachment #1164.

p. Robert Hare – Asked for discussion

q. Robert Hare – Vote called – 19 yay's and 0 opposed. Motion passed.

3. Misc Updates

a. Robert Hare - Spring membership meeting, hosted by Detachment #262. Make sure your registrations are in. If you pass the early registration deadline registration will be $20.

b. Robert Hare – Will be reviewing the budget at the spring membership meeting. As well as recommend changes to the committee.

c. Robert Klenotiz #262 - Zeffy has been set up for registration for the spring membership meeting. Reminder All Dogs must be registered to attend the Growl.

d. Robert Hare – The bylaws deadline is April 6th, 2026 if you want to submit a bylaw change. All submissions need to be sent to Lisa Ciesielski or Bill Brown.

e. Robert Hare – Leadership Academy will be held on March 28,2026 in Salisbury. The agenda will be sent out in advance.

f. Robert Hare – There will be a working lunch at the Leadership Academy.

g. Robert Hare – We are going to try and have additional Leadership Academies at various VA locations or at no cost meeting spaces.

h. Robert Hare – We have elections coming up and announcements will be made at the Spring Membership Meeting. I will not be running for a third term. I have been tasked and appointed with the National Veterans Service Officer committee, and I am now an accredited VSO.

i. Robert Hare – If you are interested in moving up the department ranks you are encouraged to put your name in during the announcements in April.

j. Colin Mayo - The Department has created a Zeffy so detachments can send membership funds electronically to the department. Detachments will no longer need to send in checks to the Department for membership funds. A tutorial will be sent out shortly.

k. Jim Mitchell – Leadership Academy Uniform of the Day – Summer Undress if you are presenting. Attendees are encouraged to wear their detachment Polos, covers are optional.

l. Raymond Davids, Commandant Cape Fear Det #1070 – Are the quarterly reports part of our bylaws. Bill Brown – They are listed in responsibilities for the DVC's but should not change due to the change in the fiscal year.

m. Raymond Davids, Commandant Cape Fear Det #1070 - The Quarterly reports should match the new fiscal year. How can that change be made?

n. . Robert Hare – The change f the Department Fiscal year will not affect the detachments at all. No dubious changes are being made until we have confirmation from national that the fiscal year has been changed.

o. Robert Hare – Changing the fiscal year gets us in line with national. The main reasoning for changing the fiscal year is for the Executive Board and all appointed officers that are entitled to receive stipends in the performance of their duties.

p. Robert Hare – We will look at all the forms and make sure they are in line and if they are not, we will make those changes and post them to the website.

q. Travis Yelton Surry County Detachment #1322 – Wanted to get information on possibly hosting the Springs 2027 Membership Meeting.

r. Robert Hare – We can bring this up on the floor at the Spring 2026 Membership Meeting.

s. Robert Hare – We have about 40 people registered for the Leadership Academy.

4. EBoT

a. Steve Tracey – Do we want to do and embroidered patch for the convention. Response is we will address this at the Spring Membership Meeting.

b. Bill Brown – Bylaw updates that he has submitted.

c. Jim Mitchell – Will be running for DoNC Commandant in June.

No other topics discussed. Meeting was adjourned. 1945.