Groton Ambulance Association

Board of Directors Meeting

January 8, 2025

Board members present: Chet Kaniecki (President), Rob McDermott (Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer), Kelsey Gomes (Training Officer), Paula Edwards (Member at Large #1), Martha Brucker (Member at Large #2)  
  
Other members: Evie Layne, Christian Lombardi, Ruth Schneider

1. President Kaniecki called the January Board of Directors meeting to order at 18:00 with all board members present.
2. Motion by VP McDermott and seconded by Paula Edwards to accept minutes from the December Board of Directors meeting as posted. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Officers Report
   1. President
      1. Items to be discussed in Old and New Business.
   2. Vice President
      1. The revised Employee Handbook has been reviewed by most employees with good feedback.
   3. Secretary/Treasurer
      1. Past meeting minutes are current on grotonambulance.org and Aladtec.
      2. See attached submitted Treasurer’s report. Motion by Kelsey Gomes and seconded by Paula Edwards to accept treasurer’s report as read. Motion carried unanimously.
   4. Training
      1. New hires Dorota Harag and Kiley Smith are making good progress in the training program.
      2. Hoyt Emery is making good progress in the training program.
      3. Hannah Warner, Jacob Goes, and Melanie Herrans-Polen are working to get their EMT certification.
      4. PPD tests are due in January for all employees.
      5. A CPR renewal call will be held in January.
   5. Member at Large #1
      1. No report.
   6. Member at Large #2
      1. No report.
   7. Vehicle Officer
      1. G300 is back
      2. G301 had onspot issues which are being addressed.
4. Old Business
5. Negotiations continue between GAA and L&M for contract renewal.
6. No update for winter sports standbys at Grasso.
7. NE Revolution tickets were offered but cost was $5,500.
8. NFA Women’s Weekend has four interested employees.
9. No update on ambulance purchases.
10. Thank for the Holiday Cheer event by Ruthie Schneider which was successful.
11. No updates from the Bylaw Committee or Attorney on reviewing bylaws to change wording changes.
12. Motion by President Kaniecki and seconded by Paula Edwards to purchase uniform items as presented by Kelsey Gomes with ARPA reimbursement funds. Discussion from Kelsey noted that employees who responded to her email requesting sizes will be eligible to receive a mix of jacket, hoodies, boots, and pants based on employee status. This would be a one time purchase. The total cost of these items was approximately $30,000. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Motion by President Kaniecki and seconded by Paula Edwards to purchase a training manikin and accessories as presented by Kelsey Gomes with ARPA reimbursement funds. Discussion from Kelsey noted the training manikin is a smart model that is capable of advanced care and scenarios with removable parts. The cost was of the items was approximately $24,962. Motion carried unanimously.
14. The two above motions should complete all spending for ARPA funding.
15. New Business
    * 1. President Kaniecki appointed VP McDermott as chair of the Bylaw Committee with five members of: Martha Brucker, Ryan Boulanger, Paula Edwards, Kelsey Gomes, and Skyler Hatter.
      2. Motion by President Kaniecki and seconded by Paula Edwards to approve Employee Handbook document updates as presented by VP McDermott. Discussion noted there were minor typo fixes needed, and the revisions are noted in the new Appendix I: Revisions for the document. Motion carried unanimously.
      3. President Kaniecki noted the Groton Town Council Public Safety Committee has another meeting scheduled for January 28 at 17:00 which President Kaniecki and VP McDermott will attend.
      4. The hiring committee had three recent interviews with candidates and made two job offers.
      5. A new volunteer will be in January 18th for orientation and has experience as a paramedic.
      6. The Twiage software system will be rolling out to hospitals soon. It will be installed on GAA toughbooks. There will be a training on the system at 9AM on January 14.
      7. Motion by President Kaniecki and seconded by Paula Edwards to approve the 2025-2026 budget as presented by President Kaniecki with revisions. Discussion went through each line item. Motion carried unanimously (Martha Brucker was on a call and did not vote).
      8. Motion by VP McDermott and seconded by Paula Edwards to accept the request by Jordan Lombardi to take a leave of absence from January 5th to February 1st. Motion carried unanimously (Martha Brucker was on a call and did not vote).
16. Good of the Order
    * 1. President Kaniecki congratulated employees who had their hire date anniversaries in January:  
         Kelsey Gomes 13 years
      2. The board wished to thank Ruthie Schneider for the successful Holiday Cheer event.
17. Motion by Paula Edwards and seconded by Kelsey Gomes to adjourn at 20:26. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob McDermott

Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer