

Minutes of the Annual Continental Line Meeting - January 7, 2017

Crowne Plaza Hotel, King of Prussia, PA

Meeting called to order at 8:30 AM by Chairman Bert Puckett

Prayer – Dave Kemper, Lexington Minutemen

Pledge of Allegiance – Eric Nason, Southern Department Coordinator

Roll Call – Barry Greene, Adjutant

Treasurer's report – Mitch Landin (see attachment) balance \$20,379.91 a/o 12.31.16

Moved, accepted, unanimously passed

Compliance Committee – Thad Weaver (talked about round table on insurance, open for questions) No requests for services from CL Board this year.

Report - Moved, accepted, unanimously passed (see attached)

Northern Dept report – Ellie Hutchinson, moved and unanimously accepted (see attached)

Mid Atlantic Dept report – Steve Santucci, moved and unanimously accepted

Southern Dept report – Eric Nason – many events this coming few years, moved and unanimously accepted

9:13 – Elections

Adjutant - Candidates Steve Santucci and Ellie Hutchinson - Tie vote, winner determined by toss of coin per CL Chairman Bert Puckett – Ellie Hutchinson, new adjutant

Treasurer – Mitch Landin, Unanimously accepted

9:44 – Information sessions with event tables in lobby and next room

10:30 - Break out sessions with Departments, reps from both CL and BB

Northern Department - Ellie Hutchinson, CL and Paul Novotny BB- As Ellie Hutchinson was voted in as CL Adjutant, Dave Bernier was nominated and unanimously voted in for Northern Department Coordinator.

Mid Atlantic Department - Steve Santucci, CL and Paul Loane BB

Southern Department - Eric Nason, CL with British Brigade Rep.

11:30 – Joint Meeting with Continental Line and British Brigade.

Brad Chetwynd - Moment of prayer for Jim Hayden who passed away in August.

Joint Presentations Continental Line and British Brigade - National Presentations.

2017 Events

Stacy Brogden Carolina Campaign, Brattonsville, May 19,20,21 2017. Gave location. 800 acre site included Bratton home, kings grant, son's home in 1820's Outbuilding as well. Original battlefield. Three battles – **King's Mountain**, marches on period trails to sites. **Eutaw Springs**, house raid by continentals – ladies can cook on repro kitchens, use the house. Period dance sat night. Paddocks available for dragoons. Am HQ – old schoolhouse . Some modern bathrooms. **Camden** Battlefield. Filming site for Patriot Distance between two camps 300 yds. Tier 1 event Lots of advertising. Rv accessible.

Short Hills NJ – Union county, NJ Tom Delluco, BAR Pres. 240th anniversary. Hart, NJ Oak ridge park 80 -100 acres ... one-time event. Is only a preliminary pitch. No firm event date until the end of February. Only here to get this on the radar. Anyone who wants to attend, can do so. Invited even if it's not a national event. Paul Tofani NJ Grays– battle of short hills. History of Short Hills from Paul Tofani. Used to be a golf course bulldozed into gentle hills with numerous tree lines. Working with county on making interesting things, redoubts, vignettes, etc. June 24th and 25th – does have a liquor license. MAD agreed this would be one of the encouraged events. Would like to see folks from other depts. Attend. Original battlefield ... most of it was a road – this is a one-off event.

Prescott, Ontario Fort Wellington, Canada August, 19-20 2017 – Reg James Loyalist Days. Kings royal Yorkers. Event is funded by town of Prescott, swim across the river from Ogdensburg, NY. Part of the town's historical heritage. Will have necessary funding. Coincides with CAN 150th birthday. Gave history of town and loyalist heritage. Kings Royal Yorkers. (Also Charles Baker presenting) Providing portajohns, cavalry, brigantines. Room for boats Two tall ships in the river with gun supports. There will be pyrotechnics during the day. Gas card reimbursement, black powder stipend. Letter provided to expedite border crossings, run weekend for the family in Town of Prescott. Call musket antique firearm when crossing. Parks Canada – use Park Canada rules for artillerists. Things to see and do.

Sandy Hollow at Brandywine – Sept-16-17 2017 – Paul Loane, Jim McGaughey. Will be expanded version of 2014. Will use the extra surrounding land. Will try to approximate exactly what happened there. British actually won. Sandy Hollow Park. There will be only one reenactment. Tavern and entertainment on Sat. Township may feed everyone on Sat. night. Not listed as major BB/CL event because town is afraid of the word major. "Will be about like the last one" but hope it will be doubled. Website set up in April and May. Can shoot Lafayette again? Will be the largest event of the year if you all support it.

Voting –

Brattonsville – 17 CL yes ...5 yes BB, 20+ CL no 19 no BB 13 abstention

SHORT HILLS – 19 CL yes, 12 yes BB - 12 cl no 13 bb no 12 abstention CL 9 BB absention

Fort Wellington, Prescott – 11 CL yes 13 BB yes 23 CL no 13 bb no 13 cl absentions

Sandy Hollow – 31 CL yes 16 BB yes 3 CL no 8 BB no 15 CL Absention, 8 BB absentions.

2018 Events

Monmouth Battlefield June 16,17, 2018 240th Anniversary Jim McGaughey Camps in the woods, use different parts of the parks, Reenact select parts of the battle, small vignettes. Will get one day liquor license. Actual battlefield will be used for the site.

Fort Ticonderoga – Defiance and Independence July 20,21 & 22. Paul Novotny, Bob Allegretto, BB, CL Fort Ti. Over 2000 acres American will garrison the fort and the Brits will be outside the fort in the battlefield. Can cut brush for the huts, no firepits will be dug. Sutlers in front of fort. Sat morning private battle. Sat PM public battle, Artillery on Mount Defiance. Taking of outer works on Sunday, push Americans out of fort down to lake. Opportunity to use boats. Early war militia kit. Website will have clothing guidelines.

Mount Harmon Plantation – September (3rd w/e) 15th and 16th, 2018 Tom Vogeley, Jim McGaughey Maryland, battlefields are beautiful, “spacious highway” looking to put in redoubt. Site is good to work with. Building earthworks. Site has two piers, beach at low tide is good for a landing. Possible boat action. Friday school tours. Evening social in the garden.

Voting -

Monmouth 33 CL yes 16 BB yes 1 CL no 8 BB no 12 CL abstain 6 BB abstain

Mount Harmon 28 CL yes 21 BB yes 2 Cl no 7 BB no 19 CL Abstain 7 BB abstain

Fort Ti - 22 CL yes 15BB yes 5 Cl no 9 BB no 22 CL Abstains 10 BB Abstains

2019 –

Jim McGaughey - Mount Vernon would like a big national event with 1st VA host

Hook – also 1st VA, Warner Hall, Gloucester, VA

Lunch 12:30 – 1:30

Old Business – Eric Chetwynd

Review of School of the Officer in October at Old Sturbridge Village. Organized by Ellie Hutchinson
Opportunities to make new officers – School of the officer – 40 attendees, well-received, will continue in the coming year with a follow up at the Fort 4 event... Mid Atlantic may follow example.

Newsletter – questions, newsletter of the CL, has been difficult into get news. Put all the efforts in the website. Ellie and Steve will take point on the website update. Would like to see more information than what we already have. Social media – every department has a FB presence. Also CL FB page as well, we can leverage, what is going on and what information can be shared.

Use of CL funds to fund local events. Should we use them to fund local events? The events to be funded should be only national events.

Are we voting to spend the funds? Bert – no we shouldn't need to open it up to local events. Only national.

Harry Stephens – should consider developing local events if they have potential to be a national event. Get community behind it, it's not always easy to get the funding.

Bert Puckett– not disagreeing, but with funds now, we would quickly run out of funds. Unless we had a dues membership for revenue.

New business

Website – Ellie Hutchinson www.reenactorinfo.org This is a website that is dedicated to coordinating information about all events. Easy submission, can include photos, registration forms, contact information, even for unit who are unable to create their own website. All events large and small can be submitted. This will help eliminate conflicted event dates as there is a common calendar that is populated when an event is submitted. Will help out with the planning.

New Unit Presentations:

Nick Dalrymple – McCracken's sponsor for 4th CT Regiment Capt. Bacon's Coy, 15 members with lots of experience in the hobby, Bob Stiles, Currently have 6 men-at-arms, ladies, all veteran's reenactors. Disbanded and reformed several times History of unit during the AWI. Under Col John Durkee, Capt Abner Bacon. 239 years ago today, the 4th CT was encamped at Valley Forge with Gen Washington. Actual roles was a Robert Stiles. First meeting was back in June of 2016 in Coldsprings Village at Cape May, 1st official meeting at Fort Ti at July 23rd. Non military presentation at Fort Ti. Have researched correct uniforms and are being produced. First time in new uniforms at Brewfest, at retreat from Fort Lee event.

5th MA impressions being adopted by 13th Continental, John Carr, Eric Duquette

MAD – no new units

SC – Eric Nason

6th NC – at stony point, NY highlands, Charlestown were decimated. Guys at Guildford and Eutaw springs. Formed in 1960's as a CW unit, at Bicentennial, changed uniforms and have decided to go into the AWI, new families, unit has split a few times. Returning members. Sponsored by Eric Nason

New Jersey lights, Eric Nason sponsor, Oct 1976 at Stanhope NJ, based out of NJ until 1989, people moved to TN and do many Southern events and try to bill Kristyne, inactive, Chris ?? Trustee, organizer, 8-12 events per year, Trustees board governing body. 65 active members, 42 muskets, light infantry portrayal and militia portrayal, have attended Brandywine, Trenton, Guildford courthouse, and many others.

UP for vote:

Marden's gun, sponsored by UTA – John Taber, John Glover 3rd NH, second impression and have experienced artillery. Found their guns and decided to add second impression.

Misc business:

Steve Santucci - 2017 – anniversary of CL, 30 years, so don't rush a good thing will push it out through Dept Coordinators through the year. looking for 35th celebration

Thad Weaver – We do have to vote on additional impression. 3rd NH, has to be voted to have 2nd impression as Marden's gun.

Bert – call for vote from Marden's gun. Marden's gun out of room. Voted and seconded. No discussion, unanimous vote.

Samantha Vogeley – new pres. Of 2nd NJ, little support for corporate officers. Set up a FB group "Presidents of the CL" Discussion forums, discuss rules, problems and solutions what has been done before, every corporate officer in CL is welcome to join.

Jerry Hurowitz – President of Princeton Area Preservation, want to save Princeton Battlefield, since 2003 for preservation of the battlefield. Have come to a settlement with Princeton University. CW trust came to assistance, op-eds in papers, TV coverage, Princeton met with the CW Trust and came to a compromise, saves 60% of the field we sought to preserve and they tossed in an extra acre. (Applause) It's a purchase agreement CW Trust needs to raise 4MM and they have half of it. The land will be purchased by June 2017. Tree line will come down, expanded park as result. Please continue to support us, campaign 1776, charged with coming up with the money, we should support them. Thank you for your support all these years Have had good results. Go to campaign 1776 on the CWT website and make a donation.

Sponsored events – two boards will get together to figure out which two events, based on the hiccup in British Brigade voting structure.

(ADDITIONAL NOTE - JANUARY 15th - Two sanctioned events decided on by Continental Line and British Brigade were:

Battle of Brandywine at Sandy Hollow, Birmingham Township, PA

Liberty or Death, Brattonsville, SC)

Mary the artillerist - They couldn't hear in the back and weren't sure what they were voting for. Can we have a re-vote?

Eric Nason - If you can't hear, you should bring it to the attention of the chairman.

Motion to adjourn, seconded, meeting adjourned at 2:34 PM, 26 minutes early.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellie Hutchinson, Adjutant of the Continental Line

MEMORANDUM

To: Bert Puckett (Chairman, The Continental Line, Inc.)
From: Thaddeus J. Weaver (Chairman, Compliance Committee)
Cc: Ellie Hutchinson, Steve Santucci, Erick W. Nason
Date: January 4, 2017
Re: Compliance Committee Report for Year Ending December 31, 2016

The Compliance Committee of The Continental Line, Inc. ("CL") was formed to address miscellaneous administrative, corporate and legal matters at the request of the CL's Chairman or Board of Directors. Its membership includes the Department Coordinators, and the undersigned. In 2016 the Compliance Committee was not requested to address any issues on behalf of the CL, and therefore had no activity.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Thaddeus J. Weaver

Thaddeus J. Weaver
Chairman, Compliance Committee

THE CONTINENTAL LINE, INC.
 TREASURER'S REPORT
 FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS
 ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE

ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION - 2016 MEETING	8,340.00	
RAFFLE PROCEEDS - 2015 ANNUAL MEETING	1,331.00	
DONATION FROM 2ND MA & 2ND PA	670.00	
INTEREST INCOME	14.82	
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE		10,355.82

PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENDITURES

ANNUAL MEETING EXPENSES	6,467.45	
EVENT COSTS FOR 20156	1,674.37	
INSURANCE	763.72	
OFFICE EXPENSE	14.00	
WEBSITE FEE	395.64	
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENDITURES		9,315.18

EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES 1,040.64

FUND BALANCE JANUARY 1, 2016 19,339.27

FUND BALANCE : DECEMBER 31, 2016
20,379.91
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THE CONTINENTAL LINE, INC.
TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS
ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

ASSETS

CASH IN BANK - CHECKING 15,430.26
CASH IN BANK - MONEY MARKET 12,046.65

27,476.91

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LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

LIABILITIES

MEETING UNIT REGISTRATIONS FOR 2017 7,095.00
LOAN PAYABLE - TREASURER 2.00

FUND BALANCE 20,379.91

27,476.91

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FUND BALANCE - 1/01/2016 19,339.27

EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES 1,040.64

FUND BALANCE - 12/31/2016 20,379.91

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THE CONTINENTAL LINE, INC.
 TREASURER'S REPORT
 FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS
 ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

CHECKING ACCOUNT			
CASH IN BANK 1/01/2016			13,564.44
ADD: DEPOSITS		11,771.00	

			25,335.44
LESS: EXPENDITURES			
01/09/2016 CHECK 181	REGISTRATION Refund-HEARD'S	90.00	
01/09/2016 CHECK 182	CROWNE PLAZA	5,967.45	
04/01/2016 CHECK 183	IST VA Regt - MT Vernon event	1,000.00	
08/01/2016 CHECK 184	Friends of Monmouth - event deposit	500.00	
08/21/2016 CHECK 185	Historical Impressions-Battles of NY	404.37	
09/28/2016 CHECK 186	CROWNE PLAZA - DEPOSIT 2017	500.00	
11/27/2016 CHECK 187	INSURANCE	763.72	
12/16/2016 CHECKS 188-192	Artillery bounty - Battles of NY event	270.00	
DEBIT CRD	WEBSITE EXPENSE	395.64	
debit	office expense	14.00	9,905.18

BOOK BALANCE 12/31/2016			15,430.26
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MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT			
CASH IN BANK 1/01/2016			12,030.83
ADD: INTEREST INCOME		14.82	
LOAN FROM TREASURER		1.00	

			15.82

BOOK BALANCE 12/31/2016			12,046.65
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Northern Department Report for 2016 , Delivered January 7, 2017

Good Morning, Fellow Members of the Continental Line and Members of the Board,

I would once again like to thank the members of the Northern Department for their continued faith in me by re-electing me to be the Northern Department Coordinator. My mission this year was to learn the favorite bottled beer of each unit. If by some chance, I missed a unit, please make sure to give me an unopened bottle of your favorite brew. As usual, the Northern Department had good representation at the National Meeting last year. This past year of 2016 was busy for some of us and challenging for others.

Our year started off in March, with a well-attended repeat event hosted by the 4th Foot at Endicott Park in Danvers, MA. Unfortunately for any future events, the city decided the site was suitable for a dog park so we have been left barking up the wrong tree. Our mainstay event in April to celebrate Patriots' Day started with a restructured Battle Road event. We continued our commitment to Minuteman National Park in Lexington and Concord by providing a number of volunteers for an archaeological dig that resulted in determining the actual line of defense of the British army by finding musket balls arranged in a familiar pattern. There were several videos made and articles appeared in many national publications. We have been incredibly honored to be allowed to use this hallowed ground for our reenactments each year.

The Northern Department was well-represented at Mount Vernon and supported a small event at the Nathaniel Greene Homestead in RI, a site which continues to grow each year with our help. Summer and autumn saw regional events at Hubbardton, VT, Fort Ticonderoga, Old Sturbridge Village, Fort 4 and Longfellow's Wayside Inn. Keeping annual events fresh and exciting both for the spectators and the reenactors takes a great deal of work behind the scenes. The meetings, preparations, disagreements and their eventual resolutions are all part of the reenactor's organizational skill set. This year many of the members of the Northern Department honed their skills and learned from their successes and mistakes with events both large and small and even one that was turned down. It's always a good idea to know where the local pubs are as well.

In October, a School of the Officer was held at Old Sturbridge Village. This was designed as a prototype for more instructional events in the future to help the newer reenactors become familiar with the protocol and duties surrounding an officer. The faculty and the attendees included both the rebel scum and the Crown Forces and brought out the similarities and differences of the opposing sides. In spite of the luncheon pizza arriving late, there were many issues and concerns addressed. Several good ideas were shared as well and the response was positive enough that a repeat is in the plans for the future. Does anyone really know the true rate of fire on the battlefield? My thanks to Mark Nowaki, Eric Chetwynd, Dana Rock, Steve Taskovics, Dwight Dixon, Jimmy Casco, Barry Greene and those well-know Brits, Paul O'Shaughnessy and Bob Falotico. They were excellent instructors.

Regional events, including Fort #4 and Old Sturbridge Village, were well attended. We had some new smaller, more localized events such as Endicott Park in Danvers, MA, that were supported well enough to warrant another event this year. There were other sites testing the feasibility of events as well, learning what criteria was needed to make an event successful and even, such as in the case of the Battle of Segregansett, which beer is actually needed to appease the rain gods.

Brown's Raid, held at Fort Ticonderoga in September, was highly commended by nearly everyone who attended. In spite of last minute registrations and other normal frustrations, Bob Allegretto managed to satisfy most of the attendees and sent them home with memories of a great weekend. We ended our year with the Battle of Red Horse Tavern, at the Wayside Inn, without any significant snowfall.

The most pressing unit issues remain pretty much the same as ever, with safety on the field and recruitment and/or membership being at the top of the list. Open and honest discussion at the Northern Department meeting was welcomed as a venue to help improve the safety and organization of the hobby. Working together to create new scenarios and use all the talent available while still being safe and fun is not always a smooth process. In spite of some lumps and bumps throughout the year, I believe we have made progress in learning what works well and safely and what does not.

We seem to be in a period where many unit leaders – who have done the job for decades – are stepping back and new leaders are emerging. I had hoped to organize a School of the Officer in 2015, however, health issues during the summer and fall prevented me from giving this project the attention it needed to get off the ground. The project is not dead and will be revived in the near future if Mark Nowacki and others are still willing to be part of the faculty. This would be a time to share new ideas across units and see how others mentor their new officers. New units may not have the "old age" resources available to them. This could be a great opportunity for our senior staff to pass on the accumulated wisdom of decades of experience.

Lastly, I would like to say that during this past year I have become better acquainted with many of you and I've realized what an extraordinarily diverse, grumpy, talented, pig-headed, enthusiastic, and dedicated collection of characters with which I'm associated. There isn't any other hobby that can begin to compare. It has been an honor and privilege to work with such fine people and organizations that make up our hobby. I have learned a great deal in the past months and I look forward to continuing to serve the Department and can report the state of the ND is strong and ready for 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellie Hutchinson – ND Coordinator / 85eme Regiment de Saintonge/Crane's Artillery/Belsunce Dragoon