



Battle Lines



Newsletter of Co. H, 5th Reg't. New Hampshire Vol's.

• **Mustered-in September 9, 2018** •

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! EXTRA EDITION !

The Annual General Meeting of 2022



The Environment Canada forecast for Saturday, November 5 in Sussex was right on the mark. It was a beautiful day for drill, with a warm temperature (20°) and a sunny sky, allowing the seven members of Co. H present, to drill on the adjoining properties of Lindsay Titus and neighbour Allan deWinter. Members present were Dave Bottos, Leigh Gavel, Loran Gavel, Stephen Norman, Nicolas Tétrault, Sylvain Tétrault and Lindsay Titus.

Drill lasted nearly an hour, and it was difficult to end it on such a beautiful November day, but matters important to the future of Co. H awaited at the Annual General Meeting (AGM); the main and original reason for the day's agenda.

Fifteen items were on the agenda for the AGM, and we were able to go through them with relative ease, but with highly valuable discussion. We have 15 dues-paying members, thus we need 8 "yes" or "no" votes to carry each proposal. We had 7 members present at the AGM, therefore, we need a minimum of one more vote to carry each of the 15 questions presented here and at the AGM. All votes, according to our by-laws, are considered "partial" votes until a consensus is reached within a quorum vote. Thus, we will be seeking "yea" or "nay" votes by email from members who were not present at the AGM.

One member sent her regrets regarding not being able to attend the AGM due to work, and thanks go out to her for thinking of us. Thanks also to those members who made the trip to participate in this important part of who we are and what we do.

• **Next Event!** • **Outdoor & RV Show** •
Halifax, NS • March 10-12, 2023 •

IDEAS WANTED!

RESULTS OF THE VOTES

- **Question No. 1** – Should we approve the revised (2022) *Qualifications, Duties & Expectations* for those serving as a Private in Co. H?
 - **Discussion** –
 - There was some discussion about privates not attending events, but also having a say in the events chosen for the calendar. There was no resolution to this potential issue.
 - **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

- **Question No. 2** – Should we approve the revised (2022) *Qualifications, Duties & Expectations* for those serving as, or striving to become, a Corporal in Co. H?
 - **Discussion** –
 - Concern was raised about having too many NCO's in the group.
 - Discussion also raised concern about what to do about NCO vacancies. It was pointed out by Leigh Gavel that the commanding officer may appoint until the end of the mandate.
 - It was agreed that members holding rank, in order to improve on safety and authenticity, should agree to adhering to an attendance standard, but that this qualification should be monitored, as it is new.
 - Some concern was raised about employment demands preventing event participation, but it was noted by Lindsay Titus that the commanding officer, in consultation with the Executive, has the option of waiving the attendance requirement for an individual.
 - **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

- **Question No. 3** – Should we approve the revised (2022) *Qualifications, Duties & Expectations* for those serving as, or striving to become, a Sergeant in Co. H?
 - **Discussion** –
 - Communication between NCO's and the Executive regarding attendance is essential.
 - **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

- **Question No. 4** – Should we approve the revised (2022) *Qualifications, Duties & Expectations* for those serving as, or striving to become, an Officer in Co. H?
 - **Discussion** – Attendance policies should be measured per year, with Executive consultation.
 - **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

- **Question No. 5** – Should we approve the revised (2022) *Qualifications, Duties & Expectations* for those serving as, or striving to become, a person in a Specialized Military Role in Co. H?
 - **Discussion** – No further discussion
 - **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

- **Question No. 6** – Should we approve the revised (2022) *Qualifications, Duties & Expectations* for those portraying a Civilian in Co. H?
 - **Discussion** – No further discussion
 - **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

- **Question No. 7** – In which events should Co. H participate during the 2023 season?
 - The Schedule of Events for 2023 requires approval of the membership.
 - Below is a list of possible events.
 - Some dates are known, but others are undetermined at this time, or are “best guesses”.

Outdoor & RV Show – Halifax

- March 10-12, 2023
- Recruiting event
- Registration is costly, but Leigh has already raised the money through draws at work.
- **Discussion** –
 - Little discussion; Leigh explained that he had already raised the money for the registration fee through draws at work. There were no dissenting voices, and it was agreed to have Leigh pursue this event if the registration fee is the same as last year (\$450).
- **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

School of the Soldier

- A drill with a focus on “back to basics” for newcomers and veterans alike.
- This may be scheduled for either April or May, depending on weather and ground conditions.
- Location: TBA (It has been in Sussex, NB a few times).
- **Discussion –**
 - It was agreed to hold this event, and that either Sussex or Shediac (the Tétrault home) would be the location. The site would be determined over the winter.
- **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

Company Drills

- Drill in April or May, and possibly July
- Drill in July is dependent on our schedule
- **Discussion –**
 - The spring drills are dependent on weather and ground conditions.
 - The July drill could be held, depending on our schedule and the will of the members.
- **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

Ross Farm – Spring

- We were scheduled for two visits in 2022, in June and September.
- **Discussion –**
 - It was agreed to participate in the spring encampment, if invited.
- **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

Kings Landing Historical Settlement

- This is scheduled for the Father’s Day weekend (June 16-18)
- **Discussion –**
 - There was little discussion, as this is seen as a “signature event” for us.
 - Loran Gavel suggested we add Kings Landing to the schedule of the New England Brigade.
- **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

Halifax Citadel Historic Site

- Rationale – Co. A, 3rd Maine expressed an interest in coming to the Citadel with 8-12 rifles;
- This means coordinating our schedule, their schedule, and that of the Citadel;
- There is no guarantee of the 3rd Maine’s involvement, but they are a strong group and this a relationship worth building upon.
- It would provide us with another Nova Scotia event.
- **Discussion –**
 - Captain Titus explained the origins of the event for 2023, coming at the suggestion of Matt Bray, commanding officer of Co. A, 3rd Maine.
 - It was pointed out that it will take coordination of schedules among the three entities: the Citadel, the 3rd Maine and the 5th New Hampshire.
 - It was agreed to investigate this event.
 - Leigh Gavel stated that it might be a good event to place in our July calendar.
- **The Vote – Agreed** (*unanimous*)

Gold Cup Parade

- Friday, August 18, 2023
- 60,000 spectators; the largest parade east of Montreal
- This is potentially a rich recruiting event.
- Organizers have been emailed, no response received as yet.
- **Discussion –**
 - Following some discussion, it was put forward by Loran Gavel to put this event “on hold” for now and instead concentrate on Air Show Atlantic, as these two events would most likely be held one week apart in August, in 2023.
 - The Gold Cup Parade may be pursued at another time.
- **The Vote – Agreed to delay participation in this event** (*unanimous*)

Air Show Atlantic

- Probably to be held in late August; location is so far unannounced.
- We have already been invited to return.
- This is a potentially rich recruiting event.
- **Discussion –**
 - It was agreed to return to this event in 2023.
- **The Vote – Agreed** (*unanimous*)

Charlotte County Fall Fair & General Caldwell Graveside Visit

- Always during a September weekend.
- General Caldwell was the brigade or division commander of the Fifth for two years.
- A visit to his grave is easy while on our way to the Charlotte County Fall Fair on the Friday set-up day.
- They are always pleased to have us in attendance.
- We were not permitted to fire muskets at this year's event.
- This was a paying event in 2022 (\$200).
- **Discussion –**
 - Stephen Norman agreed with Lindsay Titus that this is a worthwhile event.
 - Leigh Gavel stated that photographs of the event make it look interesting.
- **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

Ross Farm – Fall

- We were scheduled for two visits in 2022, in June and September.
- **Discussion –**
 - It was decided to do a spring encampment at Ross Farm, but to attend the Charlotte County Fall Fair in the fall, as suggested by Leigh Gavel.
 - Members wishing to participate in an encampment at Ross Farm in the fall could still do so, if we are invited.
- **The Vote – Agreed** (*unanimous*)

Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom

- This is the historic site of the NB location of the Underground Railroad.
- Co. H member, Joe Gee, is the event founder and organizer.
- A one-day event, always on a Saturday, thus far.
- **Discussion –**
 - This is an important historic event, with direct roots to the Civil War.
 - It is a long drive for some members, but it is a valuable event.
- **The Vote – Agreed** (*unanimous*)

Prince Edward Island

- An event on the Island has been proposed several times.
- In the past, we have been invited to drill at the Queen Charlotte Armoury in Charlottetown.
- The Kensington Fall Festival Parade has been a suggestion in the past.
- The Gold Cup Parade, as part of Old Home Week in Charlottetown, is said by organizers to be the largest parade east of Montreal, with over 60,000 spectators lining the streets.
- **Discussion –**
 - There was a quick review of these potential events, but little discussion.
 - We need ideas from our PEI members.
- **The Vote – No vote was taken, as our schedule is already full.**

Event(s) of the New England Brigade

- **Discussion –**
 - Leigh Gavel stated that he would like to go to an NEB event. There were no dissenting voices.
 - Lindsay Titus explained that we don't want to lose our membership status by not participating, but that it is impossible presently to commit, without knowing their schedule.
- **The Vote – Agreed to pursue** (*unanimous*)

Events organized by Co. A, 3rd Maine

- **Discussion –**
 - There was some discussion, with Captain Titus offering that the 3rd Maine would be pleased to have us at an event of theirs.
- **The Vote – No vote taken.**

Events organized by Co. B, 20th Maine

- **Discussion –**
 - There was general agreement, but little overall discussion.
- **The Vote – No vote taken.**

Major Reenactments

- Gettysburg 160th – June 23-25, 2023
- Cedar Creek - October
- **Discussion –**
 - There was some discussion, especially about Cedar Creek.
- **The Vote – No Vote Taken.**

Other Events

- Apple Blossom Festival Parade – Annapolis Valley, NS
- Drill at Point Pleasant Park – Halifax, NS
- Sherbrooke Village, NS
- Moncton events
- Saint John Heritage Fair (?)
- Other?
- **Discussion –**
 - There was little discussion.
- **The Vote – No vote was taken.**

Question No. 8

- Should Co. H continue as a member of the New England Brigade (NEB) in 2023?
 - **Discussion –**
 - Lindsay Titus stated that our membership in the NEB has already been used several times with recruits in discussions, emails, handbills and in newsletters.
 - It is a good recruiting tool, and has the potential to maintain present members.
 - **The Vote – Yes (unanimous)**

Question No. 9

- Should we commit, to the degree possible without knowing schedules, to participating in at least one NEB event in 2023?
 - **Discussion –**
 - See “Events of the New England Brigade”, above.
 - **The Vote – Agreed (unanimous)**

Question No. 10

- In light of Co. A, 3rd Maine’s consideration of coming to the Halifax Citadel in 2023, should we investigate the Citadel as a Co. H event for the upcoming season?
 - **Discussion –**
 - See “Halifax Citadel National Historic Site”, above.
 - **The Vote – Yes (unanimous)**

Question No. 11

- Do we need to establish a membership dues structure for recruits entering part-way through the membership year (July 1 to June 30)?
 - **Discussion –** When this happens, if the new member carries a rifle, have him or her pay only the amount required for NFA membership and insurance.
 - **The Vote – Yes (unanimous)**

Question No. 12

- What do we, as Co. H, see as our future relationship with Co. I, 20th Maine?
 - **Discussion –**
 - All former Co. I members agreed that we have good friends in Co. I, and that we would hate to see those relationships severed.
 - Lindsay Titus gave some background to his concerns regarding a couple of Co. I members.
 - The incident last June at Kings Landing was discussed.
 - Captain Titus also explained that we was disappointed with Co. I's lack of communication for, and at, Kings Landing (number of participants not reported; not knowing they were staying part of Saturday only; numbers for the Kings Head Inn).
 - **The Vote –**
 - It was agreed to maintain a working relationship with Co. I, 20th Maine.
 - However, a close monitoring of the behaviours of selected individual members will occur,.
 - Lindsay Titus will seek improved communications from Co. I leadership.

Question No. 13

- The Military Muster at Kings Landing is possibly our “signature event”.
- How do we improve upon the experience at the annual Kings Landing encampment?
 - Our impression and activities done for, and engaging with, the public and with students, and;
 - the event experience for the Civil War reenactor, and;
 - as hosts, improving upon the event experience for visiting reenacting groups or individuals, and;
 - building a strong and lasting relationship with Kings Landing.
 - **Discussion –**
 - We need “numbers”: increased participation by Civil War reenactors.
 - How does Kings Landing feel? What are their wishes for us?
 - **The Vote – Agreed** (*unanimous*)

Question No. 14

- Should we invest in the purchase of a “loaner” uniform and leather for new, or potential recruits?
 - Follow-up Question (a): Do we seek to purchase a “loaner” musket as well?
 - Follow-up Question (b): Should we consider having a company quartermaster?
 - **Discussion –**
 - Could this kit be purchased by new members? (Loran Gavel)
 - discussion, but no resolution; probably “yes”
 - Can kit be advertised in the newsletter? (Loran Gavel)
 - Lindsay Titus: “yes”
 - Follow-up questions (a) and (b) were not pursued.
 - Dave Bottos brought kit that we wished to sell. Purchased on-site by Leigh Gavel was a slouch hat; it was suggested that it would be a good purchase for Steve Cochrane.
 - Dave also brought a pair of trousers, a frock coat and a sack coat. These were purchased by Co. H for \$300.
 - For this purchase, Leigh Gavel paid \$100 in cash from his draw money, and Lindsay Titus sent Dave an e-transfer for \$200 the next day (Sunday, November 6) to complete the purchase.
 - **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

Question No. 15

- Should we participate in the Sports & RV Show in Halifax on March 10-12, 2023, by setting up a display table or booth?
 - **Discussion –**
 - Leigh explained the event and the rationale of potentially being a strong recruiting event.
 - Lindsay said he would build a frame for a dog tent for the display.
 - A schedule of participants would need to be drawn-up.
 - **The Vote – Yes** (*unanimous*)

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM. Many thanks to all who participated in this important part of who we are!