



The Fourword

Volume 45 Number 11

November 2017



47th Annual Bull, Oyster & Shrimp Roast



Sunday

March 25, 2018

1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Tall Cedars Hall
Parkville, MD**

\$40.00 per person

(Reservations are being accepted)

**Music, Wheels, Raffles
Food by Atlantic Catering**



Open Bar



Music by Head Rush

**For Tickets & Information
Contact Lodge 4 at (410) 668-0004**



Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





MEETING MINUTES October 2017

- The October General Business meeting was held on October 23, 2017 at FOP Lodge 4. President Weston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Chaplain DiCara gave the invocation. President Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

- Brothers Massey and Hodnicki were excused. All other officers were in attendance as well as Legal Advisor Carl Rach.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- A motion was made by Brother Folio to accept the minutes of the September General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother Huff. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

~ PRESIDENT WESTON ~

- September 26– Met with Baltimore County States Attorney Scott Shellenberger.
- September 27– Addressed the In-Service Training class.
- September 28– Attended a fundraiser for Senator Delores Kelly from the 10th Legislative District.
- September 29– Attended the

Promotion Ceremony and meetings of the Legal Advisory Committee and the Executive Board of Directors.

- October 3– Met with a workers compensation attorney concerning issues with Baltimore County.
- October 4– Attended a fundraiser for Senator Ed Kasemeyer from the 12th Legislative District, addressed the In-Service Training class, visited Brother Caskey in the hospital and met with County Councilwoman Vicki Almond.
- October 5– Met with Baltimore County Executive candidate Al Redmer.
- October 6– Attended the funeral service for Brother Kevin Loss.
- October 10– Met with County Councilman David Marks, attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting and the Baltimore County Council work session.
- October 12– Met with Senate Judicial Proceedings Chairman, Senator Bobby Zirkin from the 11th Legislative District.
- October 13– Met with Special Assistant to the Chief, Gerald Brooks.
- October 16– Attended meetings of the Legal Advisory Committee and the Political Action Committee and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- October 18– Addressed the In-Service Training class.
- October 20– Met with County Councilman Julian Jones.
- October 23– Attended a fundraiser for Senator Jim Brochin from the 42nd Legislative District and chaired the General Membership meeting.

LODGE 4 OFFICE

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Baltimore, Maryland 21234
Phone (410) 668-0004
FAX (410) 668-8126
Toll Free (888) 313-3501
www.foplodge4.org

ELECTED OFFICERS

Cole B. Weston
President
(443) 956-2679

Steven G. Comegna
1st Vice President
F.O.P. Lodge 4
(410) 409-0293

David M. Rose
2nd Vice President
F.O.P. Lodge 4
(443) 956-2643

Donna M. Patterson
Lodge Secretary
PC-12
(410) 365-8481

Robert W. Caskey
Treasurer
CIB-Robbery
(443) 956-2615

W. Don Patterson
State Trustee
Retired

Ryan Massey
Sergeant at Arms
CIB - Homicide

Anthony DiCara
Chaplain
PC-8

L. Timothy Caslin
Past President
Retired

EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS

Kenneth F. Schubert
Chairman
Retired
(410) 404-2788

Mike DiCara
Vice Chairman
PC-4

Thomas G. Scally
Retired

Kathy Kraemer
PC-6

David Sweren
PC-12

Chris Hodnicki
CIB-GET

James P. Rommel, Jr.
PC-3

Ryan Franks
CIB-Property

Robert Graff
PC-6

Patrick Zito
Retired

LODGE STAFF

Nancy Skinner—Administrative Assistant

LEGAL ADVISORS

Schlachman, Belsky & Weiner, P.A.
Phone (410) 685-2022
IAS Cases Michael Davey

The Fourword is the official monthly publication of Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 4.

Fourword Editors

Donna Patterson
Don Patterson

~1st V. P. COMEGNA ~

- September 26– Visited Precinct #8, Parkville.
- September 27– Visited Precinct #9, White Marsh.
- October 4– Visited a member at Bayview Hospital.
- October 5– Along with President Weston and Second Vice-President Rose, met with a candidate for Baltimore County Executive.
- October 10– Attended Phase II range.
- October 12– Attended the monthly meeting of the Police Assistance and Relief Fund.
- October 16– Attended a meeting of the Political Action Committee, Legal Advisory Committee and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- October 19– Met with a member about his retirement options.
- October 23– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.
- October 4 – Attended a show cause hearing in Circuit Court for the Calvin Edwards case.
- October 5 – Met with Al Redmer, Republican candidate for Baltimore County Executive and delivered a class grievance to Chief Sheridan.
- October 10 – Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
- October 11– Attended Phase II range.
- October 12– Met with Senator Bobby Zirkin.
- October 16– Chaired a Legal Advisory Committee meeting and attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- October 18– Attended a fundraiser for Senator Kathy Klausmeier.
- October 19– Attended the draft for the upcoming promotion.
- October 23– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

~2nd V. P. ROSE~

- September 26– Met with Brian Thompson to discuss the results of the Spivey case.
- September 27– Met with Mike Marshall.
- September 28– Attended a fundraiser for Senator Delores Kelly.
- September 29– Chaired a Legal Advisory Committee meeting and attended a meeting of the Executive Board of Directors.
- October 3 – Met with the SRO from Perry Hall Middle School and met with Jason Shultz from Shultz Legal.
- September 29– Attended a meeting of the Legal Advisory Committee and the Executive Board of Directors.
- October 16– Attended a meeting of the Legal Advisory Committee and the Executive Board of Directors.
- October 23– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.
- October 16– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- October 23– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

~SECRETARY PATTERSON~

~TRUSTEE PATTERSON~

Births

Wesley Nguyen, Son of Brother Khoa Nguyen.

Jackson Tony Mims, Son of Brother Tony Mims

Stephen Joseph Burns, Son of Sister Sandra and Brother Andrew Burns

Liam Timothy Dawson, Son of Brother Tom Dawson

Ethan James Wensel, Son of Brother Chris Wensel

Demetri Lawrence Vermont, Son of Brother Jim Vermont

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT
~ Ken Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors meeting was held on October 16, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. Treasurer Caskey, Past President Caslin and Brother Rommel were excused, all other board members were in attendance. Legal Advisor Mike Davey was also in attendance.
- Motions that were made, after receiving a proper second, were discussed, voted upon, and appear in this issue under the appropriate committee reports.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

DONATION REVIEW COMMITTEE
~Mike DiCara~

- The Donation Review Committee met and discussed the following motions:
- To purchase a table of ten for

the American Society of Industrial Security luncheon to be held on October 25, 2017 for a total expenditure of \$450.00.

- To donate \$250.00 to the 1st Annual LEO Wives Have Your Six 5K to be held November 4, 2017.
- To donate \$550.00 to the Discovery League Soccer Club for purchase of uniforms for 20 children with special needs.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- On August 30, 2017, we received a decision on the Section 6.1 C grievance from the arbitrator awarding the grievance in favor of the FOP. We sent a copy to the County with a request to implement the award. The County had 30 days from when they received it to file an appeal. They did not file an appeal and have made no indication they were implementing the award. We have directed our attorney to file a motion to enforce the award in Circuit Court. That motion was filed on October 16, 2017.
- On March 9, 2016, we filed a notice of intent to arbitrate as per Article 8, Section 8.3, step #4 paragraph (b) of the MOU in our healthcare subsidy grievance. On June 15, 2016, we met with our labor attorney and health care consultant to discuss and prepare for the grievance as we move forward into arbitration. We have tried to arrange a meeting with the County Administration to try and resolve the issue outside of arbitration but the County has not expressed a desire to do so. We selected an arbitrator from the AAA. We have not selected a hearing date. The County has communicated to the FOP

that they declined to participate in the arbitration of this grievance. At this time, we are trying to set a date for the hearing.

- On October 5, 2017, we filed a class grievance against Chief Sheridan and the Baltimore County Office of Human Resources after they posted a job opening for the position of Police Officer Part-Time on the County website. The listing contained a salary and job description. These items have to be negotiated with the FOP. We sent Chief Sheridan a request to bargain and there was no response. The MOU between the Baltimore County Government and the Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4, specifically Article 1, Section 1.2 "Employee Defined" states "Whenever used in this MOU, the term "employee" shall mean all sworn personnel up to and including the rank of Lieutenant of the Police Department." Furthermore, Article 1, Section 1.1 "Union Recognition" states "The Administration recognizes the FOP as the exclusive representative of its employees as defined in Section 1.2 of this Article with respect to wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment." Through the Police Officer Part-Time position, the Department and the County are altering the negotiated terms and conditions of employment. Chief Sheridan issued a correspondence denying the grievance on October 19, 2017. Our appeal to step #3 was filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

~Steve Comegna~

- Open enrollment will run until November 16, 2017. Active

members and early retirees will see no changes in medical or pharmacy design. Medicare retirees will have several new options available to them. Each member needs to carefully consider their situation and select the plan that is appropriate for them.

LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- The legal Advisory Committee met to discuss the Erica Schneider-Barnes appeal of her discontinued spousal death benefit. The case, originally scheduled for August 17, 2017 was postponed because during case preparation a conflict was discovered causing counsel to have to step away from the case.
- We have signed a retainer agreement with the firm of Smith, Gildea & Schmidt. Through counsel recommendation a motion was made to enter into a tolling agreement with Erica. The motion passed in committee. The motion was presented to the Executive Board of Directors and it also passed.
- We currently have two (2) hearing boards pending. The hearing on motions to dismiss/motion for summary judgement in the Edwards case was heard on October 4, 2017 in Circuit Court. Edwards was asking that some of his allegations be split into separate hearing boards. Judge Ensor ruled against that request. Major Wilson has scheduled the hearing for December 11, 2017.
- The Legal Advisory Committee met on October 16, 2017 to discuss an appeal of that decision to the Court of Special Appeals. Mike Marshall made a presentation to the committee and his

recommendation was to fund the appeal. A motion was made by First Vice President Comegna and a proper second was made by Secretary Patterson to fund the appeal. The motion passed unanimously. The committee recommendation was presented to the board and it passed unanimously.

- Mike Marshall and his staff are working on the Marvin Haw pension appeal to the Office of Administrative Hearings. At this time, no date has been set.

PENSION COMMITTEE ~Dave Rose~

- At the October 10, 2017 Pension Board of Trustees meeting, the Trustees approved thirty (30) retirements, six (6) from the police department.

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE ~Dave Rose~

- The committee members reviewed twelve (12) new/revised policies this month.
- There were no bargaining issues at this time.
- There was a BWC meeting scheduled for August 31, 2017 to discuss possible adjustments to the policy. The committee has been directed to discuss the limiting of an officer's ability to review body worn camera video before making statements. The work group is charged with considering all points and making recommendations to the Chief of Police. These recommendations are to be made in the best interest of all affected parties and dissenting information will also be presented to the Chief for his consideration.
- It is the position of the FOP that this is a mandatory subject of

bargaining and that no changes can be made to the policy without bargaining these changes.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE ~Steve Comegna~

- The Political Action Committee met on Monday, October 16, 2017. The committee brought forth four (4) recommendations for expenditure. Those motions are as follows:
- To purchase a \$1,000.00 sponsorship to an event for Baltimore County Councilwoman Cathy Bevins (District #6) on Tuesday, October 24, 2017.
- To purchase a \$1,000.00 Sponsorship to an event for Baltimore County Councilwoman Vicki Almond (District #2) on Wednesday, November 1, 2017.
- To purchase a \$500.00 sponsorship to an event for State Senator Bobby Zirkin (District #11) on Wednesday November 8, 2017.
- To purchase a \$1,000.00 sponsorship to an event for Baltimore County Councilman Todd Crandell (District #7) on Saturday, November 11, 2017.
- There were seven (7) requests for expenditures that the committee did not take any action on.
- The Executive Board of Directors approved these expenditures on Monday, October 16, 2017. The expenditures were approved by the membership on Monday, October 23, 2017.

OLD BUSINESS

- President Weston advised he met with States Attorney, Scott Shellenberger in reference to the way Assistant States Attorney Robin Coffin handled the Spivey case. There was a lot of good dialogue. President Weston believes there

was good communication but still work to do.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- During the month of September, FOP Lodge #4 sent three (3) cards and flower arrangements to bereaving members. Seven (7) thank you cards were received. Five (5) donations were made in lieu of flowers.
- First Vice-President Comegna made a motion to take up to four (4) members to LRIS' Public Safety Union Leadership Seminar February 7-9, 2018.
- First Vice-President Comegna made a motion to purchase up to four (4) tickets to the Baltimore County Democratic Central Committee Labor Awards on October 26, 2017. Maximum expenditure will be \$260.00.
- Promotion Ceremony was held on October 27, 2017.

Bereavements

Brother Kevin Loss

**Joan Arlene Canter, Mother
of Brother Scott Canter**

**Eloise Jefferson Dade,
Mother of Brother Michael
Dade**

RETIREMENTS

**Scott Griffin
Ralph Donahoe**

PROMOTIONS

CAPTAIN

Christopher L. George
Glen W. Wiedeck

LIEUTENANT

Mandy L. Biter
Darren L. Calhoun
Eric L. Cross
Richard P. Hearn

SERGEANT

Juan R. Amador
Craig M. Coscia
Jeffrey G. Dvorak
Eric B. Knox
Andrew J. O'Neil
Blake W. Vaughn
Louis F. Weaver
Jeffrey M. Williams

CORPORAL

Jamie R. Connors
Brian M. Cowley
Dalante D. Jones
Matthew J. Keel
William A. Kelly
Matthew B. Krauch
Parrish M. McClarin
Royce D. Ruby

ARE YOUR BENEFICIARIES UP TO DATE ?

Please ensure that your beneficiary designees are current. Take a moment to verify that your loved ones are provided for in the manner you intend. The following offices can assist you.

Pension	Retirement Office	410-887-8246 or 1-877-222-3741
Life Insurance	County Insurance	410-887-2568 or 1-800-274-4302
PBA	Police Personnel	410-887-2208
Deferred Comp.	Richard Dinardi	1-877-677-3678
Baltimore County Employee Federal Credit Union		410-828-4730

LODGE #4 "FALLEN HEROES" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Applications for the Fall, 2018/Spring, 2019 scholarships are available now by contacting Lodge #4. Nine (9) \$3,000.00 awards are made each year.

Applications for these awards are open to the sons, daughters, adopted children, step-children or legally court-appointed wards, who are citizens of the United States. The applicant's parent or guardian shall have been an Active or Retired member in good standing of Baltimore County Lodge #4 for at least one (1) full year prior to the date of application for the current year scholarship awards. The applicant must be or will be a full-time student at a recognized college or university.

The deadline to return the completed application with required attachments is February 1, 2018.

Membership Passes to the National Aquarium

The Executive Board of Directors of Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #4 has entered into a one year business partnership under the Corporate Membership program with the National Aquarium. This means we have four transferable passes for use by our members. If you are interested in using the passes: You can call or email the Office at (410) 668-0004, or office@foplodge4.org.

If they are available on the date you have requested they will be reserved for you.

It will be your responsibility to pick up and return the passes.

On the occasions when different members have passes reserved on adjacent dates we ask the parties to communicate and agree upon a drop-off/pickup location for transferring the passes.

Should the passes become lost or stolen while they are in the member's possession we will require the member to pay for the replacement cost.

These passes grant access to the aquarium through the corporate membership entrance which should reduce if not eliminate any waiting in line. We are pleased to be able to offer this as an additional benefit to the members of FOP Lodge #4.

The December

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
December 18, 2017
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road

The January

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
January 22, 2018
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road