



October 1, 2025

David A. Bianculli, Commander
Deering Memorial Post No. 6859, VFW
687 Forest Ave
Portland, ME 04103

Re: Proposed Amended Bylaws:

Dear Comrade Bianculli:

Receipt is acknowledged of the proposed Bylaws for Post No. 6859, submitted through channels for the review of the Commander-in-Chief in accordance with Section 202 of the Manual of Procedure.

A review of the proposed Bylaws disclosed substantial compliance with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual, and laws and usages of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; however, needed modification for compliance. To preclude any misunderstanding of the additions and/or deletions, an informal document has been attached.

A copy of the reviewed Bylaws, with the corrections noted thereon, has been retained for our files, another forwarded to your Department Headquarters, and two sets herewith returned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Q. S. Carroll", is positioned above the typed name.

Quentin S. Carroll, Director
Administrative Operations

QSC:sb

Enc: Bylaws (2)

cc: Department Adjutant (1)

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

Office 816.756.3390
Fax 816.968.1157

WASHINGTON OFFICE

200 Maryland Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Office 202.543.2239
Fax 202.543.6719

info@vfw.org
www.vfw.org

NATIONAL BYLAWS/MANUAL OF PROCEDURE CONFLICT

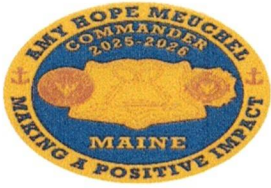
POST 6859 MAINE

Article V Section 2

Add “may appoint a” before “Service Officer”

Replace “Service Officer” with “Benefits Advisor”

Reason: To comply with Section 216 of the National Bylaws.



Department of Maine



Amy H. Meuchel
Commander

9 September 2025

Carol Whitmore
Commander In Chief
National Headquarters
406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

Commander In Chief,

Please see attached By-laws for VFW Post 6859. These By-laws have been approved by the post members 11 August 2025 and were forwarded to the Department for review. The Department of Maine requests the approval of VFW Post 6859 By-laws from the National organization. Thank you for your assistance.

Respectfully,

Amy Hope Meuchel
Commander
Department of Maine VFW

“Making A Positive Impact”

BYLAWS

DEERING MEMORIAL POST NO. 6859

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

ARTICLE I NAME AND LOCATION

- Sec. 1. By virtue of charter granted, this Post shall be known as Deering Memorial Post No. 6859 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- Sec. 2. The location of this Post shall be in the City of Portland, County of Cumberland, State of Maine.

ARTICLE II SUBORDINATION

- Sec. 1. The supreme power of this association is vested in the National Convention and this Post shall be at all times governed by the Congressional Charter and Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Bylaws of the Department, orders issued by authority of the National Convention, National Council of Administration, the Commander-in-Chief, the Department Convention, Department Council of Administration and the Department Commander. Resolutions adopted by the National Convention are held to be lawful orders.

ARTICLE III MEETINGS

- Sec. 1. Place: The regular meeting place of this Post shall be at 687 Forest Ave, Portland, Maine.
- Sec. 2. Time: The regular meetings of the Post shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month, to be called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Sec. 3. The Post may, after at least fourteen (14) days written notice to the Department Commander and the members of the Post, change its meeting place, appointed day or time upon a majority vote of the members present and voting at a regular or special meeting called for such purpose.
- Sec. 4. Special meetings may be called in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws.
- Sec. 5. Quorum: Five members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

- Sec. 1. Membership in this Post, eligibility to, application for, acquiring and maintenance of, loss of and discipline shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws and National Manual of Procedure.
- Sec. 2. The admission fee and annual dues of this Post shall be set by members at any regular meeting payable in accordance with the National Bylaws.

- Sec. 3. The dues of this Post shall never be less than the amount required to cover Department and National dues.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

- Sec. 1. Eligibility to, nomination, election or appointment, installation and term of office shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws.
- Sec. 2. The Post shall elect the Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and three Trustees. The Commander shall appoint an Adjutant, Chaplain, and may appoint a Benefits Advisor.
- Sec. 3. The duties of all officers shall be those prescribed by Department and National Bylaws, lawful orders as the Post may direct and as these Bylaws may provide.
- Sec. 4. The Post Trustees shall audit the books and accounts of the Post Quartermaster on or before the 15th day of each month for the business conducted for the previous month. The Post Trustees will provide a verbal or written report of the audit at the next scheduled regular meeting.
- Sec. 5. The Post Quartermaster and Adjutant shall be paid a stipend for their duties. The amount to be determined and approved annually at the Post regular meeting held in June, by a majority vote of the Post members at the meeting.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES AND DUTIES

- Sec. 1. All Committees and their chairmen, unless otherwise provided shall be appointed by the Commander. The Post Quartermaster, by virtue of office shall be treasurer of all committees handling funds. The Post Commander shall be "ex-officio" member of all committees.
- Sec. 2. The Standing Committees of the Post shall be as follows:
- | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) Membership | (e) Youth Activities | (i) Community Service |
| (b) House | (f) Post Activities | (j) Post Scholarship |
| (c) Poppy | (g) Historical | (k) Bingo |
| (d) Memorial | (h) VOD/PP | |
- Sec. 3. House Committee:
- (a) The House Committee shall be comprised of the following seven members: Post Commander as chairman, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Adjutant and two members appointed by the Commander. Four members of the House Committee will constitute a quorum. The Adjutant shall serve as secretary. The House Committee members will manage certain matters related to the Post property including the operation of Post Club Rooms and/or Canteen. Trustees shall not serve on the House Committee
 - (b) The House Committee is generally given authority to suspend the Club privileges of any member and to establish and enforce, through the Club Manager, rules of decorum and behavior. In any disciplinary action, discharge or suspension, there should be provision for an appeal to the Post meeting.
 - (c) The Committee may authorize such expenditures for minor emergency repairs and janitor supplies as may be necessary for the preservation and protection of the Post's quarters and its equipment, provided that the total amount so expended between any two regular meetings shall not exceed an amount approved in advance at the June Post meeting. However, at no time will the House Committee be prevented from expending funds to ensure the safety of its members or compliance with local, State and Federal Laws or with expending Post funds to

limit damage to the Post and is not limited by the preapproved amount specified at the June meeting.

- (d) The authority to suspend or discharge the club manager or any employee for good and sufficient cause. In any disciplinary action, discharge or suspension, there should be provision for an appeal to the Post meeting.
- (e) The House Committee will be responsible for developing and publishing club rules and regulations that cover the details of operation. They outline the responsibilities and limits of authority of the Post membership, the House Committee, the Club Manager, and the guests. They cover all aspects of managing and operating the Post. These rules and regulations governing the conduct of club or canteen as are deemed necessary to ensure the post and canteen is managed, operated, and ran in a manner consistent with best management practices. Such rules and regulations will become effective upon house committee approval by a majority vote of members present and voting at a regular or special meeting.
- (f) The House Committee shall meet at least once a month. A special House Committee meeting may be called by the Commander.
- (g) The Post may adopt such further rules and regulations governing the conduct of club or canteen as do not conflict with the provisions of this Article. Such rules and regulations shall only become effective upon their approval by a majority vote of members present and voting at a regular or special meeting called for that purpose; in the case of a special meeting at least thirty (30) days' notice in writing having first been given to all members.

ARTICLE VII **INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

ARTICLE VIII **EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS**

- Sec. 1. Expenditure of funds, except those allowed under Article VI herein, shall be made only after prior authorization by the Post and on proper voucher that are approved by the Commander. All expenditure of Post funds shall be made using acceptable banking practices that include, but are not limited to check, credit or debit card or any electronic means of payment. All disbursements of Post funds shall be by the Quartermaster or other person(s) authorized by the Quartermaster. Such other authorized person(s) shall be bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National Bylaws.
- Sec. 2. The adoption of this Article shall constitute authorization by the Post for the payment of bills, when and as due, for monthly rental, public utility service, postage, janitor service and for janitor's supplies and minor emergency repairs authorized by the House Committee.
- Sec. 3. No other payment or expenditure shall be made except on the specific authorization of the Post in each and every case.

ARTICLE IX **COMPENSATION**

- Sec. 1. No compensation shall be paid to any officer of this Post for their services as such officer, except as hereafter may be provided.
- Sec. 2. For services rendered, the Post may, by majority vote, pay a stipend to the Adjutant and Quartermaster for the periods or parts of periods they serve as such, and such other compensation commensurate with their duties as may be determined and specified by vote of the Post at the regular June meeting.

ARTICLE X
FUNDRAISING PROMOTIONS/SOLICITATIONS

- Sec. 1. This Post shall solicit funds or donations only by prior vote of the members agreeing to the proposition. It shall not solicit funds or donations or otherwise engage in fundraising activities or projects outside the immediate geographical area or community of the Post.
- Sec. 2. This Post shall not enter into any agreement with a promoter for the purpose of raising funds unless the said promoter shall have first furnished a good and sufficient surety bond in a principal sum sufficient to give the Post ample protection in the particular circumstances. The said bond shall be subject to the approval of the Post Adjutant, bear the endorsement of the Post Commander and be kept in the possession of the Post Quartermaster. The bond will be conditioned on the payment to the Post Quartermaster of all monies due the Post as a result of the solicitation within thirty (30) days of the close of the campaign. If the promoter has made satisfactory settlement within the thirty day period, then surety will be determined to be discharged, otherwise the bond will remain in full force and effect.
- Sec. 3. If the bond cannot be furnished, then all collections shall be made by the members of the Post sponsoring the campaign or entertainment and said funds shall be paid to a bonded officer of the Post who shall hold the funds in their custody pending proper pro rata distribution.
- Sec. 4. Fundraising organizations or individuals conducting solicitations, activities or projects for a profit shall not be engaged or used by the Post for such purpose unless such engagement is made by written agreement between the Post and the organization or individuals providing those services. The form of any such written agreement must be submitted to the Department Commander for review at least thirty (30) days prior to any Post entering into any such agreement.
- Sec. 5. No solicitations or ticket sales shall be permitted in the Post quarters or at socials or meetings unless such solicitations or ticket sales shall have been approved by the Post.

ARTICLE XI
MISCELLANEOUS

- Sec. 1. Every member of this Post shall keep the Post Adjutant and Quartermaster advised of their current address or email address by promptly reporting any change of same. Each member agrees that they have been sufficiently notified of any and all Post notifications that are required if they are sent due notification via regular US mail or email to their address/email on file at the Post.
- Sec. 2. One copy of these Bylaws shall be issued to each elected and appointed officer of this Post.
- Sec. 3. In all Post procedures not provided for by the Congressional Charter and Bylaws or these Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the authority, and it shall be the duty of the Judge Adjutant, in an advisory way, when called upon to do so by the Post Commander to advise the Post Commander on the proper rule(s).

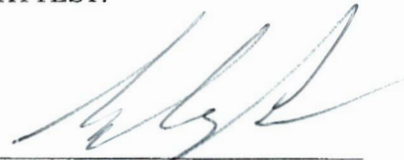
**ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENTS**

- Sec. 1. These Bylaws shall become effective after adoption by this Post and after review by the Commander of the Department and Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- Sec. 2. These Bylaws may be amended by the Post by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a meeting, provided each member had been notified at least twenty (20) days in advance and upon request provided a copy of the proposed amendments.
- Sec. 3. Wherever these Bylaws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future Department or National Bylaws, the latter shall prevail and be binding upon this Post as though written herein.

These Bylaws were adopted, subject to the review of the Department Commander and the Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States on this 14th day of August, 2025, at a regular meeting of this Post.

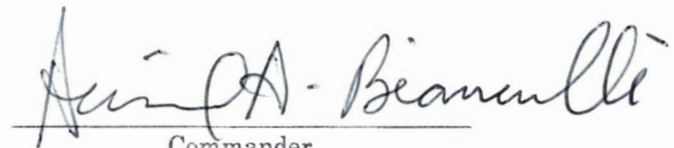
Deering Memorial Post No. 6859
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

ATTEST:



Adjutant

Michael Birmingham



Commander

David Bianculli



REVIEWED **OCT 1 2025**
FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Brian Walker
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL

BY Q. J. Hill, DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS