

AMERICAN LEGION POST 318

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 28, 2018 (Approval Pending)

The Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 PM at Post 318, by Commander Don Bishop.

Matters addressed at the Executive Committee were:

ROLL CALL OF POST OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Adjutant Dan Wolfangel conducted roll call. Present were: Post Officers: Commander Don Bishop; 1st Vice Commander Bob Kamman 2nd Vice Commander Matt Lilly; Adjutant Dan Wolfangel; Finance Officer Ron Yersky; SAA Ralph Caskey; Service Officer Charles Cleves; and Committee Chairs Randy Lindsey (Americanism); Ed Sears (Bingo) Bob Alfieri (House) and Ken Knight (Event Coordination). Also present was Joe Baker (Euchre Coordinator).

Absent with advance notice were: Chaplain Jerry Porter and Committee Chair Ken Knight (Event Coordination). Fund-raising and Community Support Committee Chairs are currently vacant.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Adjutant Wolfangel, noted that the E.C. Meeting Minutes from the January 31, 2018 meeting had been reduced to print and previously distributed to E.C. members, and have also been posted in E.C. Minutes binder in clubroom. They have also been submitted for inclusion on Post web-site. ***A motion (Dan Wolfangel) to accept the meeting's minutes, as printed, was seconded (Ron Yersky), and was passed unanimously to accept said minutes as printed.***

POST EVENT CALENDAR REVIEW:

Commander Bishop reminded that all should have the on-line calendar for March and April 2018 updated for upcoming activities in their respective area of responsibility.

CORRESPONDENCE / ADJUTANT ITEMS:

Adjutant Wolfangel noted the following items:

Correspondence Received:

- Cincinnati Tradition Drum and Bugle Corp Request for Donation: It was noted that no funding was allocated within the C.I. Budget for this request. ***No action was taken.***
- 4 Paws for Ability – A Quest for an Autism Assistance Dog: Requesting a donation toward an assistance dog, for child in Springboro, OH. It was noted that no funding was allocated within the C.I. Budget for this request. ***No action was taken.***
- McNicholas H.S. Request for After-Prom Donation: ***Wolfangel noted that \$100 was allocated within C.I. Budget for this request, and distribution had already been made by C.I.***
- Anderson Township Security Alarm Response Letter: Provided to House Chair Alfieri.
- City of Taylor Mill (KY) Notification of “Goldstar Tribute Wall” Display – May 4th thru May 7th: Posted on BB. Will be noted at next Post Meeting.
- National American Legion – Recognition of Post 318 Contribution to Legion Legacy Scholarship (included medallion for placement on previously issued participation plaque): Letter posted on BB. Will be noted at next Post Meeting. Adjutant to place medallion on plaque.
- POW-MIA Freedom Race Car Request for Donation: It was noted that no funding was allocated within the C.I. Budget for this request. ***No action was taken.***

Outgoing Correspondence:

- Acknowledgment to Don Bishop, for cash donation of \$3,196 for purchase of 200 padded chairs for Patriot Center hall.
- Acknowledgment to Don Bishop, for donation of a 40” Hatachi TV and Samsung DVD player for video promotional displays in Post foyer.

BUDGET REPORT / FINANCE ISSUES AND CONCERNS: Finance Officer Ron Yersky, provided E.C. with copies of a line item budget (Revenue / Expense Actuals) update through January 2018, with copy for Adjutant to file with February E.C. Minutes. Yersky noted that currently the Post Operating Account balance was approximately \$12,504 and Savings Account balance was approximately \$4,989. Known March expenses pending are about \$5,837, which include the last current roof repair payment of \$950. He noted that revenue not yet included is the Bingo check just received for \$2,400.

OPEN ISSUES / OLD BUSINESS: Commander Bishop commented on, led discussions, or updated status regarding following items.

- 1) **Membership Support and Participation:** Commander Bishop indicated that while this issue is still our #1 issue, due to numerous other items on meeting agenda, further discussion would be tabled until next E.C. Meeting..

NEW ISSUES / NEW BUSINESS (Commander):

- 1) **Euchre Changes:** Bishop noted that Joe Baker (Euchre Event Coordinator) was present to recommend some changes to the Euchre Event pricing structure. Baker noted that currently the cost for the Euchre Event, per evening was \$10 per person, with \$5 going to Post and \$5 going to prizes. He believe the Euchre participation is down due to the cost, which appears to be more than most other similar events. He is proposing a reduction to \$5 per person per event, with \$2.50 to Post and \$2.50 to prizes, to see if reduction stimulates more participation. Following discussion, ***a motion (Don Bishop) was made to accept and approve Baker's proposed reduced pricing structure, for a trial period of four months, with issue to be revisited at the June 2018 E.C. Meeting. Motion seconded (Dan Wolfangel), and passed unanimously.***

NEW ISSUES / NEW BUSINESS (Polling of Committee Chairs):

Membership: Chair Kamman, noted or commented as follows:

- Still at 147 members toward 155 quota. Need 8 more new, transfer or renewal members.
- Believes he has 1 transfer and possibly up to 3 new or transfers pending.
- Has received Continuous Membership Certificates from National Legion for Richard Burnes (50 yrs) and Hugo Vontz (70 yrs). Both will be held until the July Awards Recognition for presentation.

Post Activities: Chair Matt Lilly noted he had nothing to report, other than the next normally scheduled event would be the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, however, there was to be discussion at this E.C. Meeting as to the continuation of that event.

- **Annual Easter Egg Hunt.:** Discussion was had regarding the value of continuing this annual event, due to diminished attendance in recent years, and competition from additional egg hunts within the community by churches and A/T Park District. Bishop indicated he felt we had outgrown the event, and our small event is no longer making any significant on our community, and is a waste of our time, staffing, and financial resources (normally \$300 to \$500 per year) which could have more impact if directed elsewhere. ***A motion (Ron Yersky) was made to discontinue this annual event, starting this year. Motion was seconded (Bob Kamman), and passed unanimously.*** It was noted that we need to find a source to donate the existing stuffed animals that we have on hand, or give to Goodwill. Joe Baker (Post Scouting Coordinator) noted that filling the plastic eggs with candy, and helping at the egg hunt, had been a Boy Scout Troop 519 community service project, and that he was suggesting we need to find some tasks or projects that would benefit the Post to replace the egg hunt activities that involved the scouts.

Chaplain/VAVS: No report in absence of Chair Jerry Porter.

Americanism: Chair Randy Lindsey, noted or advised or commented on:

- **Oratorical Program:** Chair Randy Lindsey indicated that our Post Oratorical Program winner, Matt Martin, had been selected as HCC winner, and was competing at 4th District on Sunday – March 4th, at Post 194. Lindsey and Commander Bishop plan to be in attendance.

- Boys & Girls State Program: Chair Lindsey indicated that we have 11 qualified students who wish to attend BS / GS, which creates a dilemma as it appears there is only a total of \$1,725 allocated within the C.I. Budget for the funding of 6 students (3 boys and 3 girls). He noted that a swap of one student had been made with Post 484, since that student's parents belonged to Post 484. We currently need additional funding for up to 5 students, if we are to send all 11. He noted we had several donations from Post members toward this funding shortage, which is currently amounts to \$420. He also indicated that we may receive additional membership contributions..

Commander Bishop, also speaking on behalf of Charities, Inc., from which the BS /GS Program funding is allocated, presented a proposed recommendation that was drafted by the Charities, Inc, Board at their February quarterly meeting. The recommendation was two-fold. First to be able to fully fund the 11 BS / GS attendee which is needed to be paid now (projected at \$3,000), and secondly to assist C.I. with a cash flow problem expected to exist until the next C.I. revenue producing event which is Poppy Days at end of May 2018.

The recommended proposal/request is:

- 1) ***Post 318 suspend for up to three months (March thru May) the rental payments that C.I. pays Post 318 for rental of C.I. Office, which would amount to \$900 savings toward the shortfall of funds budgeted by C.I. for the BS/GS programs. Should additional contribution(s) be received, and/or additional funds be transferred within the C.I. budget, C.I. will proportionally reduce the suspended rental payment funds.***
- 2) ***Post 318 make a loan to C.I. In the amount of \$1,000 to be paid back in full to the Post by C.I. following the Poppy Days event. These funds will be used to cover the current payments needed to fund the BS/GS program.***

A motion (Don Bishop) was made for E.C. to approve the above previously stated proposal/request. Motion was seconded (Matt Lilly), and was passed unanimously.

Community Support & Recognition: Commander Bishop, in absence of a committee chair, commented as follows:

- Headstone Alignment Project at Hillcrest Cemetery: Noted that a \$5,000 grant had been applied for, and received from the American Legion Department of Ohio Charities, Inc. to complete the project which involves resetting and alignment of about 450 headstones. The application for the grant was made by the The Coalition To Save Hillcrest. Post 318 has four Post members on the cemetery's Board of Directors, and member Todd Mayer is the lead on project. The project will extend over the next two or three years. Work is expected to start in the spring, and volunteers will be needed. He noted volunteers from G.E. Currently perform maintenance on cemetery four times a year.

Adjutant / Law & Order Program Chair Wolfangel noted that Post 318's Firefighter of the Year (FFOY) – Cory Bower has been selected as HCC FFOY, and will be recognized at the HCC Meeting at Post 534 (Riverside) on March 7th. Wolfangel, and possibly Commander Bishop will attend.

Service, Veterans Affairs / Economic / Legislative: Chair Charles Cleves commented that he had nothing to report.

Bingo: Chair Ed Sears commented or reported that Bingo's distribution for February's three sessions was: \$2,400 to Post and \$640 to C.I., with concessions producing \$435, for a total \$3,475.

Sears also questioned as to whether the VFW Golf Group was still permitted use of the clubroom under Post policies. Commander Bishop advised yes, as long as they were there as his guests, and he assumed responsibility for all beverage distribution.

Fund-Raising: Commander Bishop, in absence of a Chair, commented or noted:

- Dance Schedule: Noted he continues to handle the leads for all upcoming scheduled dances, except for March 17th when he will be out of town, and Bob Kamman will be handling that one.
- Fish Frys: Noted Fish Fry attendance is up about 20% so far this year.

Event Coordination: Commander Bishop, in absence of Chair Ken Knight, commented on following:

- Kitchen Rental Agreement: Noted that Chair Knight has executed the contract / agreement with At Your Service Now (AYSN) caterer for use of Post kitchen.

Adjutant Wolfangel noted for the record, that an email vote of the E.C. members, conducted on February 13, 2018, for purpose of securing approval for entering into the kitchen use contract / agreement with AYSN, resulted in 12 responses, all of which were “in favor of” executing contract, meeting both quorum and majority vote requirements.

House: Chair Alfieri commented on, or noted the following:

- Roof Leaks: Noted that one leak had been repaired (hallway) by Steigerwald at no charge. However, additional “new” leaks have been determined between the roof and trim at front wall, which were not involved in previous repairs. Steigerwald gave estimate of \$1,500 for his company to correct this condition, or \$250 for necessary materials if we wish to do it ourselves. Following brief discussion, ***a motion was made (Bob Alfieri) to have Steigerwald repair the new problem at a cost of \$1,500, with payment to be under same installment payment agreement schedule as was executed on the previous repairs. Motion was seconded (Matt Lilly), and passed unanimously.***
- Driveway / Parking Lot Repair: Noted that we need to consider repairing / repaving of driveway as it is deteriorating badly. Commander Bishop reminded that this needed to be coordinated with Joe Sauter (Finishing Touches), as per shared parking / use agreement. ***E.C. requested that Chair Alfieri meet and discuss issues with Sauter and come up with a plan or proposal for shared effort on this issue.***

Internal / External Communications: Chair Dan Wolfangel (External Communications) advised media calendar event submissions for the Fish Frys and Dances have been published weekly.

Don Bishop (Internal Communications) advised that March Post Newsletter was ready to go out, and deadline for April's Newsletter would be March 23rd.

Uniform Ceremonies: Chair Caskey and Commander Bishop commented on following items:

- Memorial Day Activities: Bishop is to contact new member Ed Ruffennach regarding possibility of he and his son providing bugle “taps” and “echo taps”. Bishop also noted we have received request for participation in the A/T Memorial Day Program.
- National Vietnam Veteran's Day: Caskey noted date was March 29th.

Charities, Inc.: Don Bishop commented or noted:

- Poppy Program for 2018: Noted FHSD will be on Thursday – May 24th, and he is working with FHSD on details. Has Kroger (ATC) scheduled for Saturday – May 26th from 10 AM to 2 PM, which is expected to be able to be expanded. Kroger (CG) is pending contact in early May, if at all. Belterra Park will probably be on Saturday – May 26th, pending mid-March contact. No contact with Old Coney as yet.
- Amazon Smiles: C.I. Now registered with Amazon Smiles. C.I. will receive .5% on all purchases made by those selecting C.I. as their charity. A triple promotion (1.5%) is scheduled for March.

Hamilton County Council Issues / Concerns: No report.

4th District Issues / Concerns: No report.

Dept of Ohio Issues / Concerns: No report.

Good of Legion:

- Nominating Committee: Noted By-Laws require appointment of a Nominating Committee at March Post Meeting, and as with last year he is appointing the entire E.C. as the Nominating Committee, to fill, accept, or seek out nominees for the various elected and appointed offices / positions. Nominating Committee report to be ready by April E.C. Meeting, and be presented to membership at April Post Meeting. Elections to be held at May Post Meeting.
- Vacant Chair Positions: Still looking for volunteers to step forward and serve as Community Support and Recognition Chair, Fund-Raising Chair, and Bingo Manage (effective October 2018).

Further Business: None reported.

Adjournment of Meeting: There being nothing further to come before the Executive Board Meeting, Commander Bishop adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:35 PM.

Prepared by: