

MINUTES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 318

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 13, 2017 (Pending Approval)

The Post meeting, conducted at Post 318's facility, was called to order by Commander Don Bishop at approximately 7:00 PM. Colors were in place and were saluted. Opening Prayer was given by Chaplain Jerry Porter. Commander Bishop then gave the recognition of POW-MIA's, with the POW-MIA Chair Cover put in place by Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey. 1st Vice Commander Bob Kamman then led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. 2nd Vice Commander Matt Lilly led the reciting of the American Legion Preamble. Bishop then opened meeting for the normal order of business.

Attendance: Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey noted that there were fourteen (14) Post 318 members present, which fails to represent a quorum. There was one (1) guest - Joe Dubois, Jr. a member of Post 46 in North Carolina, in process of transferring to our Post.

Roll Call of Post Officers and Committee Chairs: Adjutant Dan Wolfangel conducted roll call, indicating Post Officers: Commander Don Bishop; 1st Vice Commander Bob Kamman; 2nd Vice Commander Matt Lilly; Adjutant Dan Wolfangel; Finance Officer Ron Yersky; Chaplain Jerry Porter; and Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey were present, as were Committee Chairs: Ed Sears (Bingo); and Bob Alfieri (House).

Absent with prior notice were Service Officer Charles Cleves and Committee Chair Randy Lindsey (Americanism). Absent were Committee Chairs: Ken Knight (Event Coordination) and Doug Rogers (Community Support). Fund-Raising Chair position is currently vacant.

Minutes: Adjutant Wolfangel noted that the Minutes from the November 8, 2017 Post Meeting had been produced in printed format, and placed in the Post Meeting Minutes binder located in the clubroom bookcase, distributed to all E.C. members, and also posted on Post web-site. *Action on approval / acceptance of Minutes was tabled until January 2018 Post Meeting due to lack of a quorum.*

Executive Committee Notes: Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the November 29, 2017 E.C. Meeting Minutes, in full printed format, had been placed in the E.C. Meeting Minutes binder in the clubroom bookcase, and distributed to all E.C. members, and have been posted on Post web-site. A summary of noteworthy items or actions from the November 29th E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- Approved a \$25 donation to “The Memorial Foundation – Holiday Wreath Program”, as previously allocated within the C.I. Budget.
- Approved Post participation in Ohio Senator Steve Wilson's “Veterans Honor Program”, through submission of names of 2017 deceased Post members, for which an Ohio Flag will be flown over the Ohio Statehouse in their honor. Chaplain Porter is coordinating our participation.
- Approved \$25 donation to “Military Veteran Resource Center's Veterans Food Pantry”, from allocated C.I. budget funds.
- Declined a proposal from Harbortouch Credit Card Processing for Post credit card processing services.
- Directed Finance Officer Yersky to research additional credit card processing solutions.
- Approved sending of letter to schools for which Post provided sports event color guard, advising of Post policy of not participating in any event where the sports event participants disrespect the American Flag or the National Anthem.
- Authorized Commander Bishop to send letters to select non-participating Post members, encouraging Post participation, along with a survey for them to complete listing the various tasks, services or activities which depend upon volunteers.
- Accepted the offer for donation of two burial plots at Graceland Memorial Cemetery (Milford, OH), in exchange for donation acknowledgment letter. Donated by Chuck Bowman, former Anderson resident, now residing in Florida. Value, approximately \$6,000.
- Set tentative date for Post's Oratorical Program competition for Saturday – January 13, 2018 (11 AM – 3 PM).
- Approved scheduling an additional six dates for “Open Mic” events in first quarter of 2018.

Finance Report: Finance Officer Ron Yersky submitted written finance report for the month of November 2017, with copies available for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with December Post Meeting Minutes. He advised our financial balance was in fairly good shape at approximately \$11,400 plus combined balance in Post's operating account (approximately \$7,000) and capital projects savings account (approximately \$4,400). He further commented on known upcoming expenses of a minimum of \$900. He gave a summary regarding the monthly payments status on mortgage, roof repair and insurance. *Action on approval / acceptance of Finance Report subject to audit was tabled until January 2018 Post Meeting due to lack of a quorum.*

Membership Report: (Chair - 1st Vice Commander).

Chair Bob Kamman submitted written report to Adjutant, and noted the following:

- Currently at 133 documented paid members for 2018, which is currently 22 members short of quota of 155.
- Gave summary logistics of current membership make-up,
- He announced the names of members with December birthdays.

Commander Bishop questioned, that in light of eleven new/transfer members to the Post, were there any plans for an orientation session, possibly coupled with a new member reception. Kamman indicated he would try to schedule something after the first of the year.

Post Activities Report: (Chair - 2nd Vice Commander).

Chair Lilly noted or commented on the following:

- Post Christmas Party: Noted it appeared to be a success. Apologized for not being able to attend, and thanked Don and Mary Bishop and Walt Geil for coordinating the event.
- 4th District Activities: He will be getting some information out on these upcoming events,
- Post Activities: Will be working on some sort of local Post event, such as golf or Reds game, in the new year. If anyone has some ideas for events, let him know.

Adjutant Reports and Correspondence:

Adjutant Wolfangel noted the following items of correspondence, or articles of interest that were received and/or posted over the last month on the Adjutant's bulletin board located in the Post clubroom:

New or Recent Correspondence / Items:

- Temporary 2018 Bingo License Received: Permanent 2018 license is pending review of 2018 application which has been submitted. Forwarded to Bingo Chair Sears.
- Updated 2017 – 2018 4th District Activities Schedule: Posted on BB.
- Notice / Info 4th District Euchre Tournament – Post 199 (Harrison) – February 18, 2018: Posted on BB.
- Notice of “Gifts for Yanks” Christmas Gift Distribution – Southern Ohio Veterans Home December 16th / VAMC December 22nd: Posted on BB.
- Acknowledgment of \$100 Donation to Joseph House: Posted on BB.
- Thank You Letter from “Good Shepherd Catholic Montessori School” for Donation of Excess Post Folding Chairs: Was coordinated by House Chair Alfieri. Posted on BB.
- Info Packet on Boys State Program / Solicitation for Boys State Program: Packet provided to Americanism Chair Lindsey and Jerry Porter. Solicitation will be addressed at E.C. Meeting.

Outgoing Correspondence:

- Acknowledgment of \$150 donation received by Post from Christine Moore, made in honor of her father - Don Bishop.
- Acknowledgment of donation of two paintings received by Post from Jim and Molly Mohrfield.
- Acknowledgment to A/T Trustees for donation of photo of A/T veterans Memorial.
- Acknowledgment to Joe Sauter (Finishing Touches) for rear parking area landscape bed improvements.

Chaplain's & VAVS Report: (VAVS Chair - Chaplain):

Chaplain Porter commented on, or noted, following:

- Gave a medical status update on member Keith Musselman.
- “Veteran Honor Program”: Advised had sent in four names of 2017 deceased members to the Ohio Senator Wilson's “Veteran Honor Program” (Justice, Sinks, Kamman, Previty).
- “Active Duty Gift Program”: Advised sent four packages to active duty personnel (Adrienne Prem; Andrew Fenner; Sgt. Phil Stickel; 2nd Lt. Jake Groh), at total cost of \$135.08, from C.I. budget funds.

Committees and Liaison Reports:

■ **Americanism Committee:** (Chair – Randy Lindsey).

Jerry Porter, in absence of Chair Lindsey, noted that he (Porter) had attended a meeting this morning at Anderson High School with three candidates (2 boys and 1 girl) for the Oratorical Program, as Lindsey was unable to attend. There will be a practice session held on January 9th at AHS, and our Post competition will be on January 13th. There still is the possibility of additional candidates.

■ **Community Support & Recognition Committee:** (Chair – Doug Rogers).

No report in absence of Chair Rogers.

Law & Order Program Chair Wolfangel noted that letters seeking nominations for Law Officer of the Year and Firefighter of the Year, had been sent to HCSO-D5 and ATFD. They are due back by January 5th.

■ **Service, Veterans Affairs, Economic & Legislation Committee:** (Chair - Service Officer)

No report in absence of Chair Cleves.

■ **Bingo Committee** (Chair – Ed Sears)

Chair Sears commented on, or noted:

- Thanks to all who volunteer for Bingo, and he still needs additional volunteers.
- Bingo in the month of November, which encompassed only 3 weeks, provided \$1,200 to the Post, and \$546 to C.I., and generated \$420 from concessions, for a total of about \$2,200.
- Dennis Sakal is in re-hab following his knee surgery, and doing relatively well.
- Arrangements have been made through WKRC-TV (Local 12) for announcements of Post activities (including Bingo) being canceled due to adverse winter weather conditions. Will post info on BB in Post's office should anyone need the access to the process for events other than Bingo.
- Noted receipt of 2018 Temporary Bingo License, and that application was in process of review by Ohio for the permanent 2018 license.

■ **Fund-Raising Committee:** (Chair – VACANT).

Commander Bishop noted that this Chair is now open, with the movement of Ken Knight to Event Coordination Chair. In absence of a Chair, Commander Bishop noted

- Football-Mania was still on-going through end of football season.
- Hoops-Mania tickets have been ordered, and should be received in time for Christmas stocking stuffers.
- Dance Events:
 - * Spring schedule finalized. Currently booking bands.
 - * Blue Stone Ivory band not returning due to insufficient draw.
 - * Talking to a country-western band (Deuces Wild) as a possible new band.
 - * Experimenting by adding additional themes for scheduled dances, such as Vegas Night, Cinco de Mayo, and Prom Night to our current Valentine and St. Patrick themes.
 - * Looking for membership participation and inexpensive décor ideas to decorate the hall for theme dances.
 - * Short on staffing for the December 16th dance and the New Years Eve dance/party..
- Fish Fries: Noted we are eight weeks away from 2018 Fish Fry season, and do not have a lead. Pointed out last year FF's generated \$5,400 in net revenues. If there no one to take the lead, there will be no FF this year. Decision will need to be made by January 2018 E.C. Meeting.
- Open Mic: First event of 2018 will be on January 12th.

■ **Event Coordination Committee:** (Chair – Ken Knight).

Commander Bishop, in absence of Chair Knight, noted that Knight is working with Jimmy Bussey on learning the details and responsibilities of the position.

■ **House Committee:** (Chair – Bob Alfieri).

Chair Alfieri commented on, or noted:

- Thanked all for help on regular and special hall clean-up / set-up details, noting still can use more help. Will need set up on Saturday – December 16th at 2 PM, after a rental, due to dance that evening.
- Have replaced three of the emergency lighting units which were found not working during a fire department inspection.
- ATFD has supplied “occupancy limit signs” for posting in hall (274) and clubroom (54).

■ **Internal / External Communications Committee:** (Chair – Adjutant).

External Communications: Adjutant Wolfangel advised our December 16th dance was in the FHJ event calendar today, and our media release and calendar entry for our NYE event had been submitted. The media release for

the 2018 band/dance events is ready for submission.

Internal Communications: Commander Bishop reported that the deadline for items to be submitted for the January Newsletter is December 22nd.

- **Uniformed Ceremonies Committee:** (Chair - Sgt.-at-Arms):
Chair Ralph Caskey commented noted we are currently scheduled for four Color Guard details in conjunction with Anderson and Turpin basketball activities. Two in January and two in February.
- **Charities, Inc. Committee:** (Chair Don Bishop)
Chair Bishop commented on, or noted:
 - CI Finance Report (prepared by Walt Geil – CI Treasurer as of November 30, 2017). Copies were available at sign-in table, and copy provided to Adjutant for filing with November meeting minutes. He noted that the total balance of CI funds on report was \$4,558.28 as of end of November. He commented on the various distributions from the CI program funds during November.
 - Poppy Days: Advised we will be conducting Poppy Days at FHSD again in 2018, and has also reached out to Kroger and Belterra Park. A response from Kroger has advised to contact back in February. Also will try to get into Old Coney.

Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report: Nothing to report.

4th District Report: Nothing to report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Good Of The Legion: .

- Volunteer Drawing: Don Bishop handled. \$50 Carrubba's gift card went to Dan Wolfangel.
- Split-the-Pot: Mike Stringer handled, with \$29 going to Dan Wolfangel.
- Next E.C. Meeting: Commander Bishop noted it would be on December 27th.
- Next Post Meeting: Commander Bishop noted it would be on January 10th.
- Refreshments: Will be in club room following close of meeting.

Closing:

There being no further business to come before the membership, Chaplain Porter gave closing prayer, followed by Commander Bishop's call for removal of POW-MIA Chair Cover by SAA Ralph Caskey. Commander Bishop then called for saluting the colors in place, and then declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40 PM.

Dan Wolfangel