

MINUTES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 318

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 11, 2017 (Approval Pending)

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

Attendance: Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey noted that there were seventeen (17) Post 318 members present, which represents a quorum, and there was one (1) guest, Charles Sollberger, representing 4th District to conduct annual inspection of Post.

Sollberger advised he brought greetings from the 4th District, and he was there for purpose of annual inspection of Post, and that he was finding everything in order.

Roll Call of Post Officers and Committee Chairs: Adjutant Dan Wolfangel conducted roll call, indicating Post Officers: Commander Don Bishop; Acting Commander/ 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: Randy Lindsey (Americanism); Ed Sears (Bingo); Bob Alfieri (House), and Jimmy Bussey (Event Coordination).

Absent with prior notice were Service Officer Charles Cleves and Committee Chair Ken Knight (Fund-Raising). Absent was Committee Chair Doug Rogers (Community Support).

Minutes: Adjutant Wolfangel noted that the Minutes from the September 13, 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. *Upon motion made (Dan Wolfangel), to accept September 13th minutes as printed, was seconded (Jerry Porter), and passed by unanimous vote.*

Executive Committee Notes: Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the September 27, 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 September E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- Approved distribution of a \$25 contribution from Charities, Inc (C.I.) funds to Anderson Park District's "Trunk 'R Treat" event, as previously allocated in C.I. Budget.
- Approved distribution of a \$25 contribution from C.I. Funds to Northern Kentucky Young Marines youth organization toward trip to Hawaii to participate in Pearl Harbor commemoration, if sufficient C.I. funds are available.
- Continued discussion on the establishment of Post written policies relative to "Bar / Concession Worker Compensation" and "Post Clubroom and Patriot Center Facilities Utilization".
- Discussed potential offer of donation/transfer of two grave sites in Graceland Memorial Cemetery (Milford, OH) to Post for disposition as desired.
- Approved request from Post sponsored Cub Scout Pack to sell fund-raising popcorn prior to start of Bingo games through October.

Finance Report: Finance Officer Ron Yersky submitted written finance report for the month of September 2017, with copies available for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with October Post Meeting Minutes. He advised our financial balance was in fairly good shape at approximately \$12,000 combined balance in Post's operating account, capital projects savings account, and active cash trays for Post activities and events. He further commented on known upcoming expenses. He anticipates scheduled Post's bingo and fund-raising events will continue to assist us in maintaining an adequate balance. *Upon motion (Bob Alfieri) to accept September Finance Report, subject to audit, and second (Don Bishop), motion was passed unanimously.*

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

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

- Currently at about 108 documented paid members, and has just received 2 more, which would bring us to 110, and he knows of 3 more that are coming in, which would put us at 113, toward 2018 quota of 155. There are several possibilities of new members being worked on by several of our members, however, if anyone knows of a veteran eligible for membership, please work on getting them to join..
- He advised we still have about 44 current members that have not yet renewed for 2018.
- He announced the names of members with October birthdays.

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

Chair Lilly noted or commented on the following:

- 4th District Bowling Tournament (December 2nd), noting he had a couple of interested individuals, and anyone else interested should contact him. Requires 5 person team.
- 4th District is still looking for Posts to sponsor District activities for January and May. Any ideas can be noted to him.
- A/T Veterans Day Recognition Dinner (November 11th) to be held at Post. Don Bishop added some additional comments regarding the logistics of the event, noting Post 318 members had opportunity to make early reservations by October 16th, after which it will be open to any A/T veteran on a first come-first served basis. Bishop noted that if any members had photos related to their military service, he would be happy to include them in the video that will be shown during the event.

Acting Commander Kamman commented he had a sign-up list and need for several volunteers for the upcoming October 21st dance, noting possibly Matt Lilly would be overseeing this event as he (Kamman) would be unavailable.

Dan Wolfangel noted that he needed some volunteers for October 20th Open Mic. He was advised Gary Gregorio and Walt Geil had volunteered for the kitchen for that date. He indicated he could use one more for the bar/beverage/concession area.

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:

- Info Bulletin from Dept. of Ohio Relative to Veterans Issues, VAVS, GFY, Legislation, Veteran Employment and National Security Matters: Posted on BB, w/copies to Acting Commander Kamman, Service Officer Cleves, Chaplain Porter, and SAA Caskey.
- Notice of Post Service Officer Training Session - Saturday 10/28/17: Copy provided to Post Service Officer Cleves.
- Notice of 4th District 2017 Team Handicap Bowling Tournament – Saturday 12/2/17 (Madison Bowl, Mason, OH): Posted on BB, w/copy to Post Activities Chair Lilly.
- Schedule of 4th District Activities: Posted on BB, w/copy to Post Activities Chair Lilly.
- Listing of 4th District Scheduled Activities: Post on BB, w/copy to Post Activities Chair Lilly.
- Correspondence from Ohio Senator Steve Wilson (7th District) Regarding Program Involving Ohio Flag Being Flown Over Statehouse in Honor of Deceased Veterans: Read, posted on BB, and forwarded to E.C. for review.
- Correspondence Regarding “The Hero's Fund”: Read, posted on BB, w/copy to Service Officer Cleves.

Outgoing Correspondence:

- Acknowledgment of \$20 Donation received by Post from member Charles Stein in lieu of Football-Mania tickets.
- Acknowledgment of \$25 Donation received by Post in memory of deceased member Steve Justice.

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

Chaplain Porter commented on, or noted, following:

- Noted that we would still be hosting a VAVS event at the Post on Saturday - October 21st (approximately 11 AM to 1:30 PM), and that the VAVS event at V.A. Hospital on November 7th had been canceled. Can still use some volunteers for the October 21st event.
- Received letter from V.A. advising that the Gifts For Yanks (GFY) Fund goal for 2018 is \$260,00. We will begin collecting contributions for this in the near future.
- Gave a medical status update on members, asking if anyone knew where Jack Storm was, and noting that Roger Siegman was in hospital for a heart problem and was expected to be released today, Acting Commander Kamman noted that Don Bishop was back with us at tonight's meeting, still recovering from his recent surgery.

Committees and Liaison Reports:

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

Chair Lindsey noted he was notified today by Anderson High School, that they would be administering 200 A & G Tests. He will order the test, with assistance of Jerry Porter. Next up will be the Oratorical Program.

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

No report in absence of Chair Rogers.

Commander Bishop noted that there was work party at Hillcrest Cemetery on October 13th, for purpose of cleaning headstones. Member Todd Mayer is leading the detail. There is also a future need for persons with chainsaws. For additional info see Don.

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

In absence of Chair Charles Cleves, Adjutant Wolfangel read an email from Cleves noting that:

- He would be attending a meeting at Woodlawn Armory for Service Officers to discuss helping Vets in need.
- There is nothing new to report at this time regarding our attempts to assist veteran Brett Feldman and family.

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

Chair Sears indicated that Bingo in the month of September (only 3 weeks) provided \$900 to the Post, and \$726 to C.I., and generated \$443 from concessions, for a total of about \$2,069. He noted that he still is in need of assistance at bingos, and that October 31st is the end of the current bingo year. November 1st starts the new year. He also reminded that he had notified the E.C., that he will be stepping down as Bingo Manager / Chair effective October 31, 2018. So far, to his knowledge, no one has stepped up to work with him and take over bingo.

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

In absence of Chair Knight:

- Lilly noted we had two \$25 football-mania winners.
- Kamman noted a summary of the dances indicated we had an “average” attendance of 125, and an “average” profit of \$814 per dance.

■ **Event Coordination Committee:** (Chair – Jimmy Bussey).

Chair Bussey commented on upcoming confirmed hall usage, excluding dances and open mic events, which included:

- Four Medicare Seminars (two each in October and November).
- A wedding/wedding reception rental (October).
- A birthday party (October).
- A two hour Turpin Hills Civic Club Christmas Brunch (December).

■ **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.
- Exterior light on east side of building has been repaired.
- Roofer has been contacted and will be responding to fix newly identified leak in hall way by restrooms.

Commander Bishop noted that Acuity Insurance has requested a meeting to review Post insurance, and asked if anyone else wished to attend. Chair Alfieri advised he would like to attend. Bishop will schedule meeting.

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

External Communications: Adjutant Wolfangel advised nothing to report.

Internal Communications: Acting Commander Kamman reported that the November Newsletter deadline for items to be submitted is October 25th.

■ **Uniformed Ceremonies Committee:** (Chair / Sgt.-at-Arms):

Chair Ralph Caskey noted that:

- Last football color guard will be this Friday (10/13/17). Anderson vs. Turpin at Turpin. Thanked all volunteers who stepped up to cover these color guard details, which seem to be the same people.
- V.A. Hospital will be issuing photo ID cards to all veterans, regardless of whether they are receiving services from the hospital. They will be available after November 11th. More info will be forthcoming.
- Veterans Day detail requests are coming in. To-date he has received requests for color guard details at Parkside Church (11/8/17), IHM School (11/9/17), Nagel Middle School (11/10/17), and also requests for flag classes at Mercer Elementary (10/10/17), and for veterans in classrooms at Sherwood Elementary (11/13/17). Still has a couple of openings on the various color guards, and can use further volunteers on the flag classes and veterans in classrooms details. Still expects several more requests to come in for several other schools. Contact SAA Caskey if you can assist.
- It was noted that Ron Yersky is handling a speaking engagement for the Hamilton County Retired Teachers Ass'n on November 8th also.

■ **Charities, Inc. Committee:** (Chair Don Bishop)

Chair Bishop commented on the Veterans Day "Wave the Flag" fund-raising program, noting that currently we only have a commitment from Kroger (ATC) for 4 to 6 hours on Sunday November 12th. He won't know about the possibility of 4 hours at Kroger (CG) until end of October. Plans are to schedule for both events and see what happens.

Bishop also briefly commented on the C.I. Financial Report (prepared by Walt Geil, C.I. Treasurer), noting a total balance in all accounts of \$2,365.57. Copies of report were available for all members, and Adjutant for filing.

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

4th District Report: No Post report, however, Charles Sollberger (4th District) commented on several items:

- Lack of participation by Post 318 at both HCC and 4th District level, and would like to have us show up and participate.
- Changeover of personnel at the Dept of Ohio level creating some confusion.
- Boys State Program was attended by 1,211 students last year. Need some new adult leadership blood, and noted Jerry Porter's attendance last year and his consideration in getting involved in the leadership of the Boys State event. Noted Boys State leadership meeting on October 14th at Sept of Ohio in Delaware, OH, for anyone interested.
- Commended Post 318 for all of its local events and activities.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Post Christmas Party: Jerry Porter asked about date for this year's event. Matter will be addressed by E.C. at next meeting.

Gifts For Yanks Participation Certificate: Acting Commander Kamman noted the Post had received a certificate for its combined contribution of \$410 to the 2016-2017 GFY Program. Adjutant will post in clubroom. Kamman noted that Post 318's last year GFY program was spearheaded by SAA Caskey.

Good Of The Legion: .

- Volunteer Drawing: Bob Kamman handled. \$50 Appleby's gift card went to Walt Geil.
- Split-the-Pot: Mike Stringer handled, with \$33 going to Mike Stringer.
- Next E.C. Meeting: Acting Commander Kamman noted it would be on October 25th.
- Next Post Meeting: Acting Commander Kamman noted it would be November 8th.
- Refreshments: Available, 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 Acting Commander Kamman's call for removal of POW-MIA Chair Cover by SAA Ralph Caskey. Acting Commander Kamman then called for saluting the colors in place, and then declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 PM.

Dan Wolfangel