

MINUTES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 318

REGULAR MEETING

September 12, 2018 (Pending Approval)

The Post regular Membership 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 SAA Ralph Caskey. 1st Vice Commander Bob Kamman then led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. 2nd Vice Commander Randy Lindsey led the reciting of the American Legion Preamble. Bishop then opened meeting for the normal order of business.

Commander Bishop noted that this meeting was the second in the exploration / testing phases of attempting to provide the ability for on-line "Virtual Meeting Attendance", as member Don McLaughlin was once again participating in the Post Meeting via on-line access, and was included in our meeting attendance. He further commented on need for the use of microphones when commenting during meeting to assure inclusion of our "virtual" attendees. .

Attendance: Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey noted that there were twenty Post 318 members present (which included one member by virtual presence), which represents a quorum. There was one Guest (David Hurst representing HCC and 4th District for Post inspection purposes.)

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 Randy Lindsey; Adjutant Dan Wolfangel; Finance Officer Ron Yersky; Chaplain Jerry Porter; SAA Ralph Caskey; and Service Officer Charles Cleves were present, as were Committee Chairs: Ed Sears (Bingo); and Bob Alfieri (House).

Absent was Committee Chair Ken Knight (Event Coordination). Americanism, Community Support and Fund-Raising Chair positions continue to be vacant.

Minutes: Adjutant Wolfangel noted that the Minutes from the August 8, 2018 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. *A motion (Dan Wolfangel) was made to accept minutes as printed. Motion was seconded (Jerry Porter), and passed unanimously.*

Executive Committee Notes: Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the August 31, 2018 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 August E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- As means of promoting Patriot center hall rentals, approved motion to offer a 10% hall rental discount to any AACC members wishing to rent the hall.
- Due to potential conflicts with Halloween and Christmas seasons, approved moving October E.C. Meeting from October 31st to October 24th, and December E.C. Meeting from December 26th to December 19th.
- Authorized Finance Officer to pay HCC membership assessment of \$60, and 4th District membership assessment of \$46.80, both of which were approved in 2018-2019 Post Budget.
- Directed contribution from C.I. Budget funds, in amount of \$30 for Post advertisement (½ page) in Hamilton County Veterans Day Committee Program Book, as previously approved within the 2018–2019 C.I. Budget.

Finance Report: Finance Officer Ron Yersky submitted written Income/Expense Statement for the month of August 2018, with copies available for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with September Post Meeting Minutes. He advised our current financial balance was in fairly good shape at \$23,255 which is a combined balance of the Post's Operating Account (approximately \$13,684) and Post Savings Account (approximately \$9,571). He noted that the only outstanding bills are routine monthly bills he received tonight and the Post's insurance bill (Acuity Insurance). He is holding in abeyance at the current time are the \$8,400 for Post's driveway / parking lot repairs which pending an execution date, the mortgage payment to Mary Jo Cleveland, which we are holding pending determination of when we close on the new commercial mortgage loan. Anticipated income forthcoming this month would be from Euchre, Bingo

and one dance. *A motion was made (Don Bishop) to accept the Finance Officer's report, subject to audit. Motion was seconded (Jack Surdick), and passed unanimously.*

Commander Bishop noted that the commercial mortgage loan could close as early as this Friday, in which case we would not have to make the pending monthly payment to Cleveland.

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

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

- 2019 membership quota is 159.
- We are currently at 90 paid members toward that quota, or approximately 60% of quota.
- Member Todd Mayer has recruited three new members (two currently on active duty), which will help minimize the deficit we have from deaths and non-renewals.
- He announced the names of twelve members with September birthdays.

Bishop congratulated Kamman on his efforts on the “Virtual Meeting” project, and requested Kamman provide a brief update as to the progress. It was noted that we have one more member (Lee Bobltz) ready to join Post Meetings virtually, however, due to other commitments he will not be able to join us until November meeting. Kamman noted we are still looking for a couple participants to complete the beta testing stage.

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

Chair Randy Lindsey noted or commented on:

- September 16th - Open House at Post for Anderson Township's Clough Historical District Walk. He will be present for sale of water and possibly bake goods, and free parking from 12 noon to 4 PM..
- September 16th - 4th District Dart Tournament and All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast at Post 199 (Harrison). No one signed up. and Next social will be a Fall Cook-Out tentatively set for October 9th. More info to follow.
- September 22nd - Post Dance with Six Pac Band.
- October 13th – Poker-Mania.
- October 23rd – Next Post Social/Cookout Event - “Fall Fest”.
- November 10th – A/T Veterans Day Event.
- December 7th – Post Christmas Party – The “Christmas Party that will live in infamy” since it will be on Pearl Harbor Day.

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:

- “Door-to-Door Van Accessible Transportation”: Info on transportation service for disabled or elderly with non-emergency accessible transportation needs. Posted on BB.
- Arlington Memorial Cemetery – Mt. Healthy, OH – Veteran Burial Offers: Posted on BB.
- Notice of 4th District “Early Celebration of Legions 100th Anniversary and Picnic / Fund-Raiser” - September 29th – Miami-Whitewater Forest: Sponsored by A.L. Post 644. Posted on BB.
- Reminders of other Posted info on BB:
 - * H.C. Veterans Day Committee Veteran Day Parade – November 4th.
 - * H.C. Veterans Day Committee Veteran Day Banquet – November 2nd.
 - * 4th District Dart Tournament & Post 199 Breakfast – September 16th.

Outgoing Correspondence:

- Donation Acknowledgment to Dreamscapes Nurseries for Post's landscape mulch.

Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the member status on member Charles J. Behymer (died 9/4/18) was changed to deceased”, via on-line portal.

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

Chaplain Porter commented:

- Keith Musselman is back in the hospital as result of his hip surgery.
- Charles J. Behymer passed away on September 4th, and Post 318 held a Memorial Poppy Service at T.P. White Funeral Home on September 9th, which was well attended by Post members.
- Next VAVS activity is scheduled at the Post on Saturday – October 20th, 11 AM to 1:30 PM. Will need volunteers for activities.

- Commended Bob Alfieri for excellent efforts as House Chair, as our recent B of H inspection of Post kitchen was without any infractions.

Committees and Liaison Reports:

■ **Americanism Committee:** (Chair – VACANT).

Commander Bishop noted or commented on:

- Reminded that we are still in need of a Chair for this committee, and all individual programs under this committee, that do not have an identified lead, shall be considered as suspended at this time.
- A & G Testing: Noted had received applications for this year's testing, and currently we had no one to take lead on this program. Jerry Porter advised he would initiate the process on this program. Bishop thanked Porter, and advised option was still available for someone else to step up and take the program over.

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

No report in absence of a Chair. Commander Bishop reminded that we are still looking for a Chair person for this position. Bishop advised that he, and 2nd Vice Commander Lindsey were currently covering AACC liaison.

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

Chair Cleves advised no report.

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

Chair Sears commented on August Bingo activity, thanking all who worked. He noted that August had four weeks of Bingo, and distributions were: Post \$1,700; C.I. \$837; and concessions generated \$528; for total of distribution of \$3,065. So far this Bingo year (11/1/18 – 8/30/18) Bingo has provided \$21,150 to Post and and \$7,543 to C.I. He further advised that there was a winner of the progressive jackpot in the “Find the Green Dragon” card game at last Sunday's Bingo, in amount of \$1,619. Will be starting new card game this week.

Commander Bishop expressed his appreciation that, in view of no one stepping up to take over the Bingo Chair/Manager, Sears had agreed to serve one more year in that role.

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

Commander Bishop noted or commended as follows:

- This Committee Chair is still open. Anyone willing to take over this Chair, should see Commander Bishop.
- September 22nd Dance: Noted we have a new country band that will be providing music at this dance.
- Football-Mania: Advised that Dennis Sakal has agreed to take over the Football-Mania program, and although we were too late for the program in which we usually participate, we will be participating in a shorter ten-week program, at the same \$20 per ticket.

Sakal indicated he be getting the Football-Mania tickets in the mail within the next week. He also noted that we will also be participating in a Super Bowl program, at a cost of \$5 per space as we get closer to end of football session. More will come on that later.

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

No report in absence of Chair Knight.

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

Chair Alfieri commented on, or noted following:

- B of H Inspection: Noted that we received a Triple A rating, and inspector said that other Posts could take lessons from us.
- Parking Lot / Driveway Repair: Advised it had been scheduled, however, it rained. Pending a future Monday start date.
- Drainage – West Side of Building: Problem was viewed by Anderson Township Public Works Department representative, who advised problem was with the drainage culvert, and it was basically a county problem. However, he advised, to help the Post out, he would have some “rip-rap” stone product and use it to build kind of a wall in the low spots, and cover with clay to try to create a barrier to protect the area from the culvert overflow, and keep it from reaching the building.. .

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

External Communications: Adjutant Wolfangel advised no report.

Internal Communications: Commander Bishop reported that the deadline for items to be submitted for the October Newsletter is September 25th. He noted extra copies of September Newsletter were in clubroom, or it could be downloaded from the Post web-site.

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

Chair Ralph Caskey noted or commented on following:

- Color Guard Details: Noted we have completed two details, had one canceled due to weather, and had eight details still pending.
- Legion / Color Guard Jackets: He is still taking orders for the winter jackets. Also has had some inquiries on the light weight windbreaker style jackets. Let him know if interested in either.
- Gift For Yanks Program: As coordinator of the GFY program, he is now accepting donations. Between C.I. funding allocated for this program, and individual member donation, the Post's goal for this year has been set at \$450.
- Veterans Day Activities: Advised he has sign-up sheet available for members that will be able to assist with forthcoming requests for Veterans Day participation. In, or at events at schools, organizations , etc.

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

Chair Bishop commented on, or noted:

- CI Finance Report (prepared by Walt Geil – CI Treasurer as of August 31, 2018). Copies were available at sign-in table, and copy provided to Adjutant for filing with September meeting minutes. He noted that the total balance of CI funds on report was \$2,081.22. He commented on the various distributions from the CI program funds during August.
- Poker-Mania Event: Reminded that the Poker-Mania fund-raising event is scheduled for October 13, 2018, from 7 PM to 12 Midnight. It will be a one-day event, including Blackjack, 7-card, Texas Hold'Em, Big Six Wheel, and bar service. No food to be served. He believes staffing is complete. There is a need for all members to promote the event to family and friends, as this is a serious fund-raiser for C.I. There are also fliers available for posting in businesses, etc, as well as some yard signs for placement at high visibility locations. If you have location for either of these, please see him.

Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report: No report.

4th District Report: No report.

Commander Bishop offered opportunity for guest / inspector Dave Hurst to make any comments regarding HCC or 4th District: Hurst noted following:

- Welcome from HCC and 4th District.
- Congratulations on Post 318's membership efforts.
- Inspection of Post indicated all was in order.
- Was asking Commander Bishop to prepare some written material on our “Virtual Meeting” efforts, as he believes we are the only Post in the District that is exploring this.
- Would like to see Post provide a color guard for the H.C. Veterans Day Parade in Cheviot on November 4th.
- Noted that District is attempting to have a large Legion contingent in the 2019 Red's Opening Day Parade in celebration of the American Legion's 100th birthday. Plan is for Legionnaires to wear “red” legion shirts, except for Color Guard members.

Dept. of Ohio: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Good Of The Legion:

- Fisher House: Bishop noted donation bin in clubroom.
- Volunteer Drawing: Bishop handled. Restaurant gift card won by Ralph Caskey..
- Split-the-Pot: Tom Prem handled. Mike Stringer won.

- Next E.C. Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on September 26, 2018.
- Next Post Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on October 10, 2018.
- Refreshments: In Post clubroom after 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 7:50 PM.