

MINUTES
AMERICAN LEGION POST 318
REGULAR MEETING
May 8, 2019 (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 Don Bishop then gave the recognition of POW-MIA's, with the POW-MIA Chair Cover put in place by Acting SAA Gary Gregorio. 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.

NOTE: There was no "Virtual Attendance" at this meeting due to none of our virtual participants being signed on.

Attendance: Acting SAA Gary Gregorio noted that there were sixteen (16) Post 318 members present, which represents a quorum. There were no guests.

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; Chaplain Jerry Porter; and Service Officer Charles Cleves were present, as were Committee Chairs Bob Alfieri (House) and Ed Sears (Bingo).

Absent with prior notice was Finance Officer Ron Yersky and SAA Ralph Caskey. 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 April 10, 2019 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 (Gary Gregorio), and passed unanimously.*

Executive Committee Notes: Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the April 24, 2019 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 April 24th E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- Approved and recommended distribution from C.I. budgeted funds for:
 - * \$100 – Hole Sponsorship for Joseph House Golf Outing.
 - * \$25 - Memorial Day Foundation's Memorial Day Wreath Program.
- Designated Don Bishop and Bob Kamman as Post 318 Delegates to 4th District Summer Convention to be held on May 19th, Post 194 (Mason, OH).
- Authorized Finance Officer Ron Yersky to transfer Post's checking/savings/credit card accounts from 5/3rd Bank to First Financial Bank (our current mortgage holder). Actual transfers to occur on timetable, and at discretion, of Finance Officer's choosing as dictated by Post's financial activity.
- Validated E.C. email vote to maintain Post's dues at \$40 for 2020 Membership year.
- Voted to keep elected Post Officers nominations open until immediately prior to the election at the May 8th Post Meeting, due to current incomplete slate of nominees.

Finance Report: Adjutant Wolfangel, in absence of Finance Officer Ron Yersky, present the Finance Officer's report, as well as advised that the submitted written Income/Expense Statement for the month of April 2019 was available on sign-in table, for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with May 2019 Post Meeting Minutes. Finance Officer Yersky had advised that our current financial balance was in fairly good shape at \$29,197.41, which is a combined balance of the Post's Operating Account (\$17,294.49) and Post Savings Account (\$11,902.92). Bills pending are routine monthly bills, with nothing anticipated out of the ordinary. *A motion was made (Don Bishop) to accept the Finance Officer's report, subject to audit. Motion was seconded (Bob Kamman), and passed unanimously.*

Yersky advised that his current medical situation would limit his mobility for the near future, and he would advise of any change in status.

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

Chair Kamman submitted written report to Adjutant for filing, and reported as follows:

- 2019 membership quota is one hundred fifty nine (159).
- We are currently at one hundred sixty (160), making quota, and he also had three (3) transfers in progress which will make our total around one hundred sixty three (163).
- Expressed his appreciation for the efforts of members Charlie Cleves and Eric Franz, whose last minute efforts resulted in us making quota.
- Still have six (6) members that have not yet renewed for 2019,
- Announced names of eleven (11) Post members with May birthdays.

Commander Bishop noted that the Post was now twelve (12) straight years of making quota.

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

Chair Randy Lindsey comment on or noted:

- 4th District Picnic would be June 23rd at Post 450 (Milford ,OH).
- Was unable to put together a Reds game outing for the Post for June.
- May possibly have a Post Cook-out event in June.

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:

- Spring Grove Cemetery Correspondence: Included:
 - * Info on Services provided for military and public service personnel and related discounts. Posted on BB, w/copy to Service Officer.
 - * Notice of 2019 Memorial Day Weekend Activities at Cemetery. Posted on BB.
- Donation Acknowledgment from Anderson H.S for After-Prom Contribution: Posted on BB.
- Appreciation Letter from AARP – District 19 for Use of Post Facility for Tax Prep Program: Posted on BB.
- Notice of “Celebration of 75th Anniversary of D-Day” – May 14th – Kenwood Country Club: Posted on BB.
- Dept. of Ohio Convention Packet: - June 28th thru 30th – Toledo, OH: Containing:
 - * Convention Info and Housing Registration Info.
 - * Post Delegates Form (Post 318 entitled to two delegates): Will be handle by E.C. at May 29th meeting.
- Hamilton County Veteran Service Commission Newsletter & Outreach Location Schedule for April, May, June: Posted on BB, w/copy to Service Officer.
- Arlington Memorial Gardens Cemetery “Lunch With A Vet” Event – May 26th: Posted on BB.

Outgoing Correspondence: / Adjutant Action:

- Submitted 4th District Summer Convention Delegate Designation Form
- Sent Donation Acknowledgments to:
 - * Pedro Ramirez (Member) for \$30 donation to Post. Hoops-Mania winnings.
 - * AARP – District 19, Volunteers for \$100 donation to Post for use of hall.
- Sent list of donors (in memorial of member Frank Gory) to family.
- Submitted Post Data Report Form to Dept. of Ohio, with notice of \$40 Post Dues for 2020.

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

Chaplain Porter commented:

- Noted medical status of members Yersky, McLaughlin, Turner, and Bobbie Hinaman (wife of member Wayne Hinaman).
- Noted Post was hosting VAVS at V.A. Hospital on Monday – May 13th. Need six volunteers.
- He is currently doing interviews with some members from the Korean War era.

Committees and Liaison Reports:

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

Commander Bishop noted that this Chair position is still vacant. Anyone willing to take over this Chair, should see Commander Bishop.

Jerry Porter, Acting Chair, advised, or commented on:

Scholarship Program: Advised that we had received two Scholarships applications as of deadline of April 30th. One was Peter Henkel, member Paul Henkel's son, which met the program's current eligibility requirements of applicant being the son of a veteran parent. The other applicant was Nate Hinaman, grandson of member Wayne Hinaman, which did not meet the current year's requirements of program, since his sponsor was his grandfather.

Commander Bishop noted that, as reported last meeting, the E.C. at their March E.C. Meeting changed the eligibility requirements for the 2020 program to include sponsorship by a veteran grandparent, however, not for the current year but starting with 2020 program. However, based upon a request from the Scholarship Committee for further consideration of making it retro-active to this year (2019), the E.C. agreed to implement the changes effective with this year's program applicants. Bishop requested Adjutant Wolfangel to report on recent E.C. email vote taken to change the implementation date for the change. Wolfangel advised that by a recent E.C. email vote, the implementation date for the eligibility change was unanimously changed to cover this year's (2019 program), for any applicants that had been received by the April 30th deadline, thus both applications would be eligible for funding, if all other program requirements had been met.

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

Commander Bishop reminded that we are still looking for a Chair person for this position.

Adjutant Wolfangel noted that our Post 318 Law Officer of the Year – Robert Goettke (HCSO-D5), in addition to having been selected as HCC and 4th District Law Officer of the Year, has been selected for recognition as Dept. of Ohio Law Officer of the Year. As such, he will be recognized at the Dept. of Ohio Convention in Toledo, OH on June 29th.

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

Chair Cleves noted he had nothing to report.

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

Chair Sears noted April was only a fair month for Bingo, and provided copies of April Bingo results, which produced \$1,600 to Post, \$645 for C.I., and \$284 in concessions (gross), for total monthly distribution of \$2,529. Total distributions to-date for current Bingo year are: \$11,550 to Post, and \$4,050 to C.I. Sears also extended his appreciation to all who show up for Bingo set up on Sundays, and also those who work Bingo.

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

Commander Bishop noted we are still in search of a Committee Chair to oversee the program, and members to take on fund-raising projects.

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

No report in absence of Chair Knight.

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

Ed Sears, in absence of Chair Alfieri, commented on, or noted following:

- Clean up / Set up of Hall: Expressed his appreciation for all who assist.
- New Oven: Noted is in process of being installed, and old one removed.
- Mulching: Noted Boy Scouts would be spreading mulch in our front and side landscape beds on May 20th, between 6 PM and 7 PM, and he would like to have some Post members show up also.

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

External Communications: Adjutant Wolfangel noted that the dance events continue to be published in the Enquirer Hometown and the Eastside Press calendar of events, and he also has a media release on Post Memorial Day activities ready to be sent for publication.

Internal Communications: Commander Bishop reported that the deadline for items to be submitted for the June Post Newsletter is May 25th. He noted copies of the May Newsletter could be downloaded from the Post web-site, or there were a few in the Post clubroom.

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

Ass't SAA Gary Gregorio, in absence of Chair Ralph Caskey noted or commented on following:

- Bugler Activities: Noted member Ed Ruffennach (“Toots”) continues to play TAPS for veteran services far and wide, and that in the last month he has played for ten (10) services in six different cities in Ohio and Indiana, logging approximately 660 miles. He does this as a recognizable member of Post 318.
- April 26th – Color Guard for McNicholas H.S. Veteran Memorial Re-Dedication.
- May 4th – Color Guard for Turpin H.S. Veteran Wall Dedication.
- Armory Report: Noted serviceability of weapons, and blank ammo inventory.
- Memorial Day Activities: Provided info and scheduling on all activities to be conducted, noting: Breakfast would be at Post at 7:15 AM; need to be at A/T Government Center to Board bus at 8 AM and leave at 8:20 AM; visit nine 9 cemeteries; returning to Government Center for A/T Memorial Bell Ceremony at 11:45 AM. Anyone needing Color Guard equipment should contact SAA Caskey in advance of date. Sign-up sheet for those participating was available on sign-in table.

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

Chair Bishop commented on:

- C.I. Financial Report (prepared by Walt Geil – CI Treasurer) as of April 30, 2019. Copies were available at sign-in table, and copy provided to Adjutant for filing with May minutes. He noted that the total balance of CI funds on hand per report was \$3,675.22.
- Poppy Program: Noted program is scheduled for ATC Kroger and CGP Kroger on Saturday – May 25th, from 10 AM to 2 PM. FHSD Elementary School Poppy Program will be on Thursday – May 23rd, and we will only be doing five of the six elementary schools. Sign-up sheets for all three events were on sign-in table.
- Funds for HCC's C & P Dinner Refunded: Noted C.I. was refunded the \$80 that Post donated to event for dinner tickets, since event was canceled.

Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report: No report.

4th District Report: Bishop noted he and Kamman would be attending 4th District Convention on May 19th. No report.

Dept. of Ohio: Noted need for Post representation at Dept. of Ohio Convention, especially since our Law Officer of Year (LOOY) is being recognized. Post normally funds taking the LOOY and one guest out for dinner the night before the presentation, which is funded out of Charities, Inc.. Also need to greet him on convention floor Saturday morning to insure he gets connected to the convention coordinators. Dept. covers the cost of the LOOY convention lodging. Post designated delegates attending convention can recover up to \$500 for personal expenses (with receipts).

Old Business: None.

New Business: None

Good Of The Legion:

Post Election of Officers: Commander Bishop and Adjutant Wolfangel both reiterated the need for the Post to have a Commander to maintain a Post Charter, and failure to have one could result in a minimum of one of two outcomes: 1) necessity to merge with another Post, or 2) dissolve the Post and it's assets. Bishop then turned conducting of election process over to Adjutant Wolfangel.

Adjutant Wolfangel then provided a commentary on the Election Process, noting the all provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws, and the timetable prescribed for each step had been complied with, and that at the conclusion of the Nomination Process, the committee had submitted the following slate of nominees for election:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Commander - | - (none submitted). |
| 1 st Vice Commander | - Bob Kamman. |
| 2 nd Vice Commander | - Randy Lindsey. |
| Adjutant | - Ed Ruffennach. |

Finance Officer - Ron Yersky.
Chaplain - Jerry Porter.
Sgt-At-Arms: - Ralph Caskey.

Wolfangel then:

- 1) Read the above listed slate of nominees, calling three times for any nominations from the floor for each position, with no additional persons nominated.
- 2) Called for motion to close nominations. ***Motion made (Bob Alfieri) to close nominations. Motion seconded (Ed Sears), and passed unanimously.***
- 3) Called for motion to declare, by acclamation that all nominees presented be “elected” to the respective offices for which they were nominated. ***Motion made (Don Bishop) that all nominees presented be declared by acclamation as elected to the respective offices for which they were seeking. Motion was seconded (Charles Stein), and passed unanimously.***
- 4) Advised that all elected officers would be installed at the June 12th Post General Meeting, and would be assuming their respective duties immediately thereafter.
- 5) Noted required elected officer form would be sent to Dept. of Ohio, incomplete with no Post Commander listed.

Other Issues:

- Fisher and Joseph House: Bishop noted donation bins are in clubroom. Wolfangel noted that SAA Caskey had indicated he was taking the stuff to Joseph House on Tuesday – May 14th.
- Volunteer Drawing: Bishop handled. Restaurant gift card won by Ron Yersky.
- Split-the-Pot: Jerry Porter handled in clubroom after meeting. Charlie Stein won.
- Next E.C. Meeting: Bishop noted it was scheduled for May 29, 2019.
- Next Post Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on June 12, 2019.

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 Acting SAA Gary Gregorio. Commander Bishop then called for saluting the colors in place, and then declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

Prepared by: