

**MINUTES
AMERICAN LEGION POST 318
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 29, 2024**

Meeting conducted: X Physical Only; Physical and Virtual

Commander Stegmann called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM at the Post. Matters addressed at the meeting were:

ROLL CALL OF POST OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Adjutant Carey conducted roll call and indicated eleven (11) EC members present as noted below, which exceeded the quorum of nine (9). **Physical 11, Virtual 0.**

Elected Officers

Voting Members

Present

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---|---|
| Commander | Lee Stegmann | | X |
| First Vice Commander | Bob Kamman | | X |
| Second Vice Commander | Kirk Minnich | | X |
| Adjutant | Bob Carey | | X |
| Finance Officer | Randy Lindsey | | X |
| Sergeant at Arms | Ralph Caskey | | X |
| Chaplain | Rob Heberly | A | |

Appointed Positions/Chairs

| | | | |
|--|----------------|---|---|
| Corporate Statutory Agent/Ass't Adjutant Charities, Inc. Liaison | Dan Wolfangel | | X |
| Service Officer | Charlie Cleves | A | |
| Americanism Chair | Eric Howland | | X |
| Bingo Chair | Ed Sears | E | |
| Community Support Chair | VACANT | V | |
| Fund Raising Chair | VACANT | V | |
| House Chair | Bob Alfieri | | X |
| Event Coordination Chair | Ken Knight | E | |
| SAL Advisory Committee Chair | Tony Capetillo | E | |
| Bar/Concession Manager | Steve Stuntz | | X |

EC Alternates

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|---|---|
| Assistant Finance Officer | Joe Dubois | | X |
| Assistant Sergeant at Arms | Gary Gregorio | A | |

Additional Attendees

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Second Vice Commander-Elect | Tina Sunderhaus | | |
| SAL Member | Tim Sunderhaus | | |

KEY: X=Present E=Excused (Prior Notice) A=Absent V=Vacant Z=via Zoom

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Carey noted that the E.C. Meeting Minutes from April 24, 2024 were posted in E.C. Minutes Binder in club room, distributed to all E.C. members, and sent to Post Web-Master for posting. ***Motion made by Wolfangel to accept and approve the Minutes as submitted was Seconded by Howland and approved by unanimous vote of E.C.***

POST EVENT CALENDAR REVIEW:

2nd Vice Commander Minnich reported:

- The calendar is up to date
- Euchre continues, Karaoke's final date for this session is tomorrow, and it will resume in the fall
- A cookout social event will be June 22
- Awards and Recognition Day July 20, moved from July 27 due to Anderson Days
- Normal 4th of July activities
- Next Friday is the SAL First Friday event open house
- The Chili Cookoff will resume next year
- The Girl Scout Flag Etiquette class will be June 21 in Hall A from 5:00 to 6:00

CORRESPONDENCE LOG:

Adjutant Carey advised and commented on action taken on the following items of correspondence since the last meeting:

Incoming Correspondence:

- Routine bank statements, ads, magazines, dues, invoices, etc.
- Report from 4th District of Gifts for Yanks donation received.
- Notice of Public Hearing regarding a tent for ATP. **Placed in Alfieri file**
- Voicemail from Heartland Hospice. **Info forwarded to Heberly**
- Solicitation from Anderson High School Athletic Boosters. **Placed in Commander drawer**
- Flyer for Joseph House Golf Outing. **Posted on BB**
- Voicemail from Quality Blacktopping. **Info forwarded to Alfieri**
- Flyer for 4th District annual picnic June 23 at Post 450 in Milford. **Posted on BB**
- Application for Memorial Day funds appropriation from Hamilton County Board of Commissioners. **Placed in Lindsey drawer**
- Donation of \$100 to Poppy Days from Chris Moore. **Placed in CI drawer**

Other posting on BB by Wolfangel:

- Letter to the editor on Hinaman running the Flying Pig. **Posted on BB**

The EC agreed to decline donating to Anderson High School Athletic Boosters, as it is not in the CI budget, and the request did not leave enough time to respond.

Outgoing Correspondence: None

Misc. Adjutant Items: None

BUDGET REPORT / FINANCE ISSUES AND CONCERNS: Finance Officer Lindsey provided the Financial Report for May 28, 2024, included with the hard copy Minutes, and the following additional information:

- EBingo so far this month has collected \$29,500 revenue and paid out \$25,000 in prizes, resulting in \$4,500 net
- The Clover honor bar system for all events has collected \$3,484 so far this month, including \$988 in credit card charges; over \$9,000 credit card purchases since Clover was put into use
- Working on a new Business Plan, including new computers and printer

Caskey suggested we should not mail hard copy newsletters, but keep copies in the club room.

Stegmann suggested adding a Technology Chairman.

OPEN ISSUES / OLD BUSINESS:

- Wolfangel reported, as follows:

Newly Elected Officers to be installed on Wednesday 6/12/24:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Commander | Kirk Minnich |
| 1 st Vice Commander | Robert Kamman |
| 2 nd Vice Commander | Tina Sunderhaus |
| Adjutant | Robert Carey |
| Finance Officer | Randy Lindsey |
| Sgt-At-Arms | Ralph Caskey |
| Chaplain | Rob Heberly |

Need installing officer: Suggest HCC or 4th District Commander or Officer; Commander Stegmann authorized Wolfangel to procure a Legion officer for that duty.

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

Membership: Chair Kamman reported:

- Our new quota for 2025 will likely be 176 or 177. Our starting membership for 2025 will be 172.
- The age distribution of members:
 - In their 90's: 10
 - In their 80's: 37
 - In their 70's: 53
 - In their 60's: 32
 - In their 50's: 21
 - In their 40's: 10
 - In their 30's: 7
 - In their 20's: 3
 - Unknown birthdates: 13
 - Average age is about 65
- The war era distribution of members:
 - Korea: 14
 - Vietnam: 89
 - Lebanon/Grenada: 16
 - Panama: 7
 - Gulf: 46
 - Other: 6
- For 2023-2024 we had:
 - New members to the Legion: 9
 - Transfers in: 8
 - Transfers out: 2
 - Active duty: 5
 - Deceased: 6
 - Did not renew: 6

Post Activities: Minnich reported:

(See Post Event Calendar Review above)

Chaplain/VAVS:

Stegmann commented on the improved condition of his right knee.

Americanism: Howland reported:

Due to increasing cost of college education and the significant effort required of scholarship applicants, it has been agreed to fund 3 \$1,000 scholarships beginning next year. He will update the scoring rubric for use next year. SAL intends to award a scholarship of \$500 to this year's student who was late with his application.

The scholarship award letters will be revised to specify how the funds are to be used, in order to avoid the offset of funds from VA benefits.

Community Support & Recognition: (Vacant) No report

Wolfangel reported:

Awards Program – July 20th – Will be honoring 30 5-year increment Legion members from 5 yrs to 55 years; 6 Child / Grandchild of Veteran Scholarship; 2 L & O awardees; 11 BB&GS (7 boys and 4 girls). Ohio Senator Steve Wilson has committed to attending and will be presenting Certificates on behalf of our veteran members deceased in 2023 – 2024. I will also be ordering the necessary plaques for L & O, and have received the folders for certificates. Also have extended an invitation to US Representative and Post Member Brad Wenstrup to attend and be recognized for his public service, and am awaiting a reply.

Service, Veterans Affairs / Economic / Legislative: Chair Cleves: No report

Bingo: In the excused absence of Chair Sears, who provided the May report included with the hard copy of these Minutes, Lindsey reported:

- Sears recommended that Bingo concessions be taken over by SAL, with the proceeds from Bingo concession sales be for SAL. *The EC affirmed that Sears has the authority to make that change.*
- Stegmann and Franz have volunteered to call Bingo the next two weeks.

EBingo: (Reported above under Finance report)

Fund-Raising: (Vacant)

Wolfangel reported:

- Tomorrow night is the last Karaoke Thursday (“K-T”) for the Fall 2023 thru Spring 2024 Season. Net profit for the Season will be approximately \$3,700.00
- Plans are to reconvene K-T around September for another Fall-Spring season.
- Still need some volunteers to assist in event.

Event Coordination: In his excused absence, Chair Knight submitted the following report:

1. Mary Kay Products is in Hall A on Tuesday evenings thru most of 2024 with a few exception

2. The East Side Republican Club (ESRC) is renting Hall B, typically the last Tuesday of each month in 2024 (with a few exceptions)
3. The Warbirds are renting Hall A, typically the first Monday of each month starting in February (with a few exception). They will not be having a bartender but will be using the Club room for drinks. They are aware of the new policy on use of the Club room
4. I have a rental (someone named Ralph) Saturday 1 June 2024
5. All my rental dates, times, and locations that I have booked so far for 2024 are on the Post calendar
6. Hall account: balance as of 5/28/24 is \$1,504. Y'all are going to bankrupt me with buying all that alcohol
7. As a reminder, as was discussed at an EC meeting last year, the "red dot" on the Post calendar indicates a rental
8. The use of the Club room bar for Hall rentals appears to be relatively successful so far. See my comments below.

Comments about the Hall rental on Friday 5/3/24

Just a simple observation: We may not want to have a hall rental and use the

Club room bar while the club room is in use by a group

I did not realize it but SAL was using the Club room from 7pm-1am

I had a rental in the full hall from 7pm-10pm, approximately 110 people.

About 1/2 the guests stayed in the Hall the other half was in the club room most of the evening

It started out with two people behind the bar but often there was 3 to 4 people behind the bar causing complications

With several people behind the bar at times, the bar scene resembled organized chaos

The serving area was congested by folks standing around and as a result folks could not get to the bar to place an order

Some people requested running a tab for them but with several people behind the bar, it was confusing

A couple times there were individuals who came behind bar and took something and walked away

I was told there is an issue with adding tips when a credit card is used

Use of the EBingo machines could not be monitored.

Question: what is policy on children in the club room?

Comment: Rentals are really down. Not sure why.

- The EC noted Ken's observations and commented a bar perhaps should have been set up in the Hall.
- It was recognized that access to the bar is too free; the walkway by the end of the bar is too narrow. The EC took the issue under advisement. The situation will continue to be evaluated as we go.
- Jennifer at A/T refers groups to us, since we are the largest facility in the township with our features; our problem is not having round tables.
- Stegmann mentioned the Boy Scouts Roundtable meets once a month, and they may request in the future to use the Hall.

House: Chair Alfieri reported:

- SECO is working on a proposal to replace/upgrade the security system.
- He is analyzing quotes to re-pave/repair the parking lot, including compliance with all the township regulations for ramps, bumpers, etc. The most attractive bid so far is \$25,000. ***Motion made by Wolfangel to authorize Alfieri to award a contract at \$25,000 or less was Seconded by Sunderhaus and approved unanimously by the EC.***
- The security call list has been changed to make Franz number 1, Alfieri number 2, and Sears number 3.

Internal / External Communications: Wolfangel reported:

“Post 318 Memorial Day Activities” Media Release was published in Enquirer Hometown last Sunday.

Internal / Newsletter:

Kamman noted the newsletter is ready to go, except for an article from Minnich.

Uniform Ceremonies: Caskey provided the following report:

- The retired flags will be delivered to Spring Grove June 12
- Independence Day parade:
 - Details will be worked on starting June 16; a signup sheet will be at the June 12 meeting
 - A wagon is being procured for Post members to ride in the parade; SAL will carry the sign and big flag
 - Will have the Color Guard and red Caddy
 - The above is assuming no rain
- A thank you note was sent to the AHS bugler for his participation in the cemetery and bell ringing ceremonies on Memorial Day, and to the AHS band leader

Charities, Inc. (C.I.): Wolfangel reported:

- Poppy Days was fairly successful, resulting in distribution of approximately 9,000 poppies, thru FHSD “Poppy Challenge” (six schools), Kroger “Poppy Days” for two days (32 shifts) for first time in about 4 years; Anderson Hills Christian Church; A/T Memorial Bell Ceremony; East Side Republican Club and the Club Room lock box. Thanks to all that helped. An article on the Poppy Program has been prepared and submitted for the June newsletter. Expect to net a total of about \$5,900.00
- Currently working on 2024-2025 C.I. Budget Proposal.
- Child / Grandchild of Veteran Scholarship: C.I. Board has voted in planning for future allocations that funding will be provided for a minimum of \$1,000 Scholarships (Be it 3 or more or less depending on available funding). After this year, in which we approved funding in excess of the total of \$3,000 budgeted (allocated \$4,500 for the 6 \$750 scholarships) we will not lower individual amount below the \$1,000. Also, no matter how many apps we received, decision on who receives will be based on competitive scoring method.
- Next scheduled C.I. Quarterly Meeting will be in August.

There was a discussion about possibly having a Venmo account set up for future Poppy Days donations.

Marketing Committee: Chair Minnich had no further report

Bar/Concessions: Chair Stuntz had no report

SAL Squadron: Tim Sunderhaus reported:

- Meeting attendance last week was 18 of 40 members
- All existing officers were re-elected, including Adjutant Herking who is hospitalized

- Four fundraisers are planned for the rest of this year, including cornhole tournament, golf challenge, NYE dance
- 5 cornhole sets were procured, one per branch of military (to be stored in the shed)
- The \$500 scholarship was approved
- Asking for 16 volunteers for the parade

Dubois noted SAL paid for sports channels in the club room

Hamilton County Council Issues / Concerns: No report

4th District Issues / Concerns: No report

Dept of Ohio Issues / Concerns:

The Dept. of Ohio Conference is July 12-14, Independence, Ohio: Stegmann plans to attend

Good of Legion: No report

Further Business: None

Adjournment of Meeting:

Commander Stegmann, indicating there being no further business to come before the Executive Committee Meeting, adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:40 PM.

Prepared by:
Adjutant Carey