

# MINUTES

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 318

### REGULAR MEETING

**August 8, 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. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Bob Kamman then led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Commander Bishop led the reciting of the American Legion Preamble. Bishop then opened meeting for the normal order of business.

Commander Bishop advised that this meeting was the first reality attempt at providing the ability for on-line "Virtual Meeting Attendance", as member Don McLaughlin was participating in the Post Meeting via on-line access. This is part of the further evaluation of the practicality of continuing the exploration of such "Virtual attendance".

**Attendance:** Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey noted that there were seventeen Post 318 members present (which included one member by virtual presence), which represents a quorum. There was one Guest (Peter Henkel – a Boys State participant).

**Roll Call of Post Officers and Committee Chairs:** Adjutant Dan Wolfangel conducted roll call, indicating Post Officers: Commander Don Bishop; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Bob Kamman; 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 with notice was 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Randy Lindsey. Absent was Committee Chair Ken Knight (Event Coordination). Americanism, Community Support and Fund-Raising Chair positions continue to be vacant.

**Guest Presentation:** Commander Bishop introduced Peter Henkel, who had attended Buckeye Boys State under Post 318 sponsorship. Henkel had been unable to attend the Post's July Awards Program, and had requested to attend this Post Meeting to comment on his Boys State experience. Commander Bishop presented Henkel with his Award certificate and a gift card.

**Minutes:** Adjutant Wolfangel noted that the Minutes from the July 11, 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 (Ron Yersky), and passed unanimously.*

**Executive Committee Notes:** Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the July 25, 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 July E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- Approved proceeding with efforts to secure a commercial mortgage loan through First Financial Bank; to secure necessary flood insurance; and to engage necessary legal services to accomplish loan.
- Approved policy that all membership incentive revenues received by the Post, for 2018 and going forward, are to be forwarded to Charities, Inc. (C.I.) up to the dollar amount of any funds advanced by C.I. for purpose of paying membership dues for WWII, new member first year dues, or hardship dues. This incentive revenue for 2018 was \$200.
- Approved a 2018-2019 Post Business Plan and Budget, and recommended presentation of the plan to Post membership at August Post Meeting with a recommendation for adoption.
- Approved transfer of \$6,000 from Post Capital Projects / Savings Account to the Post Operations Account, for purposes of partial funding of the forthcoming driveway / parking lot renovation project.

**Finance Report:** Finance Officer Ron Yersky submitted written finance report for the month of July 2018, with copies available for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with August Post Meeting Minutes. He advised our

financial balance was in fairly good shape at approximately \$22,400 which is a combined balance of the Post's Operating Account (approximately \$13,000) and Capital Project Savings Account (approximately \$9,400). He noted that the \$6,000 transfer of funds authorized by E.C. had not yet been made. He advised that major expenditures pending, in addition to the driveway / parking lot project, would be current mortgage payment of \$1,687. and the flood insurance payment of \$1,225. ***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 commented on the new mortgage process, noting that we currently owe approximately \$188,000 on the Mary Jo Cleveland mortgage promissory note. The new mortgage loan will be will be for approximately \$200,000 which will include all fees, etc , amortized over a 15 year period, and will be initially for a 5 year period which is renewable. Interest rate is 5%, which is 1% less than currently paying. Once new mortgage is executed,(September or October), it is anticipated our monthly mortgage payment will be about \$90 less than current monthly mortgage note payment.

**Membership Report:** (Chair - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander).

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

- 2019 membership quota is 159.
- We are currently at 86 paid members toward that quota, or 55.5 % of quota, and led the 4<sup>th</sup> District the last two months.
- Anticipates that with known non-renewals and deceased members, we will need at least 8 new members this year.
- He announced the names of members with August birthdays.

**Post Activities Report:** (Chair - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander).

Adjutant Wolfangel, in absence of Chair Randy Lindsey, gave Lindsey's report as follows. noted or commented on:

- Thanked all who attended the Ice Cream Social at Post on August 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Next social will be a Fall Cook-Out tentatively set for October 9<sup>th</sup>. More info to follow.
- 4<sup>th</sup> District Events forthcoming were:
  - Dart Tournament – September 16<sup>th</sup> @ Post 199. He has sign-up sheets - \$10 each.
  - Corn Hole Tournament – October 14<sup>th</sup> @ Post 550.
  - Summer Dance – August 18<sup>th</sup> @ Post.
- Contact him with any ideas or suggestions for Post Activities.

**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:

- Donation Acknowledgment from American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund for \$500 Donation: Posted on BB.
- Donation Acknowledgment from Tri-State Honor Flight for \$300 Donation: Posted on BB.
- Donation Acknowledgment from Joseph House for Homeless Veterans for \$100 Donation: Posted on BB.
- Donation Acknowledgment from A/T July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade for \$125 Sponsorship Donation: Posted on BB.
- Notice of a Veterans Service and Meal – Batavia F.O.E. Auxiliary – November 11<sup>th</sup>: Posted on BB.
- Updated 2018-2019 4<sup>th</sup> District Activities Schedule: Posted on BB, w/copy to Lindsey.
- 4<sup>th</sup> District Dart Tournament – September 16<sup>th</sup> - Post 199 (Harrison): Posted on BB, w/copy to Lindsey.

Outgoing Correspondence:

- Donation Acknowledgment to member Hugo Vontz, Jr. (70 year Legion member) for \$100 donation to Post.

Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the member status on Carl Overberg was changed to “deceased”, noting that Overberg's death occurred some time ago, but was not known to Post until now.

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

Chaplain Porter commented:

- Next VAVS activity is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Will be a Veteran's event at A/T Senior Center on November 9<sup>th</sup> (10 – 11:30 AM). Post Color Guard being asked to participate.
- Noted Keith Musselman currently in the Anderson Care Center for hip rehabilitation, however, will be going home this Friday.

### **Committees and Liaison Reports:**

- **Americanism Committee:** (Chair – VACANT).  
Commander Bishop 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. It was noted that Paul Henkel has agreed to take lead on the Buckeye Boys & Girls State Programs.
- **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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 July Bingo activity, noting that July distributions were: Post \$3,200; C.I. \$1,265; and concessions \$606.75; for total distribution of \$5,071.75. So far Bingo has provided \$19,450 to Post and \$6,706 to C.I. He advised that there is currently about \$500 in Bingo account, which is the minimum balance he tries to maintain.

Commander Bishop reminded that we still do not have a volunteer for Bingo Chair, when Sears steps down at end of October 2018. He noted that Sears has advised he may consider staying on as Bingo Chair handling only the administrative and oversight functions, if someone will accept responsibility for the weekly scheduling of staff.

- **Fund-Raising Committee:** (Chair – VACANT).  
Commander Bishop noted that this Chair is still open. Anyone willing to take over this Chair, should see Commander Bishop. In absence of a Chair, Commander Bishop noted:
  - Open Mic Events: Continuing through end of August, however, will probably end after that, as we are not reaching our goal of \$100 net revenue per week.
  - Football-Mania: Football-Mania is currently in limbo, as Roger Wade, who has managed the event over last several years has not yet got back to Bishop regarding this year's activities. This usually brings in about \$1,500 annually.
- **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:
  - Parking Lot / Driveway Repairs: Noted he expects driveway and parking lot work to be done in September. It was suggested by Tom Prem that we try to at least temporarily get some gravel in the potholes, as they are a liability issue.
  - Landscape Maintenance: Noted the Post sponsored scouting members were going to work on the front landscape areas on Saturday – August 18<sup>th</sup>, from about 10 AM til 12 Noon. Could use a couple of Post members to help distribute refreshments to the workers. Mulch for project has been donated by Dreamscapes Nursery. Adjutant to send donation acknowledgment.
- **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 September Newsletter is August 25<sup>th</sup>. He noted extra copies of August Newsletter were in clubroom, or it could be downloaded from the Post web-site.

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

Chair Ralph Caskey commented on following:

- Color Guard Detail: Noted there were currently seven scheduled Color Guard for the upcoming fall season were as follows:
  - 8/24/18 - Mc Nicholas H.S..
  - 8/27/18 - FHSD Opening.
  - September - 3 Details.
  - October - 1 Football game.
  - 11/9/18 – A/T Senior Center Veterans Event.

Caskey advised he would confirm staffing for each detail as the dates come closer

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

Chair Bishop commented on, or noted:

- CI Finance Report (prepared by Walt Geil – CI Treasurer as of July 31, 2018). Copies were available at sign-in table, and copy provided to Adjutant for filing with August meeting minutes. He noted that the total balance of CI funds on report was \$1,198.14. He commented on the various distributions from the CI program funds during July.
- 2019 C.I. Budget: Noted he and Walt Geil (CI Treasurer) have completed first cut of C.I. 2019 budget. Due to lack of revenues and program support, budget has been reduced by approximately \$10,000 from 2018's budget. An example was that this 2019 budget includes funding for six attendees to BB&GS (3 Boy and 3 Girls), as opposed to four and four last year. The proposed budget will be presented and reviewed at C.I.'s quarterly meeting on August 20<sup>th</sup>, and the Post membership at Post Meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- PokerMania Event: Noted that a PokerMania 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. Sign up sheets for staffing will be available at the next Post Meeting. Need for all members to promote event to family and friends.

**Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report:** No report.

**4<sup>th</sup> District Report:** No report.

**Dept. of Ohio:** No report.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** 2018-2019 Post Business Plan and Budget: Commander Bishop noted that copies of the documents had been made available for review by all Post members through email, postal service, or through the several copies placed in clubroom. He noted the following regarding the plan / budget:

- Defines four primary challenges as being: Filling leadership positions; Increasing membership support and participation; Sustaining and growing our membership; and Improve internal communications.
- Financials of plan project a surplus of \$11,600, on revenues of approximately \$98,000 and expenses of \$86,200., which means we have about \$1,000 buffer each month before the surplus becomes a deficit. Identifies Post driveway repairs as our primary Capital Improvement for 2019, at approximately \$9,000.
- Advised that the Post E.C. had approved presentation of this plan to the Post Membership at this meeting, with a recommendation that it be adopted .

***Motion was made (Don Bishop) to adopt the 2018-2019 Post Business Plan and Budget as presented. Motion was seconded (Bob Alfieri), and passed unanimously by Post membership.***

**Good Of The Legion:**

- Fisher House: Bishop noted donation bin in clubroom.
- Volunteer Drawing: Bishop handled. Restaurant gift card won by Bob Alfieri.
- Split-the-Pot: Tom Prem handled. Ed Sears won.
- Next E.C. Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on August 29, 2018.
- Next Post Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on September 12, 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.