

MINUTES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 318

REGULAR MEETING

July 11, 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. Adjutant Dan Wolfangel then gave the recognition of POW-MIA's, with the POW-MIA Chair Cover put in place by Garry 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.

Attendance: Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey noted that there were twenty Post 318 members present, which represents a quorum. There were two Guest: Steve Foster and Ken Ellis, both of Post 288 (Williamsburg, OH).

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; and SAA Ralph Caskey were present, as were Committee Chairs: Ed Sears (Bingo); and Bob Alfieri (House).

Absent with notice were Service Officer Charles Cleves, and Committee Chair Ken Knight (Event Coordination). Americanism, Community Support and Fund-Raising Chair positions are currently vacant.

Minutes: Adjutant Wolfangel noted that the Minutes from the June 13, 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 (Gary Gregorio), and passed unanimously.*

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

- Discussed introducing ability to “virtually” participate in Post Meetings via internet program, for members that are unable to attend meetings.
- Voted to continue weekly Euchre tournaments, under coordination of Joe Baker.
- Discussed possible discontinuance of Open Mic events at Post.
- Discussed consideration of eliminating Post Newsletter.
- Approved transfer of \$1,000 from Post Operation Account to Capital Projects Savings Account.

Finance Report: Finance Officer Ron Yersky submitted written finance report for the month of June 2018, with copies available for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with July Post Meeting Minutes. He advised our financial balance was in fairly good shape at approximately \$20,800 which is a combined balance of the Post's Operating Account (approximately \$11,476) and Capital Project Savings Account (approximately \$9,371). He reminded that even though current balances looked pretty good, or revenue stream during summer months is rather limited, and he cautioned against making expenditures without checking with him. *A motion was made (Don Bishop) to accept the Finance Officer's report, subject to audit. Motion was seconded (Bob Alfieri), and passed unanimously.*

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

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

- He has the new membership cards available.
- We finished last year above quota, by one or two member which is still in debate.
- 2019 Quota expected to be around 158, depending on resolution of above noted debate.
- He announced the names of members with July birthdays.

- Kamman gave a brief update on the E.C.'s consideration of making “virtual attendance” at Post Meetings available. He visualized consideration would probably involve three Phases, and we are currently in Phase 1, which is trial and error testing. Bishop noted that we may try testing at some remote locations at next Post Meeting.

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

Chair Randy Lindsey noted or commented on:

- Members and families Ice Cream Social at Post on August 7th, in Post clubroom from 7–9 PM.
- Trying to get together a golf team for participation in 4th District Golf Tournament on August 12th, at Friendly Meadows Golf Course in Hamersville, OH.
- Reminded that the Post Awards Program was upcoming on Saturday – July 21st, and we would like to have a reasonable membership showing. We have invited over fifty awardees and guests.
- Refreshments will be in clubroom after meeting.

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:

- Notice of 4th District Commander Greg Elbernd Homecoming Event – October 20, 2018 – Post 199 (Harrison, OH): Posted on BB.
- Notice of 4th District 2018-2019 Conferences and E-Board Meetings and Dates: Posted on BB.
- Notice of 4th District Golf Tournament – August 12, 2018 – Fair Meadows Golf Course (Hamersville, OH): Posted on BB.
- Note of Appreciation from Active Duty Member Adrienne Prem for Holiday Gift Package: Posted on BB.
- Letter / Note of Appreciation from Boys State Attendees Peter Henkel and Nate Hinaman: Posted on BB.
- Hamilton County Veteran Service Commission Newsletter (inclusive of):
 - * Info on HC Veterans Day Parade – October 4, 2018 (Cheviot, OH): Posted on BB.
 - * Info on HC Veterans Day Banquet – October 2, 2018 (Harrison, OH): Posted on BB.
 - * Info on New Transportation Program to VAMC via Metro Bus System: Posted on BB.
 - * New Releases reference “Mission Act” and ‘Updates on VA Disability Ratings’: Posted on BB.
 - * Outreach Locations for July – September: Posted on BB.
- Dept. of Ohio Edward McBane Award to Post 318 for “Most Outstanding Youth Activity”: Presented at Dept. of Ohio Annual Convention. Posted in clubroom.
- Thank You for Contribution to Yellow Ribbon Support Center: Posted on BB.
- Thank You from Turpin High School Music Program for Donation of Drums: Posted on BB.
- Acknowledgment of Contribution to “Friends of Fisher House: Posted on BB.

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

Chaplain Porter commented:

- Medical updates related to members Don McLaughlin, Keith Musselman, and Leo Turner.
- Noted that he had been advised our hosting of VAVS activities at the Post on Saturday – July 14th has been canceled. Unknown reason.

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.

Jerry Porter, who has worked with Americanism Programs over the years, commented on what the specifics of the individual programs require in the way of time and effort, and stressed the need for volunteers to take a leadership role in the separate programs. Anyone interested should contact Commander Bishop.

■ **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 the 2nd Vice Commander Lindsey was going to accompany him to next C of C Meeting.

- **Service, Veterans Affairs, Economic & Legislation Committee:** (Chair - Service Officer)
No report in absence of Chair Cleves.

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

Chair Sears commented on, or noted:

- Thanked all who volunteer for Bingo, and he still needs additional volunteers., as it take 14 to 18 volunteers to staff weekly.
- Bingo in the month of June, which encompassed three weeks, provided \$1,800 to the Post and \$555 to C.I., and generated \$456 from concessions, for a total of about \$2,811.

Commander Bishop reminded that we still do not have a volunteer for Bingo Chair, when Sears steps down at end of October 2018.

- **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: Still hopeful of creating a summer revenue stream. Have Open Mic events scheduled every Friday through August 31st. Goal is to produce at least \$100 in net revenue each week. in June, as part of evaluation as to whether we should continue these. Requires only 2 to 3 staff per night.
- Football-Mania: It is time to kick off Football-Mania. Roger Wade will manage the event, and it brings in between \$1,500 and \$1,600 annually. He assumes tickets will be mailed out soon.

- **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:

- Appreciation for Volunteers: Alfieri thanked all who have assisted in weekly and special clean-up and set-up details. Especially those that recently deep cleaned the kitchen and kitchen equipment.
- Parking Lot / Driveway Repairs: Noted he expects driveway and parking lot work to be done in August.

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

External Communications: Adjutant Wolfangel advised that calendar listing for our July 13th Open Mic was in the Eastside Press issue today.

Internal Communications: Commander Bishop reported that the deadline for items to be submitted for the August Newsletter is July 25th. He noted extra copies of July 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:

- A/T July 4th Parade: Stated was a big success, with participation by about 27 members, plus the Post's Boy Scout Troop.
- Color Guard Detail: Noted next event will be FHSD Opening Program at Turpin High School on August 27th. It was also noted that Don Bishop would be ordering nine replacement American flags for the FHSD schools to be presented that day also.

At Caskey's request, member Ed Ruffinach gave a brief summary of his participation (bugler) in the 100 Days of TAPS" ceremony at the National Cemetery located at Gettysburg Battle Field on July 2nd. Ruffinach represented himself as being from Anderson Post 318 at the event.

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

Chair Bishop commented on, or noted:

- CI Finance Report (prepared by Walt Geil – CI Treasurer as of June 30, 2018). Copies were available at sign-in table, and copy provided to Adjutant for filing with June meeting minutes. He noted that the total balance of CI funds on report was \$3,457.58. He commented on the various distributions from the CI program funds during June. Bishop noted that the report balance, however, is deceiving as C.I is currently in a cash flow shortage, as the balance shown is currently already encumbered for payout of the recently awarded scholarships and other cost related to the upcoming Awards Program.
- PokerMania Event: Noted that we have another PokerMania event scheduled for October 13, 2018. Will be a one-day event, including Blackjack, 7-card, and Texas Hold'em, and a Big Six wheel. Bishop advised he still needs dealers, noting that no one showed for a Blackjack dealer training session he had scheduled on Wednesday – June 20th, at Post. He noted bottom line is that we either have to generate revenue, or stop funding programs.

Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report: No report.

4th District Report: No report.

Dept. of Ohio: Commander Bishop noted that Jean Wilson (Post 199 – Harrison, OH) was elected as Dept. of Ohio 2nd Vice Commander at the Dept. of Ohio Convention that was held in Columbus, Ohio on June 29th, 30th, and July 1st. She is the first woman to hold the position of Department 2nd Vice Commander, and places her in line to become the first woman Department of Ohio Commander.

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 Wayne Hinaman.
- Split-the-Pot: Mike Stringer would be handling in clubroom after meeting. Dan Wolfangel won.
- Next E.C. Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on July 25, 2018.
- Next Post Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on August 8, 2018.
- Boys State Program Comments: Member Paul Henkel commented upon his opportunity to attend Boys State in conjunction with the Post selecting his son to attend, expounding upon the virtues of the program. He also indicated he would be making a \$100 donation to Charities, Inc who funded his son's attendance, and would be willing to volunteer to work on the Post 318 Boys State Program.
- Guest Comments: Visiting Legionnaires Ken Ellis (4th District Gifts For Yanks Chair) and Steve Foster (4th District 2nd Vice Commander) addressed several items regarding support for Legion programs. Ellis discussed GFY program, advising that only ten of forty 4th District Posts participated last year. He noted that Post 318 was one, and thanked the Post. He also promoted an upcoming benefit bike ride for MS, given by Post 288. Foster encouraged participation by all Posts in the upcoming 4th District Golf Outing on August 12th. Both advised their intentions, as new 4th District officers and program chairs, to visit all 4th District Posts, at the earliest possible time to seek better relationships and communications between the 4th District and the individual Posts..

Post Commander's Annual Report: Commander Bishop advised that due to his present eye problems, he would be deferring the presentation of Part 2 of his Annual Report, until the August Post 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 Gary Gregorio. Commander Bishop then called for saluting the colors in place, and then declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:58 PM.