

# **MINUTES**

## **AMERICAN LEGION POST 318**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 14, 2018**

The Post 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 Sgt-At-Arms 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.

**Attendance:** Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey noted that there were sixteen 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; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Bob Kamman; Adjutant Dan Wolfangel; Finance Officer Ron Yersky; Chaplain Jerry Porter; and SAA Ralph Caskey were present, as were Committee Chairs: Ed Sears (Bingo); Bob Alfieri (House); and Randy Lindsey (Americanism).

Absent with prior notice were 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Matt Lilly and Service Officer Charles Cleves. Absent was Committee Chair Ken Knight (Event Coordination). Community Support Chair and Fund-Raising Chair positions are currently vacant.

**Minutes:** Adjutant Wolfangel noted that the Minutes from the February 14, 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 February 28, 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 February 28<sup>th</sup> E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- Recommended disbursement of \$100 donation from the Charities, Inc. (C.I.) previously approved budgeted funds to McNicholas High School in response to After-Prom event request.
- Approved a three month trial period reduction in Euchre Events buy-in from \$10 to \$5 in attempt to stimulate attendance. Request had been made by Joe Baker (Euchre Coordinator). Buy-in to remain a 50%/50% split between Post and prize money (\$2.50 Post / \$2.50 prizes). Euchre event status to be re-evaluated at June E.C. Meeting.
- Voted to discontinue Post's Annual Easter Egg Hunt due to diminishing attendance, and difficulty in finding suitable sites. It is believed competition of more and more area egg hunts (churches, A/T Park District, etc.) are the reason. It was felt the egg hunt funds could better serve other community programs.
- Upon request from Post 318 Charities, Inc. to assist with a C.I. cash flow shortage, E.C. approved a suspension of C.I. monthly rental payments to Post 318 for months of March through May (3 months) in total amount of \$900, and further approved a \$1,000 loan to C.I., which is to be paid back in full to Post following C.I. Poppy Days Event. C.I. cash flow shortage is due to funding needed to send 11 to 12 students to Buckeye Boys & Girls State, which was previously budgeted for only six students. It was noted that should individual donations be received to cover some or all of the additional funds needed for BB&GS, C.I. will reduce the suspended rental payments.
- Validated a unanimous favorable email vote taken on February 13, 2018, to authorize entering into kitchen rental agreement with "At Your Service Now" catering.
- Authorized House Chair Alfieri to contract our roofer - Dan Stiegerwald, to have newly identified roof leaks repaired at a cost of \$1,500, to be paid on an installment plan.
- Directed House Chair Alfieri to meet with rear property owner – Joe Sauter (Finishing Touches) to discuss driveway and parking lot repairs that are needed, as these areas are subject to our cross-parking easement agreement requiring cost-sharing.

**Finance Report:** Finance Officer Ron Yersky submitted written finance report for the month of February 2018, with copies available for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with March Post Meeting Minutes. He advised our financial balance was in fairly good shape at approximately \$20,000 plus combined balance in Post's operating account (approximately \$15,000 plus) and Capital Project Savings Account (approximately \$4,900 plus). He further stated that there were no major bills outstanding this month. ***A motion (Don Bishop) to accept the Finance Officer's report subject to audit. Motion was seconded (Ralph Caskey), and passed unanimously.*** Finance Officer Yersky recommended that in light of the substantial balance on hand within the Operating Account and anticipated income from upcoming Fish Fry and Spring season dance events, that \$3,000 be transferred to the Capital Projects Savings Account. ***A motion (Don Bishop) was made to transfer the \$3,000 as recommended by the Finance Officer. Motion was seconded (Ralph Caskey) and passed unanimously.***

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

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

- Currently at 152 documented paid members for 2018, putting us at 98.1% of quota. We are currently 3 members short of quota of 155.
- Have 11 current members not yet renewed for 2018.
- He announced the names of members with March birthdays.

Commander Bishop noted that Post 318 has a ten year straight record of making quota, and just 3 members away from our 11<sup>th</sup> year. He advised no other Post in our county has achieved even close to that record.

Ron Yersky questioned as to whether we might contact Veteran groups at Xavier University or University of Cincinnati, regarding recruitment of members.

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

Commander Bishop, in absence of Chair Lilly, noted there were no pending Post activities.

Adjutant Wolfangel advised that Lilly had indicated there would be light refreshments in clubroom following 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:

- Solicitation from Anderson H. S. After-Prom Committee for Donation: ***Wolfangel advised that in light of \$100 in funds being already appropriated for this request within the approved C.I. Budget, the request has already been processed for distribution.***
- City of Taylor Mill (KY) Notification of "Gold Stars Tribute Wall" Display – May 4<sup>th</sup> thru May 7<sup>th</sup>: Info posted on BB.
- Acknowledgment of Post's Donation to Legion's Legacy Scholarship and Medallion for 2nd Year Participation: Letter posted on BB. Medallion placed on plaque displayed in clubroom.
- HCC Certificate of Post 318 Participation in 2018 Law and Order Program: Was received at HCC's March meeting. Displayed in clubroom.
- 4<sup>th</sup> District 1st Qtr Newsletter: Posted in newsletter binder in clubroom.
- Notice of Jean Wilson (Post 199-Harrison, OH) Seeking Election to Dept. of Ohio 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Posted on BB.
- Notice of HCC Commanders and Presidents Recognition Dinner (Post 69 – Reading, OH) – April 28<sup>th</sup>: Notice posted on BB. Also included six dinner tickets at \$25 each, and a request for door prize donations, and 30 raffle tickets. Dinner tickets and door prize donations to be referred to E.C.. Anyone wanting to purchase the raffle tickets to see Adjutant Wolfangel.

Outgoing Correspondence:

- Donation Acknowledgment to Don Bishop for funds donated for purchase of 200 padded chairs for rental hall.
- Donation Acknowledgment to Don Bishop for providing a 40' Hatachi TV and Samsung DVD player for promotional videos in Post lobby.
- Donation Acknowledgment to Gary Gregorio for cash donation toward BB&GS Program.
- Donation Acknowledgment to Mike Stringer for cash donation toward BB&GS Program.

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

Chaplain Porter commented on, or noted, following:

- VAVS: Post 318 will be hosting VAVS at the Post on July 14<sup>th</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Gave medical update on Bob Calder (Room #663 Anderson Mercy) was not doing well. Noted Keith Musselman was with us tonight, and that Lee Boboltz and Bill King were at recent fish fry.
- Advised he had been contacted by Anderson Township about the Bingo machine that we had donated to the A/T Senior Center, asking if we wished it back. He advised them to dispose of as they see fit.
- Noted that he had been contacted by Ohio State Senator Steve Wilson's office regarding Wilson's planned appearance at the April Post Meeting regarding the "Veteran Honor Program". Wilson's office has rescheduled his appearance for the May Post Meeting to make the presentation to our Post of an Ohio Flag flown over statehouse, and certificates in recognition of the four Post members that passed away in 2017.

**Committees and Liaison Reports:**

■ **Americanism Committee:** (Chair – Randy Lindsey).

Chair Lindsey reported on following:

- Oratorical Program: Our local Post winner and HCC winner (Matt Martin), was one of three competing at the 4<sup>th</sup> District level, however, was not selected to move on to Dept of Ohio level.
- Boy & Girls State Program: Have five girls and six boys with applications in process.

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

Commander Bishop advised that he did not have anything to report, however, reminded that we are still looking for a Chair person for this position.

Dan Wolfangel, Post Law & Order Chair, noted that our Post 318 FFOY (Cory Bower) was recognized as HCC FFOY at HCC Meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Wolfangel and Commander Bishop attended that meeting. Bower was considered as a candidate at the 4<sup>th</sup> District level also, however, was not selected at that level.

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

Commander Bishop, in absence of Chair Cleves, noted there was no report.

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

Chair Sears commented on, or noted:

- Thanked all who volunteer for Bingo, and he still needs additional volunteers.
- Bingo in the month of February, which encompassed only 3 weeks, provided \$2,400 to the Post, and \$640 to C.I., and generated \$435 from concessions, for a total of about \$3,475. Noted we had two nights of larger crowds, with a \$900 and a \$1,000 overall prize.

Commander Bishop reminded that we are still looking for someone to take over the Bingo Chair/Manager position when Sears steps down the end of October 2018. He noted that Bingo provides 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the Post's revenue stream.

■ **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:

- Hoops-Mania, generated \$2,039.
- Dance Events: Noted that our Spring season dances, so far, were generating revenue of an average of \$788 per event. The next dance is the March 17<sup>th</sup> St. Pat Dance, which is expected to be close to a sellout.
- Fish Fry Events: Noted 2018 Fish Fry diners served, over the first four events, was down about 5.1% (623 in 2017 and 591 in 2018), with revenues down 13.9% (\$3,338 in 2017 and \$2,874 in 2018). Still have three more to go.

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

Commander Bishop noted he had nothing to report in absence of Chair Knight.

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

Chair Alfieri commented on, or noted following:

- Roof Repairs: Noted installment payments over the next three months would be \$950, \$1000, and \$500, covering both past and new repair agreements.
- Water in Sprinkler Pit: May need new pump.
- Backflow Valve Testing: One down and three more forthcoming.
- Driveway / Parking Lot Repairs: Has been unable at this time to arrange meeting with Joe Sauter on repair issues. Will continue to seek meeting. Commander Bishop offered to attend meeting when scheduled.
- Appreciation for Volunteers: Alfieri thanked all who have met the increasing demand for clean-up details, which recently have been three to four per week.

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

External Communications: Adjutant Wolfangel advised that calendar listings for both our Fish Fry and Spring season dance events have continued to appear weekly in the Eastside Press and/or the Enquirer Hometown section. He noted an interim/updated media release article on forthcoming dances has also been submitted and is pending publication.

Internal Communications: Commander Bishop reported that the deadline for items to be submitted for the April Newsletter is March 23<sup>rd</sup>. He noted extra copies of March 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 nothing to report. Next uniform ceremonies planned activity would be Memorial Day.

Commander Bishop noted that new member Ed Ruffennach,, who was present at meeting, has agreed to lend his musical skills as Post Bugler for Color and Honor Guard details..

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

Chair Bishop commented on, or noted:

- CI Finance Report (prepared by Walt Geil – CI Treasurer as of February 28, 2018). Copies were available at sign-in table, and copy provided to Adjutant for filing with March meeting minutes. He noted that the total balance of CI funds on report was a deficit of \$86.13. He commented on the various distributions from the CI program funds during February.

Walt Geil, C.I. Treasurer commented on the reason for the shortfall within the C.I. Funds, noting that the expansion of BB&GS attendees was the reason for issues. The end cost for sending the 6 Boys and 5 Girls was a total of \$3,175, while the budget allocation was only \$2,783. However, he advised that individual donations, in amount of \$720 received so far, for the BB&GS program, has made up the difference, and will eliminate the need for C.I. to suspend the monthly rental payments to the Post that had been approved by E.C at last meeting, for March through May, and he has already submitted March's rental payment to Post. Jerry Porter questioned if Wayne Hinaman had contributed funds toward his grandson attending, to which Geil indicated not at this time.

- Vegas Night Dance: Noted that as part of the Vegas theme dance on March 31<sup>st</sup>, C.I. would be conducting charitable gaming in form of a Big Six wheel and a Blackjack table. Bishop noted he needed another person to deal Blackjack for this event.
- PokerMania Event: Noted that to offset the loss of revenues since we no longer are doing Greater Anderson Days, C.I. would be trying another PokerMania event on October 13, 2018. This one-night event would offer Texas Hold'em, 7 Card Stud, and Blackjack. He will be needing volunteers for dealers for this event also, and he would like to conduct a training session to provide more dealers.

**Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report:** Nothing to report.

**4<sup>th</sup> District Report:** Nothing to report.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

## **Good Of The Legion:**

Bob Calder's Condition: Member Keith Musselman, speaking through Jerry Porter, commented on member Bob Calder's medical condition and had some photos of Calder in hospital on his computer.

Nominating Committee: Commander Bishop called upon Adjutant Wolfangel to outline the Post's Nomination and Election of Officers process. Wolfangel indicated Post By-Laws required appointment of a Nominating Committee at this meeting, who are then to report back the slate of nominees to E.C. at their March meeting. Slate of nominees will be presented to Post membership at April Post Meeting, with call for nominees from floor. The slate of candidates will be approved at that meeting, Adjutant will notify all members of the slate of candidates prior to May Post Meeting at which the Election will be held. Commander Bishop noted he was appointing the entire E.C. as members of the Nominating Committee, noting that known elected officer positions in which incumbents were not seeking new terms were: Commander; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander; and possibly Finance Officer. Known appointed officers positions, that are either currently vacant or incumbents have indicated they would not be seeking new terms were: Community Support Chair; Fund-Raising Chair; and Bingo Chair.

- Joseph House: Bishop noted donation bin in clubroom.
- Fisher House: Bishop noted donation bin in clubroom.
- Volunteer Drawing: Bishop handled. Carrabba gift card went to Matt Lilly.
- Split-the-Pot: Mike Stringer handled, with Ed Ruffennach winning.
- Next E.C. Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Next Post Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Refreshments: Bishop advised will be in club room following close of 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.

Dan Wolfangel