

MINUTES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 318

REGULAR MEETING

November 14, 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. 1st Vice Commander 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.

Commander Bishop noted that there would be no "Virtual Attendance" at this meeting due to none of our virtual testers were signed on.

Attendance: Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey noted that there were twenty-one (21) 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; Finance Officer Ron Yersky; Chaplain Jerry Porter; SAA Ralph Caskey; and were present, as were Committee Chairs: Ed Sears (Bingo); and Bob Alfieri (House).

Absent with advance notice were Service Officer Charles Cleves. 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 October 10, 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 October 24, 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 August E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- Approved gratis use of Patriot Center by AARP for tax preparation counseling training, and tax preparation for low to middle income filers. Involves approximately 15 days in January (Monday through Friday), and one day per week during February, March and mid-April.
- Took under advisement a request from First Financial Bank (our new mortgage loan holder), to move the Post's financial accounts to them, from 5/3 Bank. Action on request deferred until after the first of 2019.
- Approved House Chair Alfieri's request to pursue disposal of inoperable pin ball machine in clubroom.

Finance Report: Finance Officer Ron Yersky submitted written Income/Expense Statement for the month of October 2018, with copies available for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with November Post Meeting Minutes. He advised our current financial balance was in fairly good shape at approximately \$17,151 + which is a combined balance of the Post's Operating Account (approximately \$13,200) and Post Savings Account (approximately \$3,951). He also has a pending deposit of \$2,200 from Hall Rental account. Bills pending are routine monthly bills, including the new mortgage payment. *A motion was made (Bob Alfieri) to accept the Finance Officer's report, subject to audit. Motion was seconded (Jack Surdick), and passed unanimously.* Yersky indicated that based on current status of balance in Operating Account, he was suggesting transfer of \$3,000 into the Post Savings Account, to partially reimburse some of the \$6,000 that was taken out for the driveway / parking lot improvements. *Motion made (Ron Yersky) to transfer the suggested amount of \$3,000. Motion seconded (Ralph Caskey), and passed unanimously.*

Yersky also indicated he had been in touch with AARP reference use of our facility, and all is in order, and he will be the contact person throughout the period of the AARP usage.

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

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

- 2019 membership quota is 159.
- We are currently at 129 paid members toward that quota, or approximately 81.1% of quota.
- Need 30 more renewals or new members to make quota.
- We have three new members so far this year, which are all active duty military, all brought in by member Todd Mayer.
- We also have one transfer into Post.
- Currently have 29 members that have not yet renewed for 2019 (List was available).
- Announced names of eighteen Post members with November birthdays.

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

Chair Randy Lindsey noted or commented on:

- November 10th A/T Veterans Day Event @ Post, was a success with about 160 attendees.
- Two upcoming Post Dances scheduled for November 17th and December 1st.
- Will not be participating in November 24th 4th District Bowling Tournament at Cherry Grove Lanes., as no one signed up. There are no other 4th District activities for December.
- December 7th – Post Christmas Party – The “Christmas Party that will live in infamy” since it will be on Pearl Harbor Day. Invites have been sent out yesterday. Please RSVP on card enclosed.

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:

- 4th District Newsletter: Posted in Legion Newsletter Binder.
- Joseph House Notification of Change in Directorship: Advised Nate Pelletier leaving, Alica Harter appointed. Posted on BB.
- HCC Newsletter (October): Posted in Legion Newsletter Binder.
- Notice of Pearl Harbor Ceremony – December 12th – Post 534 (Riverside): Posted on BB.
- Arlington Memorial Cemetery: Info on veteran discounts and credits. Posted on BB.
- Acknowledgment from OAG on Charitable Organization Annual Report Filing and Receipt of \$200 Fee.
- Donation Acknowledgments from A/T Park District for Post’s C.I. Donation to Annual Trunk R’ treat Event: Posted on BB.
- Two Newspaper Articles relative to “New National Veteran Memorial and Museum” (Columbus, OH): Posted on BB.
- Media Release from Ohio BMV Advising of On-Line Application for Drivers License / ID Cards Available for Deployed Military: Posted on BB.

Outgoing Correspondence:

- Appreciation Letter to A/T and Public Works Director Luginbuhl for assistance with Post water intrusion problem.
- Donation Acknowledgments for monetary contributions to Post and C.I., to:
 - * \$200 Post Donation from Christine Moore (Cmdr. Bishop's daughter) in honor of her father.
 - * \$25 C.I. Donation from Member Greg Oliver (For Wave The Flag program).
 - * \$1,000 C.I. Donation from Member Wayne Hinaman & Bobbe Hinaman.

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

Chaplain Porter commented:

- Provided medical updates on members Musselman, Burnes, McLaughlin, King.
- Next VAVS Hospital Hosting will be on December 17th – (Need five volunteers).
- Projected 2019 VAVS event dates are February 21st, May 20th, August 9th, and December 16th.

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:

A & G Testing Program: Advised that only 150 tests were to be given this year, and he had not yet heard any results from Anderson H.S. He will be following up on this.

Oratorical Program: Advised currently have seven interested students. Will be having a run-through with them in early December. Expects will result in three to four participants. Post competition is planned for January 19th, and HCC competition is planned for February 3rd.

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

Commander Bishop reminded that we are still looking for a Chair person for this position. No report in absence of a Chair.

■ **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, and provided copies of October Bingo results and also the 2018 Bingo End-of-Year report, which ended as of October 31st. October's Bingo produced \$3,000 to Post, \$780 for C.I., and \$400 in concessions, for total distribution of \$4,180. Bingo financial results for 2018 Bingo Year (11/1/17 through 10/31/18) accounted for distributions of: \$28,550 to Post; \$9,243 to C.I.; and a concession gross of \$6,661. Bingo attendance was 2,789 compared to 2,2,362 last Bingo Year. Sears also extended his appreciation to all who show up for Bingo set up on Sundays, and also those who work Bingo.

Commander Bishop commended Sears for his continuing efforts in serving as Bingo Manager.

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

Commander Bishop noted or commended as follows:

- This Committee Chair is still vacant. Anyone willing to take over this Chair, should see Commander Bishop.
- Dances: Advised have dance this Saturday – November 17th, and he needs additional staffing. Noted that the upcoming NYE Dance is projected to generate \$2,500 to \$3,000, and will take about 13 volunteer staff. Please contact him if you can help out. Spring Dance Season schedule is just about complete, with five bands covering thirteen events, between January 12th and June 15th. Five of the dances are theme dances.
- Football-Mania: Dennis Sakal advised that we had one \$200 winner and two \$25 winners in Week 2. We have six weeks to go in this fund-raiser. He advised that there were fliers in clubroom for a Super Bowl fund-raising opportunity, for consideration.

■ **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:

- Clean-Up / Set-Up: Expressed appreciation for hall clean-up / set-up volunteers.
- Monument Sign: Noted needs to be rewiring, due to some burned wiring, at an estimated cost of around \$500. He is contacting several companies for quotes.

■ **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 December Newsletter is November 25th. He noted November Newsletter could be downloaded from the Post web-site.

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

Chair Ralph Caskey noted or commented on following:

- Veterans Day Activities: Noted the Post had six Color Guard details, and had 17 participants in classes at Sherwood Elementary School. He also noted that member Ed Ruffenach was one of 500 buglers participating in “TAPS” being played across the world at 11 AM on Veterans Day. He played at Post 318. He also played at Mercy Hospital and one school. Caskey noted Veteran Day 2019 would be on a Monday, which may create some problems with scheduling of all events which this year were spread out due to it occurring on Sunday. He also read a “Thank You” letter from Parkside Church for our participation in their program.
- Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony: Noted Post 318 Color Guard would be participating in this ceremony at Post 534 (Riverside) on December 2nd. Anyone interested in participating should see him.

- Gifts For Yanks Program: Advised he was collecting donations for the program.
- Legion / Color Guard Jackets: All of those ordered have been received and distributed except one.

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

Chair Bishop commented on, or noted:

- CI Finance Report (prepared by Walt Geil – CI Treasurer as of October 31, 2018). Copies were available at sign-in table, and copy provided to Adjutant for filing with November meeting minutes. He noted that the total balance of CI funds on report was \$2,68.48.
- Wave-The-Flag Fund-raising Program: Noted exceeded budget projected, generating a net profit of approximately \$2,200.
- A/T Veterans Day Celebration: Noted that the event was a success.:

Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report: No report.

4th District Report: No report.

Dept. of Ohio: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Veteran Outreach Program: Commander Bishop advised a representative of Novation Networks will be attending the November E.C. Meeting to discuss the Post becoming a certified Veterans Outreach Center to support a national training program for local veterans. The initial proposal would seem to present opportunities to increase membership with younger veterans, and generate hall rental opportunities for conducting of training sessions.

Half-Staffing of American Flags within Community: Bob Alfieri and Ralph Caskey questioned if we could possibly bring to the AACC Meeting the issue of businesses in the community, who display American Flags on flag poles in front of their, not lowering flags to half-staff the same as government and the Post does, upon designation by the President. Their suggestion is that we possibly send out email messages to those businesses that would like us to, when half-staffing is appropriate. Commander Bishop noted that he currently sends emails to the township, park district and school system, and is agreeable to doing same for businesses that would like to be notified.

Good Of The Legion:

- Legion Centennial Lithograph: Adjutant Wolfangel advised, and displayed, a framed lithograph copy of the poster designed in recognition of the American Legions 100th Anniversary, which he was donating to the Post for display in the clubroom.
- Fisher and Joseph House: Bishop noted donation bins in clubroom.
- Volunteer Drawing: Bishop handled. Restaurant gift card won by Jerry Porter.
- Split-the-Pot: Tom Prem handled. Randy Lindsey won.
- Next E.C. Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on November 28, 2018.
- Next Post Meeting: Bishop noted it would be on December 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 7:45 PM.

Prepared by: