

MINUTES
AMERICAN LEGION POST 318
REGULAR MEETING
February 9, 2022

(NOTE: This Meeting was conducted physically at Post 318, with attendance via ZOOM.)

The Post Meeting was called to order by Commander Stegmann at approximately 7:00 PM. Colors were in place and saluted. Commander Stegmann gave the Recognition and Placement of POW-MIAs, and the POW-MIA Chair Cover was Placed by Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Gary Gregorio. The Opening Prayer was given by Chaplain Porter. Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commander Stegmann. Reciting of the Preamble was led by 2nd Vice Kirk Minnich. Commander Stegmann then opened the meeting for the normal order of business.

Attendance: SAA Gregorio advised that there were twenty (20) Post 318 members physically and three (3) via ZOOM in attendance, for a total of twenty-three (23), which constituted a quorum.

Roll Call of Post Officers and Committee Chairs:

Assistant Adjutant Carey conducted roll call of Officers and Chairs, as follows:

Elected Officers

Commander	Lee Stegmann	X
1 st Vice Commander	Bob Kamman	E
2nd Vice Commander	Kirk Minnich	X
Adjutant / Corporate Statutory Agent	Dan Wolfangel	X
Finance Officer	Randy Lindsey	X
Sgt-at-Arms	Ralph Caskey	X
Chaplain / VAVS Coordinator	Jerry Porter	X

Appointed Positions/Chairs

Service Officer	Charlie Cleves	X
Americanism Chair	(VACANT)	V
Bingo Chair	Ed Sears	X
House Chair	Bob Alfieri	X
Fund-raising Chair	(VACANT)	V
Community Support Chair	(VACANT)	V
Event Coord. Chair	Ken Knight	A
Charities, Inc Liaison	Don Bishop	X(Z)
Alternate to Officers and Chairs		
Ass't Finance Officer / Newsletter Editor	Joe Dubois	X
Ass't Sgt At Arms	Gary Gregorio	X
Ass't Adjutant	Bob Carey	X

X = Present

A= Absent

Z=via ZOOM

E = Excused (prior notice)

V= Vacant

Minutes:

Adjutant Wolfangel noted that both of the Post Meeting Minutes from the January 12, 2022 and December 8, 2021 meetings (which were not acted upon at the January Meeting due to lack of a quorum) were posted in Post Meeting Minutes Binder in club room, distributed to all E.C. members, and sent to Post Web-Master for posting on Post web-site. ***Upon motion made (Bishop), and seconded (Lindsey), motion to approve both of the Minutes passed unanimously.***

Executive Committee Notes: Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the January 26, 2022 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 submitted for posting on Post web-site. A summary of noteworthy items or actions from the E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

1. Authorized F.O. Lindsey to attempt to negotiate with Cinti Bell on new rate for internet, and for cable TV access, to include single box for Rental Hall to improve attributes for rentals, at a rate not to exceed \$200 per month.
2. Approved offer from member Eric Franz to donate and install a security camera system inside Post facility, at no charge.
3. Officially approved formation of organization structure proposed, and chartering of a Sons of the American Legion Squadron 318.
4. Approved offer of a free performance event by Fitch High School Choir for date of Wednesday, April 20, 2022. Plans are to also extend invitation to members and families of Post 318, and possibly Post 72 and Post 484.
5. Authorized donation from C.I. Funds, in amount of \$100, to Hospice of Cincinnati "Veteran Honor Program."
6. Approved 2022 Annual Lenten Fish Fry menu and pricing.
7. Approved Post hosting of a weekly Karaoke Event in Hall B on Thursdays for a trial period of three months starting on March 3, 2022 (7:30 to 11:00 PM) to determine if we can make it a revenue producing event. Karaoke DJ is donating use of her equipment and services during trial period.

Finance Report:

Finance Officer Lindsey submitted a written Post Financial Report, as of February 9, 2022, and provided Adjutant Wolfangel with copy for filing, and provided copies to members in attendance at this meeting. He reviewed financial data contained within the submitted report, and in addition noted all bills are currently paid. It was further noted that there had been no action taken on the submitted Post Financial Report submitted on January 12, 2022, due to there not being a quorum at the January Meeting.

Following the review of the current submitted report, Adjutant Wolfangel noted that copy of both of the financial reports would be placed on file along with the Post Meeting Minutes in Post Meeting Minutes Binder in Post Club Room, for individual review, or may be provided upon individual request. ***Upon Motion (Alfieri) to accept both Finance Reports, subject to audit, and second (Bishop), motion passed unanimously.***

In addition to financial summary of Post finances, Lindsey advised to following:

- He is working on the 2021 Form 990
- The Mission Blue Assistance grant of \$1,000 for COVID relief has been applied for; the application is routed through Ohio and National for approval. The application is for \$1,000 as opposed to \$2,000, as we have declined to name National as our insurance beneficiary, and declined to reveal how we spend the funds if approved.
- Our Post checking account has a larger balance than at any time in the last five years, largely due to the efforts of C.I. Chair Bishop with the Christmas program and the New Year's Eve dance; those in attendance at this meeting expressed our appreciation to Bishop.

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

Adjutant Wolfangel noted he received no report from 1st Vice Commander Kamman.

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

Chaplain Porter noted the Chili Cookoff is February 19 starting at 4:00; he reminded those interested in entering the contest to so advise 2nd Vice Commander Minnich.

Adjutant Reports and Correspondence: Assistant Adjutant Carey advised following correspondence of consequence and interest to Post members, or requiring Post action, were received since last meeting:

1. Correspondence Received:

- a. Email from Dept of Ohio Regarding “Fraudulent Email Solicitations”: ***Posted on BB.***
- b. Email from 4th District Regarding “Free Home COVID Test Kits” on-line link: ***Posted on BB.***
- c. Email Notice from V.A. Hospital Regarding Job Openings in Security: ***Posted on BB.***
- d. Donation Solicitation Request from “Hunt of a Lifetime Foundation”: ***Will be referred to E.C. for review.***
- e. Donation Solicitation Request from Anderson High School for “After Prom Event”: ***Will be referred to E.C. for review.***
- f. Received reminders on: Four Chaplains Service February 13, 2022: ***Posted on BB.***
Brown Jug Party February 26, 2022 at Post 484, 4:00 to 7:00 PM: ***Posted on BB.***
Post 484 Legion Riders Rummage Sale / Swap Meet February 26, 2022: ***Posted on BB***

2. Correspondence Outgoing:

- a. Donation acknowledgment to Member Charles Smith for \$50 to the Post, representing his winnings from Charity-Mania fundraiser
- b. Donation acknowledgment to Dianna Mitts for \$30 to the Post, for the 2021 Fall Dance Season
- c. Donation acknowledgment to Theodore Gabe for \$20 to the Post for the 2021 Fall Dance Season

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

Chaplain Porter reported:

1. VAVS has still not started.
2. Fish Frys begin March 4; he will make announcement flyers to pass out at Bingo.
3. Girls State has increased their pricing from \$275 per girl to \$400 (\$350 by the Post, plus \$50 payable by each girl). Porter proposed that the Post pay the increased pricing. The total would be \$1,050 plus \$150 for each girl, or \$1,200. C.I. Chair Bishop stated that C.I. will pay the expenses for 3 boys and 3 girls. Porter commented there are 1 boy and 6 girls signed up to be interviewed. He will get with Editor Dubois to include an article in the next newsletter to encourage more participation by members’ children and grandchildren the age of high school junior.
4. Chaplain Porter gave his report on ill and recuperating Post members, and those who have passed away.

Committees and Liaison Reports:

- **Americanism Committee:** (Chair – VACANT).

Chaplain Porter noted the flag at Johnny’s Car Wash on Beechmont is a shambles and needs to be replaced; there is a new owner of the business.

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

No report.

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

No report.

■ **VAVS Coordination Committee:** (Chair Chaplain Porter)

As Chair Porter reported earlier, nothing new yet as to VAVS.

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

Chair Sears reported:

1. Thanks to everybody who works bingo, helps set up bingo, etc.
2. Summarized the monthly bingo report. The bad weather interfered with bingo attendance on two of the five weekends in January. We had from 18 to 50 people attend in January; we had over 60 people attend February 6. Pull-tabs are very popular; nearly \$6,000 (gross revenue) of pull-tabs were sold February 6.
3. We need an additional caller, and an appeal will be placed in the next newsletter.

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

F.O. Lindsey reported Hoops-Mania will be ordered this week.

Adjutant Wolfangel reported that the E.C. approved Karaoke events at the Post on Thursday nights 7:30-11:00 for a trial period of 3 months, beginning March 3, during which the DJ and equipment will be provided at no cost to the Post. After the trial period, we will decide if it will continue and be sustainable. We will provide drinks and snacks for sale. These events will bring in new people and provide better exposure for our facility providing opportunities for advertising other Post activities. Posters and flyers promoting the Karaoke will be posted at Kroger and the Senior Center. Member Mike Burske volunteered to put up posters at Ford in Sharonville.

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

In the absence of Chair Knight, Adjutant Wolfangel reported the Blue and Gold Cub Scout pack meeting has been canceled due to COVID

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

Chair Alfieri reported:

1. Thanks to those who help with cleanup on Tuesdays
2. Noted projects that should be done before the first Fish Fry, including moving the freezer to the back.
3. Thanks to Walt and Gary for helping change out the fryer oil and clean them, and he thanks Anderson Township Pub for providing the receptacle for disposing the used oil.
4. Got the furnace in the back working. All 7 of the furnaces are scheduled to be PMed in March.

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

Adjutant Wolfangel reported:

1. Media release was prepared and sent regarding weekly Karaoke Events starting in March.
2. Media release was prepared and will be sent regarding Lenten Fish Frys.

■ **Internal Communications Committee:** (Chair 2nd Vice or Joe Dubois)

Editor Dubois called for contributions for the March newsletter to be submitted by February 26.

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

Chair Caskey reported:

1. The Joseph House delivery was February 1. He noted they also need women's clothing.

2. Gift to the Yanks are collected in the container in the Club Room.

Adjutant Wolfangel noted TQL wants to dispose of their 30 ft x 60 ft flag; SAA Caskey will follow up with TQL.

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

Chair Bishop noted the following:

1. C.I. Financial Report was provided (prepared by C.I. Treasurer Walt Geil). Copy of provided report to be filed with these Minutes in Post Meeting Minutes binder.
2. There have been no fund raisers, except for bingo, for 2 years.
3. This month's rent was paid.
4. The Volunteer Raffle was conducted.
5. The flag was presented to the Sheriff's Department
6. Made the contribution to Hospice of Cincinnati, as approved by the E.C.
7. Awaiting receipts from Boys State Girls State.

▪ **Capital Projects (If any):** (Chair -):)

None

▪ **Marketing Committee:** (Chair - Kirk Minnick):

Chair Minnick advised the next meeting is Wednesday February 16, 2022.

▪ **Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report / Items:**

Commander Stegmann noted the HCC meeting was held here February 2. Attendance from other Posts was sparse.

▪ **4th District Report / Items:**

Commander Stegmann noted the District is pretty much on track to make their quota.

▪ **Dept. of Ohio Report / Items:**

Midwinter Conference January 21-23, Columbus

▪ **Old Business:**

Sons of the American Legion (SAL): Adjutant Wolfangel reported that:

1. Post 318 members Wolfangel, Capetillo, DuBois, and SAL member Chris Short attended the SAL 4th District Winter Conference on Sunday, February 6th at Post 69 (Reading, OH) to learn more about SAL activities. The meeting was very informative. The next SAL activities will be:
2. Hold a meeting of the Post SAL advisory committee, consisting of Tony Capetillo, Charlie Cleves, and Joe Dubois; Tony has agreed to be the SAL Advisor.
3. Hold an organizational meeting with those joining the SAL. There are 12 people signed up, which exceeds the minimum requirement of 10 to get a charter.
4. Submit the application for the charter to Ohio.
5. Development of the SAL Constitution and By-Laws; the markup draft will be sent to the E.C. and the SAL Advisory committee for comment.

Fish Frys: Chaplain Porter noted we need at least 20 people to work the Fish Frys each Friday. New

people are encouraged to volunteer to work the Fish Frys. The volunteers are needed from 4:00 to 7:00. These duties include Cashiers, Servers, Bussers, Drink Servers, Fryers, Bakers, and Dishwashers. It is not required to volunteer for all 7 weeks. This plea for volunteers should be submitted to the newsletter.

▪ **New Business:**

Good Of The Legion:

Library: Chaplain Porter announced the receipt of a hand-written diary “Record”, by Veteran Frank Nitz, who is a deceased member of Post 318, of his experiences during his service in Antarctica in 1946-47. The book will be placed in the Club Room Library. Also in the Club Room is a book with pictures of World War II. Members are urged to use the library, including contributing your books. The library is located under the binders of Minutes, etc.

- Fisher House / Joseph Houses Bin in Clubroom
- Volunteer Raffle: \$50 restaurant gift Card, Won by: Mike Stringer
- Split-The-Pot: Handled by Tom Prem, Won by Randy Lindsey.
- Next E.C. Meeting: February 23, 2022.
- Next Post Meeting: March 9, 2022.

Further Business:

None

Closing:

There being no further business to come before the membership,

Closing Prayer: Led by Chaplain Porter

Commander Stegmann called for “Removal of POW-MIA Chair Cover” by Ass’t SAA Gary Gregorio.

Commander Stegmann then called for “Saluting the Colors” in place,

Meeting Adjourned approximately 8:00 PM.

Prepared by:

Assistant Adjutant Bob Carey