

**MINUTES
AMERICAN LEGION POST 318
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 8, 2024**

Commander Stegmann called the Post Meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM. Colors were in place and saluted. Stegmann gave the Recognition of POW-MIAs, and the POW-MIA Chair Cover was placed by Surdick. The Opening Prayer was given by Heberly. Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance was led by 1st Vice Commander Kamman. Reciting of the Preamble was led by 2nd Vice Commander Minnich. Stegmann then opened the meeting for the normal order of business.

Attendance: Sergeant at Arms Caskey advised that there were twenty-four (24) Post 318 members physically, and none (0) via ZOOM, in attendance, for a total of twenty-four (24) Post members, which constituted a quorum.

Guests in attendance: SAL members Chris Short, Tim Sunderhaus, and Mike Stringer

Roll Call of Post Officers and Committee Chairs:

Adjutant Carey recorded the roll call of Officers and Chairs, as follows:

Elected Officers

Commander	Lee Stegmann	X
1 st Vice Commander	Bob Kamman	X
2nd Vice Commander	Kirk Minnich	X
Adjutant	Bob Carey	X
Finance Officer	Randy Lindsey	X
Sgt-at-Arms	Ralph Caskey	X
Chaplain / VAVS Coordinator	Rob Heberly	X

Appointed Positions/Chairs

Service Officer	Charlie Cleves	X
Americanism Chair	Eric Howland	E
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	X
Charities, Inc Liaison	Dan Wolfangel	
Corporate Statutory Agent / Ass't Adjutant		X
SAL Committee Chair	Tony Capetillo	X
Bar/Concession Manager	Steve Stuntz	X

Alternate to Officers and Chairs

Ass't Finance Officer	Joe Dubois	X
Ass't Sgt at Arms	Gary Gregorio	X
Charities, Inc. Treasurer	Walt Geil	X

KEY: X=Present; E=Excused (Prior Notice); A=Absent; V=Vacant; Z=via Zoom

Minutes: Adjutant Carey reported the Minutes from the April 10, 2024 meeting, have been posted in Post Meeting Minutes Binder in club room, distributed to all E.C. members, and submitted for posting on Post web-site. *Motion by Minnich to accept and approve the Minutes from the April 10, 2024 meeting was Seconded by Alfieri and approved unanimously.*

Executive Committee Notes: Adjutant Carey advised that the April 24, 2024 E.C. Meeting Minutes, in full printed format, had been placed in the E.C. Meeting Minutes binder in the club room, and distributed to all E.C. members, and have been posted on Post web-site. A summary of noteworthy items or actions from the E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

The EC agreed:

- To donate \$1,500 to SAL from the proceeds of the 2024 Fish Fry
- To adopt the revised Club Room Policy
- To raffle off unopened liquor bottles not purchased by the Post
- To impose a fee of \$10 to replace a lost key card or fob
- To authorize Alfieri to request bids for re-paving the parking lot

Finance Report:

Finance Officer Lindsey presented the May 8, 2024, Financial Summary, included with the hard copy of these Minutes, and further commented as follows:

Revenues continue to trend up, primarily due to the eBingo machines and club room sales.

Motion by Surdick to accept and approve the May 8, 2024 Finance Report, subject to audit, was Seconded by Stuntz and approved unanimously.

Membership Report: (Chair - 1st Vice Commander)

Chair Kamman presented the Membership Report of May 8, 2024, included with the hard copy of these Minutes, and further reported:

- Our quota target for 2024 is 165 members; we are 10 over quota.
- Our Post goal is 177 members.
- 175 (106%) Post members have paid their 2024-2025 dues as of to. day
- 6 members did not renew, and they have been removed from the security system.
- 8 members with May birthdays were recognized

Kamman clarified for Gregorio that whenever a member is removed from the roster, he/she should also be removed from newsletter distribution.

The Orientation presentation/meeting was April 27, with 12 Post members and 3 SAL members attending. Material was presented by Wolfangel and Kamman. It included an overview of the SAL organization. Another meeting may be conducted this fall. Stegmann recommended it be a joint meeting with the Post and SAL.

Kamman noted there have been 4 false security system alarms recently, likely caused by the system internal clock being off by several hours. Power outages in the past have caused false alarms. Members should disarm the system if it alarms in their presence. Quotes for a replacement system will be requested from SECO and from a SAL member who is in the security system business.

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

Chair Minnich presented his report as follows:

- The calendar is up to date.

- The Cinco de Mayo dance was successful, resulting in \$750 net.
- Other dances are being put on the schedule.
- Karaoke, Bingo, Euchre are continuing.
- Memorial Day activities need volunteer sign-ups; a speaker is lined up.
- eBingo did very well in April, with \$1,110 to CI and \$3,318 to the Post
- Post cookout is June 22
- Next marketing meeting is Wednesday May 15

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

Correspondence Received:

- Routine bank statements, ads, magazines, dues payments, invoices, etc.
- Email flyer for the Joseph House Golf Outing June 28. **Posted on BB**
- Solicitation from Veterans with Pets. **Placed in Stegmann drawer**
- Scholarship application from Burkhart. **Placed in Americanism file**
- Returned mail sent to Caden Wagner. **Placed in Kamman drawer**
- Voicemail from All In Golf. **Forwarded to Knight**
- Email reminder from Sons of the American Legion to submit videos and snapshots of services performed. **Forwarded to Short and Sledge**

Outgoing Correspondence: None

Chaplain's Report: Chaplain Heberly reported on recent health situations with several members of the Post and SAL. Also, he commented on the life of recently deceased veteran hero William C. Parton, who was one of his patients at Hospice.

Committees and Liaison Reports:

- **Americanism Committee:** In his excused absence, Chair Howland submitted the following report:

A total of eight applications were received by the post. Six entries were received by the deadline, and two applications arrived after the deadline. All six of the applicants who met the deadline are eligible for the scholarship and will receive scholarship money. The two applicants whose applications in AFTER the deadline will NOT be considered.

The EC realized that the \$3,000 money earmarked for 2024 scholarships would only allow \$500 scholarship awards. It was agreed that this amount does not represent the time and effort each applicant put forth to complete the scholarship package. Therefore, the plan is to increase the 2024 scholarship fund to \$4,500. Discussions are taking place to have either the extra \$1,500 come from the eBingo or it may be augmented by the SAL. More to follow.

As a result of this extra \$1,500, we will award the six scholarship winners \$750 apiece.

If there are any questions, please contact Eric Howland.

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

Wolfangel reported Post 318's Awards and Recognition Event on Saturday, July 27 at 7:00 Mark your calendars. 30 members will receive 5-year increment awards; Post and SAL scholarships will be awarded, Fire Fighter and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year will be awarded, and Citizenship awards to participants of the BBSGS program.

Prem recommended the veteran services of member and US Congressman Brad Wenstrup be recognized at the Post Awards program.

- **Service, Veterans Affairs, Economic & Legislation Committee:** (Chair - Cleves) No report

- **VAVS Coordination Committee:** (Chair - Heberly) No report

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

Sears reviewed the April Bingo Report, included with the hard copy of these Minutes, and further reported as follows:

Need volunteers to take on the duties of Caller, and assist with other work.

- **EBingo**

(See Post Activities Report above.)

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

Wolfangel reported:

Karaoke continuing through May 30. Produced over \$3,300 in profit revenue to Post since last Fall's start of current session. Will be considering re-starting in Fall around mid-September. Still need some volunteers to step up to shadow and learn mechanics of the event, including bartending, if we are to do so.

- **Event Coordination Committee:** (Chair – Knight)

Knight noted that rentals in 2024 are down.

- **House Committee:** (Chair - Alfieri)

Alfieri reported:

- Many thanks to Kamman for his work with the security system, and to volunteers performing numerous cleanups of the Hall
- The security system needs to be replaced, as parts are not available for the current system.
- Requesting 3 bids for parking lot work; the one bid received so far is \$45,000 to re-pave the front and side lot/driveway, and repairing/sealing the rear lot.
- Cleaning the kitchen and filtering the frying oil is being scheduled.

- **Public Relations / External Communications Committee:** (Chair – Carey).

Wolfangel reported:

- The Cinco de Mayo Dance Media Release was published on Sunday April 28 issue of Enquirer Hometown.
- The Post 318 Memorial Day Activities media release has been submitted and is expected to be published in a forthcoming Sunday issue.

- **Internal Communications Committee:** (Chair - Minnich)

Gregorio reported:

- The May newsletter was issued early to accommodate the timing requirements for the Post election process.
- The June newsletter is in progress, which will include several photos of the Post Memorial Day activities.

- **Uniformed Ceremonies Committee:** (Chair - Caskey):

- Signups for participating in the Memorial Day ceremonies and activities; breakfast at 7:00; around 25 volunteers have signed up. The Sheriff's Office has been asked to provide traffic assistance at the Asbury cemetery. Flowers and flags have been ordered.
 - There may be a flatbed wagon for us in the July 4 parade, SAL will be out front.
 - Minnich reported Girl Scouts have requested flag etiquette training; Caskey will coordinate with Howland
- **Charities, Inc. Committee:** (Chair - Wolfangel)

Wolfangel reported:

- Special C.I. Meeting was held on 4/29/24 to ready supplies for Poppy Days at FHSD (5/20 thru 5/22) and Kroger (ATC) (5/24 and 5/25). Have approximately 4,200 poppies for FHSD and approximately 5,000 for other distribution. Have FHSD staffing almost done, except Mercer. Have plenty of openings for volunteers for Kroger's; sign-up sheet is available. All proceeds received from Poppy Days activities are utilized by C.I. to provide funding for Post 318's Veteran related programs. We also will be providing, at their request, approximately 50 poppies for Anderson Hill Christian Church to distribute to their congregation leading up to Memorial Day.
- Club Room "Memorial Day Poppy" and "Gifts for Yanks" contribution boxes are now on CR Bar, and are generating some donations.
- Next regular quarterly C.I. Meeting is scheduled for 5/20/24, at which time items on agenda will be: Finalizing Poppy Days / Veterans Day "Wave-the-Flag Fundraising" and "A/T Veteran Recognition Event- Entertainment" / Save-the-Warrior Fundraising" / Formulation of 2024-2025 C.I. Program Funding Budget. / Discussing Issues related to current and future Scholarship Funding.

Geil reported the CI Treasurers Report of April 30, 2024, which is included with the hard-copy of these Minutes.

- **Capital Projects:** (Chair VACANT) None
- **Marketing Committee:** (Chair - Minnich): Minnich reported the next meeting is Wednesday at 7:00.
- **SAL Committee:** (Chair - Capetillo)

Short reported as follows:

- The elections have been conducted; there will probably be a temporary assignment to the position of Secretary
- The Friday social in the club room went great; the bar made well over \$1,000, including the purchases by those attending the event in the Hall; the eBingo machines were busy. Looking to expand the Friday social s to more than once a month
- Will award a scholarship in the next few days
- Thanks to Tim Sunderhaus, Mike Stringer, and Mike Stock manning the bar and assisting Stuntz in managing the bar
- Several SAL members will participate in the 4th of July parade, including handling the big flag
- Have 41 members, with a quota of 36; number one in the 4th District, voted the SAL Squadron of the Year in the 4th District. Several members of the previous Post in Amelia are transferring to 318
- Will be assisting the Norwood Post and Squadron with repairs and fund raising
- Planning an indoor corn hole tournament, with boards decorated with each of the branches of the military
- Hoping to conduct outdoor events in the summer
- Planning to perform recruiting at the IHM festival this year

- Stegmann has discussed with Sledge interest in recruiting disabled veterans, including transporting them to the Post
- **Concession/Bar Manager (Stuntz):**
The keg cooler has been repaired.
- **Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report / Items:** No report
- **4th District Report / Items:**
Spring Convention is June 2 at Post 631 (Lockland)
- **Dept. of Ohio Report / Items:** None
Convention July 12-14
- **Old Business:**
Wolfangel reported the Modification and Posting of the recently revised club room utilization policy: The revised policy, now identified as “**Post 318 Club Room Utilization / Honor Bar / Bartending / E-Bingo Games / Invited Guest Policy**” which was adopted unanimously by E.C. on 4/24/24, has been posted in Club Room on supply closet door, and a copy has also been placed on Post 318 Policy Binder.

Corporate Statutory Agent Wolfangel conducted the election for 2024-2025 Post Elected Officers as follows:

ELECTION OF POST OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, AS ACCEPTD BY E.C. ON 4/24/24.

Commander	Kirk Minnich and Lee Stegmann
1 st Vice Commander	Robert Kamman, uncontested
2 nd Vice Commander	Tina Sunderhaus, uncontested
Adjutant	Robert Carey, uncontested
Finance Officer	Randy Lindsey, uncontested
Sgt-At-Arms	Ralph Caskey, uncontested
Chaplain	Rob Heberly, uncontested

THE CANDIDATES WERE INVITED TO MAKE COMMENTS PRIOR TO THE ELECTION; NONE DID.

THERE BEING NO CONTESTED POST OFFICER POSITIONS, EXCEPT COMMANDER, HE ASKED FOR A “MOTION TO ELECT ALL NON-CONTESTED CANDIDATES TO THE RESPECTIVE POST OFFICERSHIPS FOR WHICH THEY ARE A CANDIDATE, BY A VOTE OF ACLAMATION.”

SUCH MOTION WAS MADE BY PORTER, SECONDED BY CLEVES, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

HE THEN PROCEEDED WITH THE ELECTION FOR THE CONTESTED POSITION OF “POST COMMANDER” BETWEEN CURRENT 2ND VICE COMMANDER KIRK MINNICH AND CURRENT POST COMMANDER LEE STEGMANN BY SECRET BALLOT. DARREL EVERMAN AND JERRY PORTER WERE APPOINTED AS ELECTION TELLERS TO DISTRIBUTE, COLLECT, AND COUNT THE BALLOTS. 7 ABSENTEE BALLOTS PROPERLY REQUESTED, COMPLETED, RETURNED, AND VALIDATED WERE TURNED OVER TO THE ELECTION TELLERS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE

COUNT.

BASED UPON THE REPORT OF THE ELECTION TELLERS, THE ELECTED “POST COMMANDER” IS KIRK MINNICH

THIS CONTESTED POSITION BEING DECIDED, HE ASKED FOR A “MOTION TO DESTROY THE BALLOTS.”

SUCH MOTION WAS MADE BY LINDSEY, SECONDED BY HEBERLY AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

HE CONRATULATED THE NEWLY ELECTED POST OFICERS FOR 2024–2025 TERM OF OFFICE.

THE NEW OFFICERS WILL BE INSTALLED AND ASSUME THEIR RESPECTIVE POST OFFICERSHIPS AT THE JUNE 12, 2024 POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

- **New Business:** None
- **Good of the Legion:** None
- **Joseph House Bin in Clubroom:** Collections on hold
- **Volunteer Raffle:** Gift Card won by Caskey
- **Split-The-Pot:** Handled by Prem, Won by Carey
- **Next E.C. Meeting:** May 29, 2024
- **Next Post Meeting:** June 12, 2024
- **Further Business:** None
- **Closing:**

There being no further business to come before the membership,
Closing Prayer was given by Heberly.
The POW/MIA chair cover was recovered by Surdick.
Meeting adjourned approximately 8:30 PM.

Prepared By:
Bob Carey
Adjutant – Post 318