



Charles A. Woodford
American Legion Post 2007



26 April 2021 Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 1907 hrs. by the Commander.

Roll of Post officers was called with all officers present except the excused absence of the Senior Vice and Executive Committee member Jerry Sauerwein.

The Sgt at Arms introduced guests Don Scheyer, 22nd District Commander, Ron Swaim, 22nd District Jr. Vice Commander and Mike Kling, Post 1937 Jr. Vice.

February meeting minutes were read with motion to accept by Howard Bateman and seconded by Robert Thomas. Minutes approved by membership.

The Membership Report was given showing 155 paid members for the current year putting us at 102%. The District Commander presented a Certificate of Meritorious Service to Bill Martin for his work on gaining 100% plus membership.

The Finance reported we currently have \$3,303.78 in savings and \$6,740.32 in checking with an additional \$17 earmarked for the Haven, \$18 for Gifts to the Yanks and \$70 for the Honor Guard. A brief discussion was held concerning a \$5 bank charge. The Finance Officer stated we actually receive a rebate from the bank that exceeds the \$5 charge, so it is effectively covered. Howard Bateman motioned to accept the report subject to audit. Andrew Dunham seconded; membership approved.

Poppies – WalMart still not allowing solicitations. The Commander will check with Lowes considering they recently allowed the VFW to hold a fundraiser. We received 2,000 poppies from Post 502 at cost.

Veteran Affairs – No change. They are still only taking appointments.

Community Patriotic Observances – No report.

Honor Guard – Rich Gaebel stated he felt things had improved enough to be able to do funerals. The VFW will allow us to borrow M1s to use during ceremonies. There was a discussion on the purchase of a bag to put the spent brass into and present it to the family. Also, the question was asked about replacing the current Post flag with one that was properly named. In addition, the request was made to change the American flag out for one without fringe.

Americanism – No report.

Boy Scouts – The Commander will talk to the local council concerning Legion scholarship programs.

Constitution and By Laws – No report.

Gifts to the Yanks – No report.

Oratorical – No report.

Boys State – Cancelled on April 10th. They are shooting for next year.

No reports for any other program area.

Sick Call – Jerry Sauerwein's sister in Florida is very sick, so he is staying close to the phone.

Unfinished Business –

Flag Boxes – A design will need to be created. Once a design is made, Howard Bateman will give them to a woodworker for possible construction.

Post Auxiliary – Les will put together a letter by next meeting.

Dues – A discussion was held concerning the possible \$4 increase by Department. Rich Gaebel stated he felt we should be able to handle an increase to of Post dues to \$40. He then motioned to increase the dues to \$40. This was seconded by Robin Latdrick with provision to assist members who cannot afford the \$5 increase. Membership voted to approve the increase.

Horseshoe Pit – We need a project manager. Kenny volunteered.

Robert Thomas motioned to suspend the regular meeting for the purpose of conducting Post nominations of officers. Seconded by Howard Bateman. Membership approved.

- For Commander, Robert Thomas nominated Jim Page. He accepted.
- For Senior Vice, Bill Martin nominated the current Adjutant, who graciously declined. Robert Thomas then nominated himself. He also accepted.
- For Junior Commander, Jim Page nominated Bill Martin. He accepted.
- For the Three-year Executive Committee position, Robert Thomas nominated Les O'Neal. He accepted.

Robert Thomas motioned to suspend Post nominations and resume the normal meeting. Howard Bateman seconded. Membership approved.

Correspondence – Adjutant presented a flyer for sponsoring a hole at the Department Golf Tournament for \$110. Ron Swaim, 22nd District Jr. Vice, spoke on the benefits of sponsoring the state tournament. He gave several examples of how the money is used to support veterans in need through PTSD dogs, plumbing replacement, furniture replacement among other things to include money to the Haven. Bob Burrack motioned that the Post sponsor a hole. Rich Gaebel seconded. Membership voted to approve. The Finance Officer wrote the check.

New Business –

- Les spoke on supplementing the local food donation program. He motioned for the Post to collect food at meetings and donate it to a Swansea food pantry. Seconded by Howard Bateman. Membership approved.

Memorial to Departed Members – The Commander spoke on the loss of the Dupo Post's commander, Rick Luby. The Commander also informed the Post that member, Don Wisner passed away last year. The Commander attended Don and Don's wife's interment at JB Barracks. He spoke on Don's final months. A moment of silence was held for them.

For the Good of the Legion –

- The District Commander spoke on all members being recruiters. He mentioned how the Post has improved over the years. He also asked members to get involved in caucuses.
- The District Jr. Vice recognized the Commander as one of the best. He also spoke on an ROTC award at SIUE and how his post will be used as a vaccination site on May 7th with an appearance by Sen. Tammy Duckworth.
- There will be a meeting at the Belleville VFW with representatives of the DAV, VFW and AL to plan a ceremony for Memorial Day.

50/50 Results – Rich Gaebel won \$19.50 which he donated back to the Honor Guard Fund. The Commander presented him with a Sea Bee patch for his donation which was regifted to Robin with a story concerning a T-shirt contest of some kind with Sea Bees.

Next Meeting to be held on 24 May with Executive Meeting at 1830 hrs.

Meeting adjourned at 2031 hrs.