



Charles A. Woodford
American Legion Post 2007



27 December 2021 Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 1905 hrs. by the Commander.

Roll of Post officers was called with all officers present except the Senior Vice and Finance Officer.

No guests in attendance.

November meeting minutes were read with motion to accept by Steve Duff and seconded by Andrew Dunham. Minutes approved by membership with one correction.

The Membership Report was given showing the post currently has only 117 paid members for the current year. We require a total of 162 to reach our goal.

The Finance Officer was not present, so no report given.

Poppies – No report.

Veteran Affairs – The next meeting of the St. Clair VAC will be January 25th at 7 p.m.

Community Patriotic Observances – No report.

Honor Guard – No report.

Americanism – No report.

Boy Scouts – The Adjutant spoke on the need of two local scout troops, Troop 53 Boy & Girl, needing a sponsor. He motioned that the Post sponsor both units. Robert Thomas seconded. Steve Duff asked what sponsoring a scout unit entailed. The Commander related that sponsoring meant supporting the unit with any needs they might have, but primarily it was the review and approval of new unit leaders. Robin had concerns about the method of deciding leaders. The Commander and Adjutant allayed her fears. The units already have leaders in place and a place to meet and generates its own funding, so the Post would not have to worry about that. As an added benefit, this allows the Post to partner with a scout unit to help with flag retirements and allows the unit to participate in the maintaining of the Messinger Cemetery as a service project for the scouts. Membership voted its approval.

Constitution and By Laws – No report.

Gifts to the Yanks – Jennifer spoke on her experience of delivering the gifts she was able to obtain to both facilities with the Commander. The gifts were well received by the veterans and staff. She said the primary need seemed to be for sweat pants and shirts as well as blankets and nonslip socks. She suggested that we set aside money throughout the year specifically for gifts for both facilities to include things like birthday cards, so the vets can receive things at different times rather than a single visit per year. Steve Duff asked about making the vets Honorary members of the Post. The Commander stated it could be done, however the Post would have to pay the dues for all of them. Jennifer will put together a program to present to the membership. It was also mentioned that Thomas Moore was in need of a new wheelchair, which was provided courtesy of the Belleville VFW. Robert Thomas spoke briefly on the medical equipment that was available to veterans through the VFW. It was also noted that the gifts purchased for the veterans were funded primarily by both Jennifer and the Commander. Donations will be accepted to cover the cost of their personal outlay of funds.

Children and Youth – No report.

Oratorical – Division competition will be on 8 January. The Post will be sponsoring Brianna Gray. The cost is \$150.

Post Recognition Meeting – The Commander spoke on either having a dinner or snacks at the January meeting to commemorate the Post's anniversary. We want to present a certificate to the Swansea Improvement Center recognizing their support. Future recognition events we would like to have the Post's Firefighter and Policeman of the Year nominees in attendance. We will need to price caterers for any dinner we wish to have. It was suggested to move the event to Spring in order to allow time to plan.

No reports for any other program area.

Sick Call – Rich Gabel is having back problems.

Unfinished Business –

Horseshoe Pit – Tabled until Spring.

Flag Collection Barrel – The Commander presented the completed barrel. It was suggested that the printing be shrunk to fit on the front third of the barrel. The Commander will ask the printer if this will be possible for the next barrels. We still have three barrels to go. Many ideas were offered on how the barrels can be used. There were concerns that unattended barrels will have trash thrown in on top of the flags. If it is needed, we can store the flags at the VFW.

McAlister's Fundraiser – still no update from McAlister's on when and if they will continue the program.

Sign on Swansea Improvement Center – The Commander talked to Metro Sign. He will work on determining the sign's size and lettering.

Post Polo Shirts – A prototype was made and presented to the membership. You can have your name embroidered on it. The cost is under \$30 per shirt.

New Business – none

Memorial to Departed Members – No members were reported as departing.

For the Good of the Legion –

- Buddy checks – The Commander encouraged everyone to do them.

- Steve Duff informed the members that the WWII Navy vet from the Veterans Plaza ceremony had passed away and was buried at Jefferson Barracks. He also spoke on identifying Korean War vets for the award of the Peace Medal. The Commander and Robert will meet together to discuss options.
- The Commander presented a Challenge Coin that was designed by Al Mahan. These coins will be \$20 each. The money raised will be split between GTTY, The Haven, Youth Police Academy, Mayfest, and Quilts of Valor.

50/50 Results – Won by Andrew Dunham, which he donated back to the Honor Guard program.

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

Meeting adjourned at 2035 hrs.