



Charles A. Woodford
American Legion Post 2007



June 24, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 1904 hours by the Commander.

Roll of Post officers was called with all officers present and Executive Committee members with the absence of Jr. Vice Bill Martin, Sgt at Arms Gary Stacy and Executive Committee Members Andrew Dunham and Robert Thomas.

Sgt at Arms, Kenny Green stated there were no guests present and no special guest presentations.

The Commander stated minutes were sent out to officers and Executive Committee members. No corrections were noted and a motion to accept the minutes was given by Steve Duff and seconded by Rich Gaebel. Membership approved.

The **Membership Report** was given showing the Post with 158 of 162 paid members putting the post at 97.53%. The Commander stated he had a conversation with the District Commander on membership. The goal is to get all members renewed by December. We ended up 4 short. The Department database and the National database do not always match up. Online payments may take a long time to show up at state level. There was a spirited discussion on how to track how many members paid year after year. It was determined there really isn't a way to track it. Any dues collect now cannot be submitted prior to July 1st due to Department's books being closed until then.

Finance Report – The Finance Officer reported we had a checking account balance of \$8,147.10 and an additional \$3,723.08 in savings. A breakdown of funds held for the various programs was also provided. The Finance Officer then explained he was changing the way he would be doing the report so that the figures aligned with the end of month bank statement rather than including transactions from that date until the meeting date as it did not work efficiently. He amended April's report to conform with the new procedure. A motion was given by Rich Gaebel to accept the amended report and May's report subject to audit. Seconded by Doug Jameson. Membership approved.

Poppies – No Report

Veteran Affairs – The VAC is in the process of hiring a new Superintendent. More information will be obtained at the next meeting of the VAC on Tuesday night, 25 June at 7 p.m. at 19 Public Square. The VAC is looking for people who like to be trained in getting Veterans ready to work with a certified Veteran Service Officer. Contact your delegates if you are interested. If you know of someone that needs help, call the VAC. There's a

flyer available with the information or talk to your delegates. Doug Jameson informed membership there would be a VAC Town Hall held at the Swansea Moose Lodge on 2425 N. Illinois St on 29 June from 0900-1100. The IDVA Director, Terry Prince will be leading the discussions.

Community Patriotic Observances – The Commander extended his thanks and appreciation for those that attended the Memorial Day Ceremony and the Flag Retirement. We need to start the process of working on attending and getting the Honor Guard ready for the POW/MIA ceremony at Walnut Hill cemetery on 20 September. The Commander will contact Post 1937 on what they did as they traditionally were the organizers of the event. Doug Jameson also related that the Illinois Department of the National Memorial of Military Ascent was collecting money to erect a statue in Grafton to honor the 75th Rangers accomplishment at Pont du Hic on D-Day.

Honor Guard – No Report

Americanism – No Report

Boy Scouts – Both scout troops were attending summer camp.

Constitution and By Laws – No Report

Gifts to the Yanks/Visiting Vets – A donation was received in Adolph Choura's name for \$100 to be used for the Visiting Vets program.

Children and Youth – No report

Oratorical – No report

Boys State – The Commander said that word was Boys State attendance was lower than expected. They had less than 300. Their goal was 500. He will get Gabriel Lang to a future meeting to give a report on his experience.

Rehabilitation – No Report

Employment - No Report

Post Service Officer Report – No Report

Other Committees – No Report

Sick Call – No Report.

Unfinished Business

1. Messinger Cemetery Tables – Will Shannon has been out of the office for several weeks. The Commander will be contacting him soon. We also have a potential Eagle Scout project in this area.

New Business

1. Steve Duff proposed having lengths of PVC pipe put into the ground at the Messinger Cemetery so flags that we could purchase could be put out for ceremonies and days of recognition. The flags could possibly be stored at the Swansea Rotary. The Commander stated that we needed a cost proposal to put before membership. Steve said he would put together the proposal.

Correspondence – Nothing of note was received.

Memorial to Departed Members – No known departed members.

For the Good of the Legion

1. The Commander stated he attended Wolf Branch School's graduation in place of Steve Duff and handed out awards. The students were very grateful, and the school wants us there.
2. Tim let members know that the Metro East Vet Center would be holding a Financial Literacy for Vets on 25 June at 1500 at 228 West Point Dr. in Swansea.
3. Rich Gaebel expressed his thanks and appreciation for the work Barb Page put in for the Post dinner.
4. Doug Jameson stated that the Eagle's Nest in East St Louis had openings for homeless vets that can be applied for.

50/50 results for half of the \$24 collected went to Doug Jameson who donated it back to the General Fund.

Next Meeting to be held on July 22nd at 7PM with Executive Committee Meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 1957 hours