



Charles A. Woodford
American Legion Post 2007



September 25, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 1917 hours by the Commander.

Roll of Post officers was called with all officers and Executive Committee members present with the exception of both Sergeant at Arms.

No guests in attendance.

Previous month's minutes will be published to the Post Facebook group and emailed to members.

The **Membership Report** was given with 97 out of 162 paid members for the new membership year. The Commander informed membership that National is going to raise the per capita by \$5. He needs to know by 1 April if we are going to raise Post dues accordingly. The Paid Up for Life and 5 Year Card programs were then discussed. Robin raised the question concerning raising the dues if there were members that would not be able to afford the increase. The Commander stated there were avenues if a member could not pay dues.

Finance Report –The Finance Officer reported there was \$6,637.88 in checking and \$3,722.78 in savings for a total of \$10,360.69. A breakdown of individual program funds was not provided. Doug Jameson motioned to accept subject to audit and was seconded by Robert Clark. Membership approved.

Poppies – Poppy Day is now set for 21 October at the Lowes across from SWIC from 0900 to 1500.

Veteran Affairs –The next meeting is 26 September at 7 p.m. and is open to the public. The October meeting will be held on 31 October at the Millstadt VFW Post 1739 which will include a dinner and election of officers for the coming year. Tickets are \$15.

Community Patriotic Observances – The Belleville VFW Post 1739 was invited to a presentation on 11 September, Patriot's Day. Our Color Guard was asked to fold the Flag as the meaning of the 13 folds were read. Steve Duff will provide information at the next meeting for the Wolf Branch Veteran's Day ceremony. The Commander stated that there will be various Veteran's Day ceremonies around the area and members should endeavor to attend one.

Honor Guard –We will be doing a Color Guard event on 14 October for the Plumbers and Pipefitters anniversary dinner at Gateway Classic Cars. Time to follow.

Americanism – We will be working with VFW Post 1739 on a Blood Drive for some time in February 2024. We need a chair for this event to get it scheduled.

Boy Scouts – Dave Devine stated the Scoutmaster of our supported scout troop wished to be more involved with the Post and suggested holding a Court of Honor at the November Post meeting. The Commander will work with the Scoutmaster on this event.

Constitution and By Laws – No Report

Gifts to the Yanks – Robin stated we had lost a few vets in our supported homes but more have moved in.

Children and Youth – No Report.

Oratorical – No Report.

Boys State – No Report. The Commander related that Post 307 sent 2 girls to Girls State and the experience changed them.

Rehabilitation – No Report

Employment - No Report

Post Service Officer Report – No Report

Other Committees – No Report

Sick Call – Both Kori Bookman and Robert Thomas are on the mend.

Unfinished Business –

1. Pass the Hat – Robin motioned to suspend the procedure until there was a need. Seconded by Barb Page. Membership approved.

Correspondence – No correspondence received outside of the Department newsletter.

New Business – Post insurance is due. The cost is \$329 but we must pay \$500 as the set minimum. The Finance Officer will look to see if a better cost can be found. Insurance must be paid by 1 November.

Memorial to Departed Members – No news of any members passing.

For the Good of the Legion

1. The Commander provided notes on the National Convention. He stated our new Legion Commander is a young, dynamic speaker and is ready to lead the largest veterans' organization forward. He served as a Naval Chaplain.
2. The Be the One campaign was explained by the Commander as an initiative to stop veteran suicide. If you are contacted by a suicidal veteran, Be the One to get them the help they need. The program is also for giving help to veterans where needed. The Commander hopes to obtain the information needed so we have it available when needed.
3. The Gold Card (5 year) Program was again emphasized. Members should see Bill Martin to get one.
4. Steve Duff made a challenge to the Post to raise funds for the Flags Across America program. He will donate \$50 himself and asked members to match the \$50 over the next month. A final check will be written by the Post.

5. Lachelle spoke on her veteran owned business, Harriett's Sweet Treats. Members were encouraged to support her.

50/50 Results – won by Gary Lehr, who donated his \$25 winnings back to the Honor Guard.

Next Meeting to be held on Oct 23rd at 7PM with Executive Committee Meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2017 hours