

Minutes Regular Meeting Ottawa American Legion Post 33 Monday, May 01, 2017

- I. Call to Order by Commander Ray Gerkitz at 1903 Hours. Standard Opening.
- II. Roll Call: All present, except: Excused: Chaplain Ruggeri; Member@Large Cokley, and Trustee Hanley. Judge Advocate Navarro. 23 present = quorum. John Taylor welcomed back!
- III. Minutes presented for review. Motion to waive reading , Kennedy; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sterba. Pass (U)
- IV. Committee reports
  - A. Ron Slafer, Finance: Motion to accept by Ken Donnelly; 2<sup>nd</sup>, John Taylor. Passed Unanimously (=U)
  - B. Gambling, Ron Slafer Motion to accept by John Taylor; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bob Olson. Pass (U)
  - C. Bar Report, Ray Gerkitz: Motion to accept by Donnelly; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Al Rowe. Pass (U)
  - D. Service Officer, David Kennedy: No activity for April.
- V. Old Business
  - A. CMDR: Air handlers fixed. The issue with hiring non-Union Grasser's Commander had a meeting to resolve the issue with hiring non-Union Grasser's. There is an on-line list of Union contractors for us to refer to, to offer bids.
  - B. Roger Schueler provided updates on building repairs and maintenance.
  - C. CMDR: Need help: Home Depot will be here late morning Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>; items for building repairs to take upstairs.
  - D. Jim Nanouski: Items in the Honor Guard Room? Jeff Delagarza to take care of them.
- VI. Correspondence
  - A. \$250.00 donation from U.S. Silica, for post projects.
  - B. Thank You (T.Y.) from Starved Rock Regional Center (old Easter Seals) for our donation.
  - C. T.Y. from James Grotti family, for Honor Guard services.
  - D. T.Y. from Charles Haas family, for Honor Guard services.
  - E. T.Y. from Michael Jaeger family, for Honor Guard services.
  - F. \$5.00 donation from William Steep, to help serviceman needs.
  - G. T.Y. from Robert Neumann for 70-year Membership certificate and plaque, delivered by Commander Ray Gerkitz, with visit.
  - H. Invitation from our LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission to an "Open House," to celebrate their office remodeling and upgrades. It is located at the downtown Ottawa Courthouse, Room 103-A, on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1 to 4 PM.
  - I. Invitation, to attend a Q & A Town Hall Meeting with Dr. Braverman, Director, Hines VA Hospital. It will be on Thursday, June 1, 2017 from 6:00-7:00 PM at LaSalle VFW Post 4668, located at 2325 Donahue Street.

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- VII. New Business
  - A. CMDR: This is awards season at the high schools; Marquette Academy's is on Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> and Ottawa High School's is on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Recommending that this year's \$500 scholarship to each school be amended to two, \$250 scholarships, each. Also, there are 18 graduates who have enlisted for the military; we need to approve our gift

of a watch to each, which we'll again purchase from Van Duzer's Jewelry, who is generously providing a 25% discount on the bulk purchase. Motion to approve the scholarships by Al Rowe; 2<sup>nd</sup>, John Taylor. Passed (U). Motion to purchase the watches for the enlistees by Ken Donnelly; 2<sup>nd</sup>, John Taylor. Passed (U)

- B. Schueler: Acknowledging that the JrVice Commander is in charge of entertainment, request a motion to direct Bob Cupples to be the Bingo Chairman, to assist. So moved by Jerry Sexton; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ron Slafer. Passed (U).
- C. Schueler: We have put together a Confidential Post/Employee Policy and Information binder. Included will be a reference for: Notice information; registering employee concerns; the Post Code of Conduct; Rental Contracts; Accident/Incident/Injury report forms; Leave of Absence request forms; Queen of Hearts Rules, and Food Certificates. This will assist in better communication. It provides for free use of the basement Dugout area by currently paid Legion Family members, except that a \$100 deposit is required; refunding, is pending cleaning afterward.
- D. Schueler: Tim Trumbo is working on the ceiling tiles.
- E. Schueler: Proposed: change the small change coin box donation, from the LaSalle Veterans Home only, to the Service Officer's account, to help needy veterans. Agreed.
- F. Two individuals were served 30-day suspensions.
- G. CMDR: The Auxiliary has posted sign-up sheets for our annual Poppy Days, Thursday and Friday, May 25 and 26. The post gets half of the donations, so please help! For each member who works four hours or more, they get a free Legion Logo Cap (a \$15.00 value!).
- H. Duback, Adjutant:
  - 1. 99<sup>th</sup> Department of Illinois Convention packets are now available. It is held from July 11<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. The post usually pays for seven rooms for three days; some members may share a room (\$107 per night, plus tax). So moved by Chuck Beckett; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ken Donnelly. Pass (U)
  - 2. New Members
    - a. John Lieske, Army; Lebanon/Grenada
    - b. Mitchell Shepard, Active Duty Air Force; Gulf
    - c. Leslie Shepard, Active Duty Coast Guard; Gulf
    - d. Brian Van Duyne, Air Force; Lebanon/GrenadaMotion to accept, by Bob Olson; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jerry Sexton. Pass (U)
  - 3. The 12<sup>th</sup> District requests that we again support the Hospitality Room at Convention. We gave \$500 last year. So moved by Ken Donnelly; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ron Staple. Pass (U)  
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  - 4. It is time to approve support to send Junior year High School students to Boys State, for leadership and civics training. It will be on June 10 to June 16<sup>th</sup>. The registration fee is \$250 each, plus another \$100 for the bus rental. Candidates are obliged to use the bus, unless they are taking the ACT's on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Our area pick-up point is at

- the BP Amoco in Oglesby at 10:30 AM, Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. Right now, we have three candidates. Motion to support by John Taylor; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jerry Sexton. Pass (U)
5. CMDR: We also should approve attendees to the Police and Fire Academies, \$250 each; we have one for the Police Academy now. So moved, Beckett; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Cupples. Passed (U)
  6. Duback: Special thanks to Joe Tokarz, who has been helping us by putting together binders for a library of Legion committee and assistance information!
- I. Duback: Nominations were opened at the last meeting, and we address them today. Commander Gerkitz will call for the offices (three times, each):
    1. Three-year Trustee, two candidates signed up, Tom Przybyla and Jeff Delagarza. CMDR: no additions. Nominations Close.
    2. Member-at-Large: one candidate: Robert Cokley; no additions. Ed Stash motioned to close nominations and have the Adjutant cast a vote of Acclamation. Pass (U)
    3. Finance Officer: one candidate: Ron Slafer. Stash motioned to close the nominations and have the Adjutant cast a vote of Acclamation. Pass (U)
    4. JrVice Commander: two candidates: Ron Staple and Mike Hanley. Stash motioned to close the nominations. Pass (U)
    5. SrVice Commander: one candidate, Roger Schueler. Stash motioned to close the nomination and have the Adjutant cast a vote of Acclamation. Passed, 21-1.
    6. Commander: two candidates: Ray Gerkitz and Robert Olson. Stash motioned to close the nominations.
    7. Elections will be on Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Post 33, from 8:30 AM to 8:30 PM. There will be two Election Judges on each two-hour shift. A sign-up sheet will be posted by the Adjutant on the Commander's Board in the bar area. Notice of Elections will be posted at least ten days prior to the elections, of which these minutes are a notice.
  - J. CMDR: Requests support for a large-screen TV (\$349) for the Main Hall, to facilitate a message board, to stream Legion Family projects, events, and information. So moved to purchase by Jeff Roche; 2<sup>nd</sup>, John Taylor. Passed (U)
- VIII. Good of the order: Memorial Day Program will be on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Remember Tenderloin Tuesdays, and "Cinco de Mayo" party will be on this Wednesday, with Esther's Tacos. Beckett called attention to the Marseilles memorial request on the table; remains.
  - IX. Bob Cupples: Departed Members/Veterans: Virgil Eschbach; Karen Winchester-Coleman; John H. Van Hill; Quinten Odum; Richard Boe; Stewart Thompson; Donald Tipton; James Kolotka; Michael Schwarzbach; Brent Billings. Prayers: Cupples
  - X. Standard Closing procedures; prayers, Bob Cupples.
  - XI. Adjournment at 1955 Hours. [Drawings: #794-Jim Nanouski; #028-Ray Baxter, Absent]