2March2023 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

Commander John Barkley called the 2Mar2023 American Legion Post 49 membership meeting to order at 1900, conducted the opening ceremony and business meeting as summarized below.

Order of Business

Adjutant: Roll Call: **Cmdr. John Barkley,** 1st Vice Cmdr. Earl Lash**, 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addessi, Adjutant Bob Dargis**, Finance Officer Tom Dryer, **Judge Advocate Jason Turner**, Sgt. at Arms Art Farmer, Chaplain Larry Girard, Service Officer John McCormack, **Service Officer and SAL Commander Steve Hamilton,** Historian Jim McCloughan**, Trustee Bruce Thatcher**, Trustee Patrick Whitlatch, Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Chuck Aubrey, **Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch,** Member Richard Ely, Post 68 Member Frank Thompson, **Member Jim Montgomery, Member Dan Gomez, Member Josh Gunnison,** Member Seig Freitag, **Member Marty Welker, Member Guy** Cherry
Quorum (of at least 5 AL members) **present**

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: None present

Meeting Minutes Membership Mtg minutes dated 2Feb2023 reviewed/approved.

Committee reports

1. Finance.
-Account status for 2Mar $169,009.84 as of 27Feb2023
-Quickbooks: Jan2023 Loss of $6,485.90
-SAL current total funds available not reviewed but approx. $11,000
-Aux current total funds available approx $21,378 + CD
-Finance report approved (subject to audit)

2. **Adjutant - Membership**:
-22Feb membership payment status: New 53, PUFL 38, Renewals 448, transfers 1, total 540 of 631 goal or 85.57 % vs mid Feb. goal of 85% ! 2 new member applications in process. Adj report approved.

3. **Service Officers.**
- Both Larry and Steve directing veterans/needs including DD214 requests to Van Buren Co.Veterans Service Officers Dave Krzycki and Dennis Urquhart.
-Steve also reported taking Veterans bank, shop for groceries, referred vet to legal counsel Matt Cooper.
-John M. McCormick not able to complete term because of health concerns , Larry Girrard continues to cover for John Michael and both Guy Cherry and Josh Gunneson expressed interest in being a Service Officer.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee
-Club Operations Committee recommendations
-Kitchen Cleaning support plan-reviewed/completed to agree on scope of outsourcing vs volunteer work.
-Ice-Breakers report out: total revenue $10,000 and gross margin TBD
-Charitable Gaming License suggestion. Investigation TBD
-Mar2023 Calendar reviewed and copies available at club entrance.
-Current list of planned open to public liquor license days includes: Memorial Day, Harbor Fest, Light-Up the Lake, Blueberry Festival, Labor Day, Salute to Veterans, Halloween Party, Christmas Party, New Year's Eve Party.
-Collection box for small stuffed animals for SH PD/FD first responders to give to children will be placed inside the club room beneath the bulletin board per Linda Teeter.

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5. **AL Events**
-5Feb breakfast had about 90 customers and approx $1,000 revenue and will put add in brochure next year.
-Funeral Sat 4Mar. Leave Post for St Basil's Church 1245 to plan joint AF, MI State Police, AL Salute.

6. SAL Events- Non reviewed

-Planning St. Patrick's Day corned beef cabbage dinner 18March.

7. Aux Events

-Poppy Days 2023 – Patti Sheehy chair, Shannon will co-chair. Poppy production planned early March.
-CPR/Basic First Aid Class at Glen School on May 17 @5:30. 3 hours/$25. Class limited in size. If enough interest and class fills up, will plan a second class. Contact: Jamie Walle at: Jamie.Walle@Glenn.School
-2023 Donations:
-AUX member's son serving overseas. Has requested golf balls.
-AUX Member is a Cozy Quilter. Group making quilts for disabled in a foster setting for 12+ years and in need of gently used sheets as backing for handmade quilts.
-Have made Girls State Sponsorship Commitment – SH HS, Bangor HS & Bloomingdale
-Lenten Fish Fry Fridays, Feb.24 – April 7
-May 28 Poker Run

Sick call - Please keep John Michael McCormack in your thoughts, prayers.

Unfinished business

-Maintenance items.Discussed needs for repaving/enlarging parking lot as a possible future project, new outside light replacement.
-Earl asked to plan “Veteran Navigator” 0900-1600 7Sept meeting at Post 49.
-$83,340 quote received from Brian beBest for upper level, north side lawn leveling to insure safe walkability including hard surface option. Cost of the project will require fundraising and projected start early in the planning process, received general consensus to move forward with the project/detail plan.
-Steve developed “Purple Heart” parking sign and will mount it below handicap sign adjacent to the central walkway
-District 4 8Jan2023 Meeting 2023 highlights
-AL Baseball MI program plans to include women’s softball and coordination with Aux.
-Efforts in process to allow Boys State attendees to earn college credits
-Next District 4 meeting will be Sunday, 5March2023 at Stevensville's Post 568 with Lunch will starting at 1230 hrs, followed by meetings at 1330 hrs (1:30 PM). Make lunch RSVPwith Stevensville' s Aux. President, Jennifer Kickles at (269)313-1010, email jenniferkickles@gmail.com.
- Will be discussing and taking initial nominations for 2023 - 2024 District Officers at 5March Mtg..
-Considering Zoom Mtgs in future..

New Business

-2023 Memorial Day parade planning. Permit approved. Jim McCloughan will lead parade and accepted role as (back-up) speaker and vocalist for the event.
-DAR asking for Honor Guard support early May and Post 49 accepted honor guard/other support role(s) to honor American Revolution member and his direct descendant at Thomas Cemetery.
-Bruce Thatcher will work with Emily and SHFD trainer to coordinate fire extinguisher training at the post.
-4th DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION TOUR sponsored by Steve 16April ? $8 donation suggested.

Communication & Donations (to/from AL)

Next meetings

- Membership Mtg 1900 6Apr2023
- Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 30Mar2023

Memorial to a departed post member, -Prior (1970) Commander and Vietnam Combat Medic, 1965
-1967, Thomas “Dale” Estes, 77, of South Haven, Michigan passed away on 12Feb2023. Charter draping ceremony was performed for Dale.

For The Good of The American Legion.

March:Hug a GI Day March 4, Daylight Saving Time Begins March 12, K-9 Veterans Day March 13, American Legion Birthday March 15, St. Patrick's Day March 17, Medal of Honor Day March 25, Vietnam War Veterans Day March 29

April: Good Friday April 7, Easter April 9, Gold Star Spouses Day April 5,

May: National Day of Prayer May 4, VE Day May 8, Military Spouse Appreciation Day May 12, Mother's Day May 14, Children of Fallen Patriots Day May 13, Peace Officers Memorial Day May 15, Armed Forces Day May 20, Memorial Day May 29

Commander John Barkley conducted the closing ceremony and declared the meeting adjourned at 2005.

Respectfully,
John Barkley for
Bob Dargis, Adjutant
American Legion Post 49

Addendum to Membership Mtg minutes dated 2Mar2023.

2Mar2023 meeting minutes were reviewed/approved but later amended with some member comments during the 6Apr2023 Member Meeting as follows: Guy Cherry left meeting, Earl Lash present, replace " Guy Cherry and Josh Gunneson expressed interest in being a Service Officer" to "Guy Cherry and Josh Gunneson expressed interest in being an interim Service Officer".

John Barkley for Bob Dargis, Adjutant
American Legion Post 49
8April2023