10 JULY 2025 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the Opening ceremony was conducted , Commander Bob Dargis called the 10 July 2025 American Legion Post 49 membership meeting to order at 1900.

Order of Business

Adjutant Roll Call: Cmdr Bob Dargis, Adjutant Dan Thompson, Finance Officer Sean Russell, Sgt. at Arms Sieg Freitag, Service Officer Steve Hamilton, Service Officer Jason Mayer, Trustee Dan Gomez, Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Guy Cherry, Ordinance Officer Mike Andruch, Past Cmdr John Barkley , Member Bruce Thatcher, SAL Member Paul Middleton. Quorum (of at least 5 Legion members) present.

Introduction of guests and prospective new members- NONE

Reading/Approval of last meeting minutes of 5 June 2025**.** Approved on motion by John Barkley properly seconded and approved by the members.

Introduction of guests and prospective new members

Award Presentation(s)- None

Reading/approval of last meeting minutes- Membership Mtg dated **5 JUNE 2025.**

Motion for approval of meeting minutes - John Barkley, properly seconded and approved by the members.

Committee Reports

1. Finance.

-Account status:$180,701.80

-Quickbooks:$18,930.61 June2025 $6,412.28 May2025, vs $14,152.69 June 2024

General account includes $33,131 donation money.

-Finance Report motion for approval by John Barkley, properly seconded and approved by the members, subject to Audit.

-SAL funds available: $27,625.18, General Fund and Membership Fund $20,641.01, plus CD of $10,068.20 as of July 8th.(Membership as of 7/10/25 757 members, 94 % paid (14.11%))

-Aux funds available: 8Mar2025 $27,623 incl. $10,000 “reserved for ADA ” plus $6,579.99 CD

2. Adjutant

-Membership report: As of 6-29-25: 45 new, 47 PUFL, 546 Renewals, 6 transfers = 644/667 for 96.55%. Goal was 100% by May 14, 2025.

-Circulate new member applications and consider **Motion to approve** members and Adjutant’s report- John Barkley, properly seconded and approved by the members

3. Service Officers report

-Assisting member with new cancer claim which was previously denied, assisting member and consulting Paw Paw Veterans office; Veteran financially challenged, needing help applying for Property tax relief;

- Potential “poker run” after August, referral to “Suzie”;

-Assisted Navy Veteran from Texas, camping at Warner Campground- 4 nights approved;

-Per Steve, Member with financial and personal issues supplied with cash out of pocket, requesting financial help, Action Reimburse Steve, Collect outstanding bills, decide the “go forward” actions necessary , and refer to Paw Paw Veteran Service office.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

-JULY / AUG 2025 calendar review highlighting special/OTP events, club rentals, other.

-New bartender hired.

-AUX approved cleaning of Kitchen fryers and floors, has been rescheduled by cleaning company, quote received

-Personnel issue discussed- name kept confidential

5. AL Events

-July 12, John Wallett Birthday celebration, 12 noon.

-August, August 4- Coast Guard Birthday, 7 August Purple Heart Day, 17 August National Senior Citizens Day**,**

-Sept, 1 Sept Labor day, 2 Sept V-J Day, 7 Sept National Grandparents Day, 11 Sept Patriot Day, 18 Sept Air Force Birthday, 19 Sept National POW/MIA Recognition Day, 26 Sept Michigan Indian Day, 28 Sept Gold Star Mother’s Day,

-Oct 13 Oct Navy Birthday, 25 Oct Children’s Halloween Party at Post 49, 31 Oct Halloween

6. **SAL Events:** Burger nights through October
July 3rd food sales approximately - $1000 per Steve Hamilton.

7. Aux Events

-Offering $1,500 scholarship sponsored by AL Post 49 Aux (Patti Sheehy)

Old Business

-Lakeview Cemetery Flag/holder placement, waiting on city to approve- 1100 markers needed
-Landscape leveling proposal plan approved and waiting funding.
-State funding for Post 49 major improvement projects TBD.
- Funds from **July 3 Light up the lake**: Parking $1,705; Donations at the door $ 1,979 Gross sales at the Bar: $6,342; Donations from Lock boxes at the bar $39.75 = $10,065.75 Total.
-July 3rd "After Action " Items for further discussion to be distributed for additions by Dan Thompson, intent is to review and recommend actions prior to next July

Other/New Business

- Mapping for memorial brick names completed by Keri Montgomery.
-ADA-Internal improvements incl.restroom (door opening upgrades only.)
-Landscape leveling proposal plan approved and waiting for funding.
-State funding for Post 49 major improvement projects-no update.
-Fund raising status: $32,625 total (incl $8,000 last year): $25,625 ADA-E, $3,975 ADA-I, $3,262 (incl. $229 AL tips) General.
- Reimbursement to Sean Russell for purchase of Adirondack Chairs.Thank-You Sean!
- Approved purchase of 14 new American Legion Jackets at cost of $40 each ($560 total) on Motion by John Barkley, properly seconded and approved by the members
- Reimbursement to Steve Hamilton for use of his Van and damage to it. Estimate pending by Steve Hamilton
-New Van to be picked up by Bob Dargis in Ann Arbor.Thank-you recommend to the van donor.
- Estimated Annual Cost for van: Insurance $1500, Fuel $1000, Routine Maintenance- $500, Total Annual Cost $3000 per John Barkley
-Additional Business
Mike Andruch- Quote for 3" patching at entrance($2900) and striping parking lot ($500), Total $3400, Motion to approve John Barkley, properly seconded and approved by the members
-Honor Guard July 18th, David Holmes Bus leaves at 2PM
-"Operation Wounded Soldier"- Fishing Trips for up to 60 disabled Vets Requests $1000 for Housing and Food, additional $400 for Dinner and Drinks Total$1400. Motion to approve by John Barkley, properly seconded and approved by the members
-Steve Hamilton arranging trip on July 22nd to Wilwin Lodge , Custer Michigan, Contact Steve Hamilton if interested.
-Willie Reinhart suggested purchasing spare Flag(s)

Memorial to a departed post member

Sick call: Dan Farmer, Steve Hamilton, Sieg Freitag, Bruce Thatcher(Foot)

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL).

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1900 7 AUG 2025.
-Exec Com Mtg 1600 31 JULY 2025
-10-12July2025 MI Dept. Convention

For The Good of The American Legion,

- 27Jul Korean War Veterans Armistice Day,

Closing Ceremony conducted by Commander Bob Dargis and meeting adjourned 2000.

Respectfully Submitted by Dan Thompson, Adjutant
American Legion Post 49