19 DEC 2024 American Legion Post 49 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Post Commander John Barkley called the 19 DEC 2024 American Legion Post 49 Executive Committee Meeting to order at 1600, and declared the meeting of Edward W. Thompson Post No. 49 open for Business.

Adjutant Roll Call: **Cmdr. John Barkley, 1st Vice Cmdr. Earl Lash**, 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addessi, **Adjutant Bob Dargis, Finance Officer Sean Russell,** Judge Advocate Jason Turner**, Sgt. at Arms Sieg Freitag**, **Chaplain Larry Girard**, Service Officer Steve Hamilton, **Service Officer Jason Mayer**, Historian Jim McCloughan, Trustee Dan Gomez, Trustee Patrick Whitlatch**, Trustee Willie Reinhardt,** Trustee Chuck Aubrey, Trustee Rich Ely,Trustee Guy Cherry, **Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch,** SAL Commander Brett Novy**, Auxiliary President Mary Fitzgerald, Auxiliary VicePresident Linda Teeter, Club Manager Emily Fitzbaker,** Auxiliary Chaplain Vicki Olson, Bruce Thatcher, **AUX member Shelley Ammerman. Quorum** (of at least 5 AL members) present.

Review/approve Previous Meeting Minutes- 21NOV 2024 Executive meeting minutes were approved on motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded.

Meeting purpose reminder. Review recommendations from committees (including the Club Operations Committee), adopt those recommendations that are judged to be useful for the successful operation and management of the post,and present major recommendations/changes to the general Membership Mtg for member approval.

Introduction of Guests Shelly Ammerman working on Children's, Members and Club Events.

Business

-Account status: Per Sean Russell: $191,733.54 17Dec2024 vs $180,497 24Dec2023 , $195,850.81 5Dec2024.

-Quickbooks: $ 12,687.96 loss Oct2024 (incl, $6,500 memorial brick add, $800 Poppy purchase) vs -$7,494.45 Sept.2024 vs $ 1,062.74 Oct2023.-Finance Report motion for approval was made by Earl Lash, properly seconded, the Finance report was approved by the members, subject to Audit.

-SAL funds available: $30,779.90

- Aux funds available: $27,623 plus $10,000 "reserved for ADA improvements" plus $6,579.99 BankCD.

-Club Operations Committee recommendations:

-Jan2025 calendar review highlighting special/OTP events

-1700-2000 Saturday, 21Dec.traditional Tom N Jerry event for Post 49 members (Shelley Ammerman)

-Tues. 31Dec New Year's Party - Open to Public

- Emily Fitzbaker did Dec, Jan and Feb calendar review.

-On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, the members approved expenditures of up to $900 towards transportation ($500) and the Chili Cook Off / public slide ($400) for Icebreaker festival in February.

AL Events

-Wreaths across America salute at Bangor supported 12Noon 14Dec. 192 wreaths placed at Lakeview.

-On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, the members approved spending $295 towards South Haven High School Spring Track Team.

-On Motion of Willie Reinhardt, properly seconded, the members approved spending $595 for the placement of a 1/4 page IceBreakers ad with local Chamber of Commerce publication.

SAL Events

None pending.

Aux Events.
Shelly Ammerman reported on the Children's Christmas party: 42 kids attended, $647 was spent on gifts for the kids, $235 was spent on groceries. Gifts were purchased at 50% off due to the contribution of a local vendor (Carla, owner of local store). Commander to provide a certificate of appreciation to Carla. Grants have been applied for next years event, some money left over will be applied and carried over to the next Children's event.

Other Business
-Memorial brick addition completed
-State funding for Post 49 improvements from State Legislature possible by June, per Linda Teeter.
-Fund raising brainstorming in process (Jason Turner, Shelley Ammerman, Angela Ely, Mary Fitzgerald, Emily Fitzbaker, Gerry Durkee, John Barkley) next meeting 1600 15Jan.
-Clothes for the homeless being collected by Amanda. Biggest need is for men's used/new.
-Clubroom sound reduction update: wrong materials were delivered, causing rescheduling of installation of panels pending delivery of proper materials from Amazon. Mike Andruch to provide assistance.
-Maintenance: per Mike Andruch, plumbing complete, Electrical under Bar complete, new LED lights for the beer cooler will be installed with additional two hours by an electrician.
-Emily Fitzbaker noted a problem with grease trap for stove, she will explore repair by local vendor.
-Larry Girard suggested increased donation to Tunnels to Towers. Donation will be increased for 2025.
-Commander Barkley noted that Jim McCloughan will be singing National Anthem at the Trump Inaugural celebration in January.

Correspondence to/from AL None.

Sick Call
Steve Hamilton, Dan Farmer, Seig Freitag.

Next meetings
-Membership Mtg 1900 2Jan2025.
-Fourth District Service officers training at 11:00 am, Dinner 12:30 pm, Meetings 1:30 pm: 5Jan2025 Coloma 362(6505 Red Arrow Hwy), 2March2025 Hickory Corners 484 (3801 W.Hickory Rd.), 18May2025 Dorr 127(4310 18th St.)
-AL Dept. of Michigan Winter Meeting Feb. 6, 7, 8 and 9, 2025 @ BlueWater Convention Center, 800 Harker St., Port Huron, MI

2024 Holidays and Observances
-Dec: Wed. Dec 25 Christmas Day, Thursday Dec 26 Kwanzaa (first day), Tuesday Dec 31 New Year's.

Finding No further actions to come before this meeting, Post commander declared this meeting of Edward W. Thompson South Haven Post 49 Executive Committee adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Bob Dargis, Adjutant for American Legion Post 49