1 MAY 2025 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the Opening ceremony was conducted, Commander John Barkley called the 1 MAY 2025 American Legion Post 49 membership meeting to order at 1900.

Order of 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 Jason Mayer, Service Officer Steve Hamilton,** Historian Jim McCloughan**,** Trustee Bruce Thatcher, **Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Chuck Aubrey, Trustee Rich Ely, Trustee Guy Cherry, Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch,** Trustee Josh Gunneson, **Trustee Dan Gomez**, member Tim Gregory, member Brad VandenBerg, **Member Dan Thompson,** member Kane Goodson, member Don Karrus, Member Richard Schmidt, SAL member Paul Middleton**,** member Bradford Kramer.**Quorum** (of at least 5 AL members) **present.**

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: None.

Award Presentation: None.

Meeting Minutes Membership Mtg minutes dated 3 April 2025 reviewed/**approved** on motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, on voice vote.

Committee reports

1. Finance.

-Account status: Per Commander Barkley;
$175,912.12 28Apr2025 vs $165,931.53 31Mar2025 vs $183,163.98 1May2024
-Quickbooks: $3,678.03 loss Mar2025 vs $7,578.32 Feb2025 vs $7,641.25 Mar2024
-Finance Report motion for approval, subject to Audit, was made by Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded Was approved by the members.
-SAL funds available: $27,625.18
-Aux funds available: 8Mar2025 $27,623 incl. $10,000 “reserved for ADA ” plus $6,579.99 CD

2. Adjutant

-Membership as of 15 April 2025: 36 new, 47 PUFL, 525 Renewals, 6 Transfers = 612/667 or 93.10 %. Goal for 4-9-25 was 95% ; Next goal 100% by 5-14-25.
-A motion to approve 2 new members and the Adjutant’s report was made by Earl Lash, properly seconded, was approved by the members.

3. Service Officers report

-Jason Mayer reported that he has been helping a veteran in Grand Junction that had issues with water Supply to his home, emergency funds may be needed.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

-Apr/May2025 calendar review highlighting special/OTP events, club rentals, other.
-Additional/new bartender hiring status for summer Tiki Bar.
-Facebook posting for regular May through Oct Breakfasts/Dinners.
-AUX approved microwave, but damaged, return needed, windowblinds purchase

5. AL Events

-1May2025 election support - monitor ballot box/voting 12Noon to 1900
-1May2025 1900 Membership Mtg at Post, including voting final call and ballet counting.
-2May2025 1330 Honor Guard support for Army Veteran Miller. Bus leaves Post at 1300 for St. Paul Lutheran Church, South Haven, MI 49090
-2May 1700-1930 Pizza Dinner. Need support preparing/cooking dinner starting 1630.

-6May 0900 meet at (north end of) South Haven Lakeview Cemetery to place flags, 30 flag holders
-10May1300 Army Salute for Vietnam War Veteran John Jackson at Post 49 as part of celebration of life.
-13May Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor Campus, Room D-112, Afghanistan presentations 1900-2100 by 1st Sgt Mayer & Lt Col Russell. Bus leaves the Post at 1800 for trip to LMC.
-17May Retirement Ceremony for USAF MSgt Stacey Bartholomew. 1300 to be confirmed.
-Volunteers for Poppy Sales 23-26May2025 should Sign up at the Post for locations/days.
-25May2025 0600-1200 Breakfast. Expect approx 350 breakfasts.
-26May2025 Memorial Day Parade. Be at Post by 0800 to March in Parade to Lakeview Cemetery.

6.SAL Events

- Breakfast and burger nights begin May 1, continue through end of October.

7. Aux Events

-Selling Dept raffle tickets for 5June2025.
-Offering $1,500 scholarship sponsored by AL Post 49 Aux (Patti Sheehy)

Old Business

-Lakeview Cemetery Flag replacement survey update.
-Landscape leveling proposal plan approved and waiting funding. Internal (ADA levels of accessibility) improvements funding TBD.
-State funding for Post 49 major improvement projects TBD.

Other/New Business

- On Motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded, the Exec Com approved a Harberfest donation of $500. The members then approved a motion made by Guy Cherry, properly seconded, to make the $500 donation.
- Additional mapping for memorial brick names TBD.
-ADA-Internal improvements incl.restroom (door opening upgrades only.)
-Facebook postings required for May through Oct Breakfasts/dinners
-26May readiness: most people responded based on last years roles, Paul Middleton - 5 cars,drivers for 0830 loading at Post:(Mayor, Grand Marshall, VFW Commander, Aux President, SAL Squadron Com.
-Grand Marshal nominations were voted on, with John Wallat voted as Grand Marshall, Mike Andruch runner up.
-Landscape leveling proposal plan approved and waiting for funding. Internal (ADA levels of accessibility) improvements plan/funding TBD.
-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. .
-Welcome Home Vietnam Vet's certificate needs.
-On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, voting was closed, ballets were count, announcement of new officers, ballets destroyed on motion again by Earl Lash, properly seconded. Motion by the Adjutant For one unanimous ballot cast for all candidates was approved.
-Steve Hamilton requested funding for primal outfitters. This motion was tabled pending the receipt of Financial information from primal outfitters, such as tax returns and financial statements.

Memorial to a departed post member None.

Sick Call Dan Farmer, Steve Hamilton, Sieg Freitag, Dan Gomez wife.

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL)- None.

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1900 5June2025.
-Exec Com Mtg 1600 29May2025

-10-12July2025 MI Dept. Convention

For The Good of The American Legion.

-May: 1May National Day of Prayer, 1May First Day of Military Appreciation Month, 5May Cinco de Mayo, 6 May National Teacher Day, **8May V-E Day**, 9May Military Spouse Day, 11May Mother's Day, 15May Peace Officers Memorial Day, 17May Armed Forces Day, **26May Memorial Day.**

-Jun: 14Jun Army Birthday, Flag Day, 15Jun Father's Day, 19Jun Juneteenth,

-Jul: 4Jul Independence Day, 27Jul Korean War Veterans Armistice Day,

Commander John Barkley conducted the closing ceremony and declared the meeting adjourned at 2000 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Adjutant Bob Dargis, American Legion Post 49