21 NOV 2024 American Legion Post 49 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Post Commander John Barkley called the 21 NOV 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, Trustee Bruce Thatcher, Quorum (of at least 5 AL members) present.

Review/approve Previous Meeting Minutes- 24 OCT 2024 Executive meeting minutes were approved on motion of Chuck Aubrey, 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 None.

Business

-Account status: $207,602.79 18Nov2024 vs $230, $174.06 26Nov2023, $220,307.37 4Nov2024
-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, was approved by members.
-SAL funds available: $21,831.69
-Aux funds available: $27,623 plus $10,000 “reserved for ADA improvements” plus $6,579.99 BankCD.
-Club Operations Committee recommendations:
-December and January 2025 calendars were reviewed by Emily Fitzbaker. Emily reported that the annual Health inspection was done and that we passed. We have left over breakfast food which members approved donating to South Haven VFW.
-Lakeside Fire/Safety recommended upgrading the hood fire suppression system for approx $1,500, looking for a second opinion from another company in Grand Rapids.
-Nov/Dec2024 calendar review highlighting special/OTP events
-Saturday Dec14 Post 49 Children’s Christmas Party
-1700-2000 Saturday, 21Dec.traditional Tom N Jerry event for Post 49 members (Shelley Ammerman)

AL Events

-Help slice cooked turkeys 0900 23Nov at the Post, 16 Turkeys will be cooked Friday.
Trees for Troops 9AM 2Dec at Wahmhoff tree farm, Address: 22330 M-40, Gobles, MI 49055
-Remove Christmas decorations from storage and place in corner of conference room 1100 3Dec.
-Lest We Forget would like South Haven American Legion to host a LWF meeting on 11Dec from 1830-2000.
-Wreaths across America salute at Bangor 12Noon 14Dec. Bus will leave at 1115 for main ceremony at Bangor followed by laying wreaths at Lakeview. Honor Guard will be needed for this event.
- AL Exec Meeting rescheduled from 26Dec to 19Dec2024.

SAL Events

-Larry Carlson Memorial dinner Sunday Nov 24.

Aux Events.

-Saturday Dec 14 Post 49 Children's Christmas Party, Two time slots to accommodate all attending.

- Mary Fitzgerad reviewed red tee shirt sales.

Other Business

-Memorial brick addition including 5 additional rows of bricks added to each side, additional gray brick edger material, repair/leveling of main walkway in process.

-State funding for Post 49 improvements TBD.

-Fund raising brainstorming in process (Jason Turner, Shelley Ammerman, Angela Ely, Mary Fitzgerald, Emily Fitzbaker, Gerry Durkee, John Barkley) next meeting 1800 4Dec.

-Per Mike Andruch, Kitchen wall plumbing move to interior has been completed. Floor cleaning 8 am 11-22-24. Outside sprinkler system has been drained for winter.

-Sunday 1000 Nov 24 Larry Carlson Memorial Dinner 0900 prep, take out starting 1000,dine-in 1200-1400.

-**Trees for Troops 9AM 2Dec** at Wahmhoff tree farm, Address: 22330 M-40, Gobles, MI 49055

-**Wreaths across America salute at Bangor 12Noon 14Dec**. Bus will leave with honor guard at 1115 for main ceremony at Bangor cemetery followed by laying wreaths at Lakeview.

-Instead of Writing checks for Christmas bonuses ($250 for those employed less than 3 years, $300 for those employed three or more years and $400 for club manager Emily) members opted to give gift cards instead to avoid taking out taxes.

-14 passenger bus purchase was discussed. On motion of Chuck Aubrey, Members decided to explore possible purchase of other Vehicles besides the present bus being sold by Steve Hamilton. Per commander, annual expenses on existing bus are approximately $540 for insurance, $1,000 maintenance, vehicle gets about 10 miles per gallon. Any vehicle must be titled in the name of an individual and not the corporate Legion for insurance purposes.

-Clothes for the homeless being collected by Amanda. Biggest need is for men's used/new.

-Active Army Vet in MI asking for donations to her military units Christmas Part (Cristi Voss-269-841-6311

-Clubroom sound reduction update: per Mary Fitzgerald, an additional quote was obtained in the amount of $1,550 for materials. This will require volunteers to install.On Motion of Sean Russell, members approved this proposal and to place previously approved contract by membership on hold.

Correspondence to/from AL

Commander read a letter from Jim McCloughan.

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Sick Call

Steve Hamilton, Rodney Tolbert, Dan Farmer, Seig Freitag.

Next meetings

- Membership Mtg 1900, 5Dec2024.
- AL Exec Meeting rescheduled from 26Dec to 19Dec2024.
- Next District 4 meeting is Sunday, January 5th, at Coloma Post 362 (call 269-468-5501 for any dinner reservation).

2024 Holidays and Observances

-**Nov: Sunday Nov 24 Larry Carlson Memorial Dinner,**Thursday Nov 28 Thanksgiving Day, Friday Nov 29 Native American Heritage Day

-**Dec: Saturday Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day,** Friday Dec 13 National Guard Birthday, **Saturday Dec 21 National Wreaths Across America**, **Saturday Dec 14 Post 49 Children's Christmas Party**, 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 4:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Bob Dargis, Adjutant for American Legion Post 49