29 MAY 2025 American Legion Post 49 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Post Commander John Barkley called the 29 MAY 2025 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, **Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch,** SAL Commander Brett Novy**, Auxiliary President Mary Fitzgerald**, **Auxiliary Vice President Linda Teeter, Club Manager Emily Fitzbaker, Auxiliary Chaplain Vicki Olson, Bruce Thatcher**, AUX member Shelley Ammerman, SAL Member Dave Wiatrowski, **SAL Liaison Paul Middleton, Member Brad Kramer. Quorum** (of at least 5 AL members) present.

Review/approve Previous Meeting Minutes- 24 APRIL 2025 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 None.

Business - Accounts reviewed by Sean Russell:

-Account status: $172,946.79 27May vs $175,912.12 28Apr2025 vs: $192,187.33 30May2024
General account includes $33,131 donation money.

-Quickbooks: $3,678.03 loss Mar2025 vs $7,578.32 Feb2025 vs $7,641.25 Mar2024

-Finance Report motion for approval was made by Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, was approved by the members.

-SAL funds available: $24,099.65 per Earl Lash.

- Aux funds available: Approximately $30,000 to $32,000 per Mary Fitzgerald.

-Club Operations Committee recommendations:

-June/July Post 49 calenders available (can also attach as pdf)

-Posts with rental agreements should have them reviewed by an attorney per Department Judge Advocate. Retired attorney Bob Dargis will review for compliance. Jason Turner provided a handout to be used to evaluate compliance.

-Per Emily Fitzbaker, Hall rentals are well booked through June and July; new bartender, Amy Johnson has been hired, will cover Tiki Bar when weather permits; Health inspection was recently conducted, We passed, but some concerns were expressed regarding cleanliness of fryers and moisture resistance of some materials used in cooler room. Emily to find out about compliance requirements for Cooler area materials.

- On motion of Bob Dargis, properly seconded, members approved moving the next membership meeting from July 3 to July 10, in light of July 4 Holiday and Light up the Lake event.

-Some breakfast numbers, presented by Commander Barkley:

-2017-2020 Breakfast cost of goods sold (COGS) 35% , 65% gross profit margin with little variability

-2021 COVID partial year with low volume 57% COGS, 43% gross profit margin

-2022 COGS 55%, 45% gross profit margin, $52K Post 49 breakfast revenue

-2023 COGS 39%, 61% gross profit margin, $66K Post 49 breakfast revenue

-2024 COGS 40%, 60% gross profit margin, $60K Post 49 breakfast revenue

AL Events

-30 May 5:00 pm, Celebration of life for Navy Vet st post, Honor Guard salute
-6June COZY radio event, open to the public, has been announced on the radio.
-10 June, veteran's luncheon from nursing home(s) at 12:00 noon
-14 June Army Birthday, 12 noon, Linda Teeter to arrange for Cake, donations please.
also Flag Day with scouts at 1100, Harborfest open to public
-15Jun Father's Day, 19Jun Juneteenth
-3July Light up the Lake, help needed, Parking fee to be collected as opposed to per person entry fee. Donations gratefully accepted at door.
-12 July possible Steelheaders event
-Possible Veteran's Open House in August, no need to partition alcohol/non-alcohol areas.

SAL Events

Breakfast and Burger night as scheduled per calendar.

Aux Events.

Clubroom furniture has been cleaned, blinds have been installed on west windows, new microwave Installed, an architect has been consulted for a reduced fee in the amount of $350 to render drawings/quote for ADA improvements in order to provide sufficient documentation to submit to the State Legislature for possible funding. Bob Dargis and Vicki Olson met with him to discuss.

Other Business

-Poppy Sales $9,500 thanks to Patti and Brian Sheehy and many Post 49 volunteers.
-AL Breakfast crew served 450 breakfasts and rec'd $4415 revenue plus $197 tips 25May2025 thanks to biker support.
-2025/2026 Election results :Commander Bob Dargis, 1st Vice Cmdr Earl Lash, 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addessi, Adjutant Dan Thompson. Chaplain Larry Girard, Finance Officer Sean Russell, Sgt at Arms Seig Freitag, Service Officer Jason Mayer, Historian Jim McCloughan, Judge Advocate Jason Turner Trustee Chuck Aubrey, Willie Reinhardt for swearing in 5June2025.
-Facebook postings for May through Oct Breakfasts/dinners
-Memorial Day after action discussion. Recommendations for next year: bottled water and perhaps some food at the post after the event, chair distribution needs to be double checked. Some concerns expressed regarding the prayer conducted by the current Lutheran pastor. Vicki Olson to discuss concerns with Him about next year.
-Veteran luncheons SH Nursing Home and River Ridge combined for 10 June.
-State funding for Post 49 major improvement projects-no update.
-Fund raising status: $33,131 total (incl $8,000 last year): $25,894 ADA-E, $3,975 ADA-I, $3,262 (incl. $229 AL tips) General.
- Keri Montgomery quote for $200 to etch/place brick row markers to enable locating bricks. On motion of Larry Girard, properly seconded, members approved this $200 payment.
-Dan Cooper request for donation of $315 from Post 49 (50 cents per member) to Paralyzed Veterans of Michigan. On motion of Bob Dargis, properly seconded, members also approved this donation.
-Post 49 monument flag lighting replacement quote from Post electrician, per Mike Andruch, $681.40. Needs to be presented at next membership meeting.
-Welcome Home Vietnam Vet's certificate needs.

Correspondence to/from AL None.

Sick Call Steve Hamilton, Dan Farmer, Seig Freitag, Dan Gomez' wife.

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1900 1May2025.
-Exec Com Mtg 1600 29May2025
-Fourth District Service officers training at 11:00 am, Dinner 12:30 pm, Meetings 1:30 pm: 17Apr2025 Dorr 127(4310 18th St.)
-Monthly Commander and Adjutant Zoom meetings are being held on the first Tuesday of the month, at 1400 hrs.
-10-12 July 2025 MI Dept. Convention

2025 Holidays and Observances

-May: 1May National Day of Prayer, 1May First Day of Military Appreciation Month, 5May Cinco de Mayo, 6May 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,

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 5:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Bob Dargis, Adjutant for American Legion Post 49