AL Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes
3Oct 2019

Commander Jason Turner conducted opening ceremonies and ordered roll call.

Roll call taken and those **present shown in bold font.**
Adjutant: " **Roll Call: Cmdr. Jason Turner, 1st Vice Cmdr. John Barkley**, **2nd Vice Cmdr Sean Russell, Adjutant Tom Breen, Finance Officer Chuck Aubrey, Sgt. at Arms and SAL Cmdr. Earl Lash, Judge Advocate Stan Wakild, Board member Tom Dryer,** Board Member Glen Higgs, **Club Manager Heather Hahn, Chaplain and Service Officer Larry Girard, Service Officer Steve Hamilton,** Historian (Art) Sergio Orozco, Auxiliary Pres. Billie Coone, **Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch, Member Jim Addessi, Member Larry Niles, Guests Willy Reinhardt and Scott Frazier.**
Quorum (of at least 7 legion members) **present** (Attachment 1-Sign In Sheet-hard copy only)

Reading of last meeting minutes, 5Sep 2019.
Minutes approved as written.

Introduction of guests: Willy Reinhardt and Scott Frazier from Post 160.

Committee reports

1. **Finance**: A current cash account summary (Attachment II-hard copy only) was distributed showing total funds available of $87,253.89.
   The new summary format was also distributed showing target levels. We are now at the target level of approximately $20,000 for daily club operations and maintenance, previously forecast to cover an expected Oct to May club operations deficit. The Building Fund, primarily for capital building expenditures, has a current $32,000 funding shortfall. A new line item called "Donations-Misc" is also shown on the new summary to collect general donations that have not been assigned to another account.

2. **Adjutant**: Membership/renewals is at approximately 53%

3. **New Member Applications**: Three(3) new member applications received.

4. **Service Officers**. A busy time for both of our Service Officers.
   Steve mentioned ongoing conversations with with three (3) veterans, including handoffs to Gary Easterling for additional followup as required. A SAL member was noted to be having financial concerns while going through chemotherapy but additional aid, other than funded by SAL, was not discussed. Funding for a ramp designed discussed again for the third month with no action. There was agreement and approval for 50/50 funding split of the $3,000 estimated cost by SAL and the AL.
   Scheduling additional visits for Gary Easterling to host more focused service help conversations was not discussed further.

5. **Board of Directors**. ATM contract renewal completed. $3,525 in donations received as of 26 Sept. 19Sept YDC mtg generated $500 bar loss. A "compressor starter"failure resulted in food spoilage. If the compressor or other expensive component/system fails again, it was recommended and approved by the Exec. Committee that we purchase a 3-door replacement fridge at an estimated cost of $4500.

6. **Club Manager** (incl reviewing events for the next 30-60 days). October calendar highlighted and available to

members. October is the last month for Sunday breakfasts. A Halloween Party scheduled for 1Nov. An 11Nov Veteran's Day free breakfast for veterans/spouses is planned for 830-1030 and supported by SAL.

7. **SAL.** Steve mentioned that SAL currently had an account balance of approx $14,000.

8. **Aux**. No report

9. **Family Meetings -** 1700 26 Sept meeting attended by Aux and AL representatives. Future agendas will feature an overview of Aux near term fund raising initiatives, followed by similar overviews from SAL and AL representatives to better facilitate additional collaboration. Next meeting planned for 1700 on 31 Oct.

10. **Americanism Committee**:
Chuck mentioned that additional presentations regarding veterans, flag and color guard could be made at sporting events (ie football game) but no specific plans discussed.

11. **By laws Committee**:
Cover letter and By-laws previously sent to all AL Post 49 members Thursday, 5 Sept. for their review and vote at 3 Oct. meeting. An overview of new By-laws highlighted use of current national/state template and included, " The government and management of the Post is entrusted to an Executive Committee (EC) of up to seventeen (17) members, to be known as the "Executive Committee." The Executive Committee includes (6) elected American Legion members sometimes referred to as Trustees, (9) elected American Legion Officers (Cmdr., 1st Vice Cmdr., 2nd Vice Cmdr., Adjutant, Chaplain, Finance Officer, Sgt.at Arms, Service Officer(s), Historian) , (1) President of the Ladies Auxiliary or their appointed representative, and (1) Commander of the Sons of The American Legion or their appointed representative." The EC's recommendations are then reported out to a monthly membership meeting for their consideration and approval as required. In addition, several committees are empowered by these By-laws to oversee specific areas of importance. One example (of many) is the Club Facilities and Operations Committee. "This committee shall be responsible for maintaining the club house and surrounding club property by ensuring proper maintenance and capital funding is planned and approved for payment during the fiscal year. A single expenditure of up to $750 may be made by the committee lead for immediate repair of building, infrastructure or major appliance as required. In addition, this committee will support club management in running the club operations as a profitable business so as to contribute funding to support local veterans, their families and the community."
<u>Following the overview and discussion, a member vote approved the new Bylaws with seven in favor "yes" votes and one not in favor "no" vote.</u>
The future activity of the By law committee will be limited to collecting recommendations for further Bylaw changes, improvements for followup discussion as required. By collecting improvement ideas, we can "batch" them into a future new Bylaw consideration.

12. **Budget Committee** -
Monthly performance, reported in section 1 and will be reviewed for followup as required.
We need to continue teaching/mentoring others that to achieve or mission, we require $20,000 for Veteran/family support, $40,000 for capital spending and accrual of $20,000 during club profitable months (May-Sept) to sustain operations during lower volume business months (Oct-Apr).
Larry previously suggested that we also add additional further "naming" explanations to current account summary to make the above requirements and status to requirements more visible to the organization. This information was added to the new template.

Sick call -none reported

Unfinished Business

-GI Party and Garage Sale - successfully completed

-Event Display TV - Planned for mounting in bar area to maximize exposure, visibility for all. Programming of display not discussed

-Member Expulsion Process-

Article 9, Section 2 from the National Constitution and Bylaws as revised Aug2013 states, “Members may be suspended or expelled from the Legion only upon a proper showing of cause. Charges shall be based upon disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty and conduct unbecoming a member of THE AMERICAN LEGION. All charges must be made under oath in writing by the accusers, and no member in good standing shall lose his membership until given a fair trial by the Post or Department in such manner and form as the Department By-Laws and Department Executive Committee shall prescribe.” In addition, the expelling of a member is very similar to expelling a members public display(s) or recorded history and the same due diligence should be followed.

New Business

3 Door Fridge- A one-third split of the estimated $4500 replacement cost for our 3-door refrigerator was approved by membership when the next major repair is required. It was further recommended that we meet with both the Aux and SAL to agree on a one third (1/3rd) split of replacement cost.

Bingo Status- Will be discussed at the next family meeting since family support required ongoing.

Floor Replacement- Discussed but no conclusion. Club area vinyl and carpet replacement would cost approx $15,000 and result in no-seam continuous surface but may cause an additional concern for seating on wheels, where carpet is today.

Raffle Comiskey Park Seat- discussed and approved with Aux’s help

Upcoming meetings/holidays:

District meeting 3Nov

Veterans Day- free breakfast for veterans/spouses planned for 830-1030 11Nov and supported by SAL.

Pearl Harbor- Ceremonies being planned for 7Dec.

Thanksgiving- Larry Carlson memorial dinner planned for 28Nov and supported by SAL, other volunteers

SAL asked for and received permission to place locked small chest freezer in storage area.

Next meeting 7 Nov

Communication & Donations-None reported but further reporting of donations received to date expected next meeting.

Memorial to a departed post member-None reported

For The Good of The American Legion-

Larry announced a new insurance plan is now available for Michigan veterans through Humana called HumanaChoice. Plan requires copay of up to $5,500 and covers dental, vision, hearing, foot care, chiropractic, fitness program, remote consultations and pharmacy copay. Please get back with Larry if interested so that he can invite Humana expert to discuss further as required.

Closing ceremony

Commander Jason Turner conducted closing ceremonies and meeting adjourned at 2130.

Respectfully submitted by John Barkley for:
Tom Breen, Adjutant
American Legion Post 49